

# DOWNING COLLEGE | 2019



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER  
MAGENTA NEWS  
COLLEGE RECORD





*After the Rain Nathan Parker - Highly Commended Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*

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# DOWNING COLLEGE

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER 2019

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2018–2019

#### **PRESIDENT**

B W Hunt MA MEd (Exeter) CMath FIMA

#### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

P Thomson MA

J G Hicks MA FEng

F Weiss MA

N Berger MA

#### **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

##### **The President**

##### **The Immediate Past President**

J N Tait MA CEng FICE

##### **The President-elect**

R J Bowring MA PhD LittD

##### **The Honorary Secretary & Editor**

S Walker MA

##### **The Assistant Secretary** (*Merchandise*)

P R Whittington MA

##### **The Assistant Secretary** (*College Record*)

Z H Barber MA PhD

##### **The Honorary Treasurer**

D J Riddoch MA PhD

##### **Elected Committee Members**

K E Fish MA ACA CTA (2008)

D G G Davies MA MA (Manchester)  
PhD (Manchester) (1971)

H Groom BA MSci MA PhD (2001)

G C Erangey MA LLM (UEM) (2009)

J H Martin MA MRICS (1981)

S E Gimson MA (1998)

P J Marchment MA MSci (2001)

#### **Ex-officio Committee Members**

G B Williams BA PhD, *Senior Tutor*

C M Middleton BA (UL),  
*Director of Engagement and  
Development Operations*

R M Kirkley, *Events Officer*

S Soleiman, *JCR President*  
(to 15 February 2019)

C O'Connor, *JCR President*  
(from 16 February 2019)

A Bedorf MSc (Bonn), *MCR President*  
(to December 2018)

JJ Longhorn BA (York) MPhil, *MCR  
President* (from January 2019)

#### **Co-opted Committee Members**

K Dyer MA MB BChir DRCOG MRCP

A R Farmer MA PhD MIET

K E Storey MA LLM

#### **HONORARY AUDITORS**

M J Mays MA PhD FRIC

R J Richards MA PhD



## PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

In the summer of 2009, at the College's Donor Garden Party, I was approached by a smiling John Hicks (1955), the Association Secretary at the time, who tapped me on the shoulder and told me that I was the chosen one. "No rush", he said, I wasn't really needed until September 2010, when he planned to step down. "It's a great privilege and you only need to do as much as you have time for" he added, convincingly. It seemed a long way off, the sun was shining, the champagne was good and it seemed a rather nice way of filling a few odd hours in my retirement.

Ten years on, I forgive him... He was of course right – it is a great privilege to be the Secretary and now President of the Downing College Alumni Association and it has been a wonderful way to occupy my retirement, though the concept of the odd hour was very wide of the mark!

This year, the Association has been delighted to welcome the new Master, Alan Bookbinder, and his wife, Vicki, a highly talented designer, to the College. They have made an immediate impact in the Lodge with their open and welcoming approach and their willingness to engage with the Association. Vicki in particular has turned her talents to creating highly original designs for silk scarves that will be revealed to alumni later this year.

Over the past 10 years, I have witnessed the extraordinary pace of change in the College. Initially, the fruits of the Catalysis campaign were in visible form – Griphon House, First Court and Battcock Lodge, the Heong Gallery, Chapel organ, car parks and the Cambridge Rowing Tank. More recently, funds have been increasingly used to more closely target the core work of the College through additional fellowships and support for students who now pay huge sums of money each year in fees.

In my time, the most remarkable growth has been in the arts. It began when the Downing Dramatic Society started to make use of the excellent Howard Theatre facility and the skills of Steve Bennett (whose talents included script writing for Coronation Street and Emmerdale!). The annual Festival of New Writing, held at the Howard Theatre is the theatrical jewel in their crown and is now an established annual event in the Cambridge calendar. The Heong Gallery, which opened in February 2016, provides a focus for the College to develop strong links to artistic communities across Cambridge, the UK and the rest of the world. Finally, the recent appointment of David Lowe as Director of Music and the creation of the Downing Arts programme has led to the introduction of the "Downing Series" designed to utilise the many beautiful musical spaces in Downing and will feature "outstanding young professional artists in innovative programmes of many



musical styles". I was delighted to attend an extraordinary concert on the occasion of the re-opening of the refurbished Music Room at the end of April. The song recital, given by the young baritone Gareth Brynmor John, winner of the 2013 Kathleen Ferrier Award, was breathtaking.

Meanwhile, the Association's Merchandise Working Group continues to support the Alumni Student Fund and I am delighted that, this year, Quentin Blake has offered us two new products – a delightful illustration entitled *The Photograph* depicting the Downing Griffin taking centre stage with a group of undergraduates for a College photograph and a signed limited edition print of one of the griffins in the wall hanging at the College. My thanks go to all those involved in our merchandise operation, particularly to Peter Whittington, our Assistant Secretary (Merchandise), and Kate Dyer, Chair of our Merchandise Working Group.

My thanks as always also go to the Development Office for their constant support and to all those Officers of the Association who give their time to ensure that it continues with its objective to "concern itself with the welfare of the College and its members". In particular, to our Secretary and Newsletter Editor, Simon Walker, and our Treasurer, David Riddoch, who ensure the smooth running of the Association, by putting in many hours.

During the past year, the Development Office has also commissioned a survey on alumni's views of this Newsletter. I have yet to see the results, but I predict that one will be that the President's Foreword needs to be kept short, so readers will have to accept my snapshot of the past ten years and will be spared my full analysis of the College.

In brief – Downing is thriving!

**Barrie Hunt (1966)**

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

## NEXT YEAR'S PRESIDENT

Downing is not the kind of place you can just shrug off. Whether we like it or not, our undergraduate years have formed what we are now, and I would hope that most memories are pleasant enough to draw you back at some stage or other, if only out of curiosity to see whether it has changed as much as you have. Certainly, in my own case, although I was unaware of it at the time, it gave me plenty of space to do my own thing, to find out what really interested me, and to make the necessary mistakes. It turned out that much of my life was to be involved with Downing in some way or another: undergraduate 1965–1968, PhD graduate 1970–1973, Professorial Fellow 1985–2000. In 2000 I was lured away for a while to the Mastership of a College somewhere over the river, but Downing remains very much part of me. When asked to be President of the Association, I could find no adequate excuse.



Those who knew me as an undergraduate 1965–68 apparently remember me either for a well-worn Spanish leather jacket, or for the fact that I was reading Japanese, although ‘reading’ in this case would be a gross exaggeration. Japanese is not intrinsically difficult (although it helps if you are Finnish or Korean) but its writing ‘system’ is of such complexity that the Basque Jesuit Francis Xavier who arrived in the mid sixteenth century was certain it had been designed by the Devil himself. Perhaps that is why I became interested? It is a thing of wonder. A system that needs another one to tell you how to pronounce something; numerous place names the pronunciation of which is known only to those who live in the vicinity (Wymondham and Happisburgh are mere trifles in comparison); and personal names the correct reading of which is known only to the person concerned. Yes, a good choice to keep me forever fascinated.

The leather jacket eventually wore out, but the subject I chose stayed with me and is going strong. At the time no one could quite understand why anyone would study such a bizarre subject – least of all my parents – but now perhaps it seems a little less strange, if still not normal. In the Britain of 1965 it was a real oddity but not, I discovered, elsewhere. In Australia, where I cut my teeth as a lecturer, the majority of my students had studied the language from the age of ten. I then experienced New York on 125th and Riverside,

which in the late 1970s was just plain dangerous, escaped to an idyllic but somewhat parochial Princeton, and finally returned back to Cambridge in 1985, where the savagery turned out to be simply financial.

As I write, Britain is at war with itself, still unable to come to terms with the loss of empire. There are limits to what we can do, but making sure that Downing continues to flourish come what may (pun intended) so that the next generation can learn what is foolish and what is wise, is surely something worth striving for.

**Richard Bowring (1965)**

## THE MAIN OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- To keep members of Downing in touch with one another and the College.
- To facilitate united action in any matter concerning the welfare of the College and its members.
- To publish and circulate an annual *Newsletter*.
- 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 information or 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](mailto: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 [www.dow.cam.ac.uk](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk) by following the 'People' link;
- or directly via [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/downing-college-alumni-association](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/downing-college-alumni-association)

To **purchase merchandise** type “Downing gifts” into Google or go to the Association website (above) and choose the option ‘Souvenirs and Gifts’ or choose the direct link [www.downing-gifts.com](http://www.downing-gifts.com)

The Rules of the Association, the Draft Minutes of the 2018 AGM and back copies of the *Newsletter* (excluding *Magenta News*) can be found by going to the Association website (above) and choosing 'About us'. *Magenta News* may be accessed through the Development Office link <https://www.downingcambridge.com/magenta-news>

The Development Office website, for College events, is [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development)

## THE 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 91st Annual General Meeting was held in the Howard Theatre on Saturday 22 September 2018. The following is a brief summary – the full draft minutes are available on the website (see above).

The President reported the sad news of the death of two former Presidents: John Hopkins and Julian Childs. John was known to all, he made an immense contribution over many years to the College and its reputation in Cambridge and the legal world. Julian was a great benefactor of the College, in particular the building of the Boathouse and the Cambridge Rowing Tank, sponsoring two boats and supporting the Mays Wild Fund. Obituaries of both appear in this *Newsletter*.

The President reminded members of the objectives of the Association and summarised what had been achieved during his year in office, as described in this section of the *Newsletter*.

Retiring from the Executive, having come to the end of their respective term of office, were Lord David Lloyd Jones (1970) and Mr Colin Blackmore (1991). Their contributions were much appreciated. Also retiring after ten years as Treasurer was Mr Norman Berger ((1952) who has also helped immensely with merchandise sales. In recognition of Norman's long and exemplary service the Executive has nominated him for election as a Vice President.

The President recorded his thanks to the Development Office staff who do a huge amount of work for the Association.

The Treasurer reported that the past year had been challenging for the Association's finances with a deficit of £2,533. This was caused by increasing support for the Alumni Student Fund to £10,730 (£9,411), despite a fall in income. Merchandise sales totalled £5,185 (£8,060). The fall was primarily due to there being no London reception. The Balance Sheet showed assets of £33,180 (£35,713). The combined cash at Barclays Bank and at the Cambridge Building Society amounts to £19,503 (£18,310).

The Chair of the Merchandise Working Group, Dr Kate Dyer (1982), thanked all those involved with its work, particularly Mr Peter Whittington (1962). Sales had been slow, but it

was hoped the biennial London reception would help to make up the shortfall. New products introduced include pint glasses engraved with the College crest, a chopping board which matches the design for the tray and a new print based on a watercolour by Steve Bennett.

The Vice Master commented that the death of John Hopkins marked the end of an era during which he made a remarkable contribution to the College. The College's financial deficit was about to be paid off. No major building work is occurring. J staircase and the West Lodge are being refurbished. The latter includes the Tim Cadbury Room. **Mr Cadbury (1951)** had been a generous supporter of the College and it was with sadness that the College had learnt of his recent death. The College has acquired 26 Lensfield Road for conversion to student accommodation, the last of the houses adjoining the College, apart from that housing the medical practice. Academically the College had performed well, but is some way down in the informal rating for Colleges according to examination results. He noted that a 2:1 now depresses a College's rating. During the retiring Master's term of office he had encouraged a sense of ambition and purpose, the College wishes him well for the future.

The Election of Officers resulted in the following changes. The President-elect **Mr Barrie Hunt (1966)** became President whilst **Professor Richard Bowring (1965)** was elected as President-elect. **Mr David Riddoch (1995)** was elected Honorary Treasurer and **Mr Norman Berger (1952)** was elected Vice President. **Ms Julia Martin (1981)**, **Ms Sharon Gimson (1998)** and **Mr Peter Marchment (2001)** were elected as members of the Executive Committee. **Professor Roy Farmer (1958)**, **Dr Kate Dyer (1982)** and **Mrs Karen Storey (1982)** were co-opted to the Executive Committee.

## 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.**

While the Fund is supported primarily by sales of merchandise, donations are also welcomed. If you would like to make a donation of up to £1,000 please contact the Honorary Secretary. If you wish to make larger donations please contact the Development Office. The Fund is 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.

The Fund provides grants which are normally between £50 and £250, but can occasionally be as much as £500. This year 43 students have been helped with grants totaling £7,600. Most grants are for books, computer equipment, attendance at a language course 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.

In the last year, grants have been used to travel to France for a week of French lessons focussed on law and business, for a stay in Amsterdam to enable research into the online grocery and food delivery market, to attend a five-day residential course at the National Construction College, to visit the UAE (meeting representatives of government, state organisations and multinational companies), to pay for costs associated with an MBA project, to represent the University of Cambridge at the Rotman Design Challenge (an academic case competition), to attend the European MBA Conference and to travel to Hangzhou, China to attend a conference on “Scholarship of Dunhuang Studies”.

## **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 winner Tatiana Kurschner who read Law.

## **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 of not more than two years' duration, but the awards are not restricted to such courses. The value of a scholarship will be determined by the course fees, travel costs and maintenance expenses associated with the course for which the scholarship is awarded. The financial resources of the applicant will also be taken into consideration. For further information about the awards and application process see [http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/sites/default/files/glynn\\_jones\\_scholarship\\_information](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/sites/default/files/glynn_jones_scholarship_information)

## DOWNING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The competition theme was **“A Celebration of Downing”**. Many standard photographs of the Domus exist showing the overall layout and architecture and the aim of this competition was to encourage participants to demonstrate what makes Downing so unique and special, perhaps revealing hidden or rarely seen details, unusual views, something interesting, impressionistic or memorable.

The judges were Barrie Hunt (1966) (President of the Alumni Association and Fellow Commoner), Professor Chris Haniff (Fellow in Physics), Vicki Ambery-Smith (designer, wife of the Master) and Neville Tait (1962) (Associate Fellow Emeritus and competition organiser).

Keeping score and ensuring fair play was the Association Secretary, Simon Walker (1975). 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 moderate entry this year with 18 images from six entrants, considerably down on the 41 images in 2018. However, the quality was generally satisfactory and most entries made a good attempt at meeting the brief. Many of the entries could have been improved by some judicious cropping to the composition, or by changing slightly the position from which the photograph was taken.

The judges were very much at one in selecting the top dozen or so entries, but selecting the top three was a matter of lengthy debate, as was choosing between the 'Highly Commended' and 'Commended' images.

Congratulations to Harry Kettle for his winning entry titled *Sunrise at Downing*. The judges were unable to separate 2nd and 3rd places and so awarded two “Second equal” places to Rebeca Ridings for *Catching the last rays of Sunlight* and to Nathan Parker for *Evening Reflections*. Nathan also gained a Highly Commended for his monochrome image *After the Rain* and a Commended for *The Pillars of Downing*. Patrik Gubeljak gained a Highly Commended for *Toasting the Lassies* and a Commended for *Life on the Paddock*. Finally, Bushry Basheer gained a Commended for *Taking a peek at the Paddock*.

It was interesting to note that many of the images were taken using mobile phones, which just goes to show that expensive camera equipment is not required in order to take a good image; particularly as changes, such as cropping, can be made on mobiles.



## PRIZE WINNERS

### **1st place Harry Kettle – *Sunrise at Downing***

There is wonderful quality of the light in this early morning shot taken from near the Chapel looking across the domus towards the Paddock with the low sun shining through the leafless trees casting long shadows across the lawns.

### **2nd equal place Rebeca Riding – *Catching the last rays of Sunlight***

The sun plays a large part in this image also, but this time at the other end of the day. A rather darker, more sombre image, than that of the winning image, but nevertheless very evocative of a sunset on a clear autumn/winter's day.

### **2nd equal place Nathan Parker – *Evening Reflections***

Keeping to the early morning/evening theme of the other two winners, this was a 'well seen' image showing a reflection of a sun-bathed Master's Lodge in a Hall Window with some dining tables clearly visible through the window. The image suffers slightly from 'converging verticals' which could have been easily rectified using one of the commonly available photo editing programmes.



*Sunrise at Downing Harry Kettle – 1st place Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*



*Evening Reflections Nathan Parker - 2nd equal place Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*



*Catching the last rays of Sunshine Rebeca Ridings – 2nd equal place Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*

## HIGHLY COMMENDED

### **Nathan Parker – *After the Rain***

This was the only monochrome entry and shows the Maitland Library with its columns reflected in the wet paving slabs. The small part of a seat showing on the lower right of the image is rather distracting however.

### **Patrik Gubeljak – *Toasting the Lassies***

This image taken during a formal dinner in Hall shows the diners enjoying themselves as they look towards an unknown speaker who has made them all laugh. The Downing community at its best!

### **Bushry Basheer – *Taking a peek at the Paddock***

This rather simple image looking towards the North Range from the Paddock emphasises the sheer spaciousness of the Domus.

## COMMENDED

### **Patrik Gubeljak – *Life on the Paddock***

A sunny summer day in Downing with young members making full use of the Paddock, sitting on the grass enjoying themselves with a cheerful looking girl as the focus. The image would have been better if the focus of the image was in sunshine rather than shadow.

### **Nathan Parker – *The Pillars of Downing***

We have had several images of pillars in previous competitions, but this is a new perspective looking through the pillars into the lawns beyond. A small change of position to the left by the photographer would have avoided the slightly distracting edge of the building protruding beyond the left-hand pillar.

## 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. Zoe Barber (Fellow), Assistant Editor, *The College Record*, collects contributions from current students and the Fellowship as well as, with Miranda Smith, College Secretary, and Becky Proctor, Communications Officer, compiling the list of the Fellowship which changes from year to year. From the College departments Sarah Pickard, Academic Registrar, with her colleagues, gives us the list of joining students, academic awards and the Colours and Blues. Claire Varley and Susan Esden from the Development Office have kept us in touch with the alumni database and edited *Magenta News*. An Editorial Committee of Neville Tait (1962), Barrie Hunt (1966), Richard Bowring (1965), Norman Berger (1952), John Hicks (1955), Peter Thomson (1953), Frank Weiss (1950) and Jo Finnie Jones, Director of Advancement advise on content. Peter Whittington (1962), Barrie Hunt (1966), Karen Storey (1982), Catherine Middleton and Zoe Barber have helped with proof reading.

## COLLEGE NEWS

## THE MASTER WRITES:

My first year as Master has been a joy. There has been so much to savour, so many events to enjoy, so many traditions to embrace and so many achievements to celebrate. Vicki and I are grateful to the Fellows, alumni, staff and students for their warm and generous welcome.

For me, returning to live in a university environment after a gap of nearly 40 years has been delightful. I have treasured the combination of Downing's wonderful grounds and its energetic, enthusiastic community. The wide-open spaces and the splendid buildings really do give us all the space to breathe. In contrast to the cloistered medieval colleges, our art gallery, theatre and public café invite the outside world in. They remind us that we are part of a wider context.

As I write, the College is basking in the glow of graduation celebrations. Many students have performed exceptionally well (with a small number nursing painful disappointments). The relief to have finished alongside the sadness to be leaving has made for mixed emotions. The long sunny days and the presence of so many proud relatives and friends have added to the poignant scenes, from the graduation dinner to the Senate House procession and the final celebratory garden party.

Downing has had two particular academic highlights this year. First, the Oon International Award for Preventive Medicine was given to Mihaela van der Schaar, who is the John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence and Medicine. To mark the award, she delivered an excellent lecture, "Transforming Clinical Practice and Discovery through Machine Learning and Electronic Health Engines", a topic that is currently resonating through the medical world.

Second, we held our first Graduate Conference, at which a range of Downing graduate students presented their research, demonstrating the variety and depth of their PhD projects. It was a fascinating day and built on our termly MCR seminars. It is pleasing to see the gradual closer integration of the MCR into the College, with research students regularly mingling with the Fellows at lunch and Fellows giving talks about their career paths – for which this year, thanks go to Harriet Groom, Ewan Jones and Chris Haniff.

This year also saw the centenary of the end of the First World War, marked by a moving ceremony attended by many relatives of Downing alumni who died on active service. These included the family of Joseph Blogg, the member of staff whose new memorial plaque was unveiled by his great-great-grandsons, aged 19 and 24, during the ceremony.

While this represented the ultimate sacrifice made by some of our alumni, I was also glad to recognise at the annual Commemoration Service and Feast the many benefactions

they have made. We continue to rely on generous gifts from alumni and friends, and on their advice and active participation in College life. This year we are especially grateful to Richard Williams (1967) for his tremendous support of a new College Fellow in Economics, which will fill a conspicuous gap in our teaching capacity. This was also the year when we wished Alan Howard (1948), Downing's most significant donor of recent times, a happy 90th birthday.

Alumni continue to support the Downing Enterprise competition for student entrepreneurs and to act as volunteer coaches for the Boat Club. They were present in large numbers at the May Dinner, when we celebrated Leo Judd's retirement after 50 incredible years as the second boat's coach. I was also impressed by the enthusiastic turn-out of alumni at events I attended in London and Edinburgh, at the Annual Reunion in April and at the 1749 Society Garden Party in July for those who are kindly remembering Downing in their wills.

The Heong Gallery, too, has been well served by its alumni patrons and goes from strength to strength as a result. This year's exhibitions, by fine artist Stuart Pearson-Wright, master print-maker Kip Gresham and conceptual artist Yoko Ono, have been splendid in their different ways. They have further raised the Heong's profile and been supplemented by shorter shows, such as photographs by Sara Rawlinson (wife of Fellow Nick Rawlinson) of Cambridge College libraries, and many talks, book launches and student-led events. To enhance our arts offering, we were fortunate, too, to receive on long-term loan from the Barbara Hepworth estate her sculpture *Two Forms (Divided Circle)*, which now sits proudly in the East Lodge Garden.

Music has also had an excellent year under a revitalised Music Society and David Lowe, our first-ever Director of Chapel and College Music. It is one of the many pleasures of College life to hear the choir sing Evensong and Compline. We have had a first-rate series of musical recitals in the Howard Theatre, the chapel, the gallery and, I am glad to say, the Master's Lodge. I have happily opened up the Lodge's Steinway for students to practice or amuse themselves well away from the pressures of competition. Meanwhile, the Jazz Band has been in fine form in the JCR bar and elsewhere.

The Dramatic Society had another good year, with well-received productions of *Under Milk Wood* and *Hangman*, while the annual Festival of New Writing produced yet another fine crop of talented student playwrights. Art met sport, when the Downing Eliminator, a University-wide indoor rowing competition, took over the Theatre one sweaty Sunday.

The sporting highlight though, was the Men's Rugby triumph at Cuppers, only the second win in more than 25 years. The 19-0 winning margin over Caius does not quite convey the closeness of the final, in which our dominant pack only fully asserted itself in the second half. Callum Sullivan, a second-year music student, rowed in the victorious Blue

boat and final-year student Amelia Miller was named Player of the Match in Cambridge's victory in the Women's Rugby Varsity match. The boats had a largely positive year, with M1 ending fourth at the Mays, W2 having an excellent Michaelmas and Lent and M3 winning blades at the Mays.

It has been a great pleasure to see Downing's lovely spaces used in so many unexpected ways – the fabulous May Ball (the envy of Cambridge), the glorious Bonfire Night fireworks, the mass turn-out in the JCR for our heroic efforts at University Challenge, "Keith's café" (the Chaplain's weekly free hot drinks and doughnuts date on Thursdays at 3.30pm – and 3.30am during the Ball!) and the array of high chairs at High Table during the Fellows' monthly family brunches.

We welcomed two new arrivals to continue filling those high chairs – a daughter, Beatrice, for Brendan Plant and Federica and a son, Thomas, for Amy Goymour and Stephen.

Alongside the jollity there have been some sadder moments, foremost among them the death of John Hopkins, a true Downing giant, Fellow in Law, Senior Tutor and genuine friend to many cohorts of students. The wonderful attendance and heart-felt tributes at his Memorial Service in May were compelling evidence of his and Cherry's invaluable impact on so many people's lives.

Sadly, we are about to lose Bill Clyne to retirement, though he will be welcomed back immediately as an Emeritus Fellow. And the terms of our three Junior Research Fellows are also up; we send best wishes to Harriet Groom, Priyanka Joshi and Edward Kavanagh.

To balance these departures, Antonio Ferraz de Oliveira arrived this year as a Junior Research Fellow and we have recently elected Frisbee Sheffield, Fellow in Classics, Joe Webster, Fellow in Anthropology and Robert Hoyer, Silverman Fellow, all with an October start.

Looking forward, there is no shortage of challenges facing the College. We need to continue making Downing attractive to as wide as possible a student intake and to keep demonstrating our commitment to diversity and inclusion. The University review of admissions policy may bring significant change. The much-anticipated cut in tuition fees may jeopardise part of our income. Brexit may interrupt the flow of talent and partnerships from Europe. And we have to fill the big shoes – important shoes – of Susan Lintott as Senior Bursar and Paul Millett as Vice Master, both of whom retire in 2020. They have made immeasurable contributions over many years to making Downing the lively and delightful place it is.





*Life on the Paddock Patrik Gubeljak - Highly Commended Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*



*Toasting the Lassies Patrik Gubeljak - Highly Commended Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*



## THE SENIOR TUTOR WRITES:

This year has, once again, provided some excellent performances both academic and extra-curricular. The College has recognised 92 students with prizes for achieving a first class result, with five of them being additionally awarded a special prize for being close to the top of their Tripos. The Governing Body also had the pleasure of awarding three Pilley scholarships, for those who have combined academic achievement with leadership in team sports, to Daniel Bowe (Basketball and Football), Stephen Harris (Rowing, Rugby, Netball and Badminton) and Jane Wright (Football, Netball and Rowing). The Professor Gabriel Oon Chong Jin Prize for Outstanding Academic and Sporting Achievement went to Sophie Corrodi who received Ice Hockey Blues in three successive years.

For recognition of more cultural pursuits the Judy C Petty award (for Downing undergraduates who have made an outstanding contribution to Music and the Arts whilst at Cambridge) was jointly awarded to Eli Hayes and Sacha Hopkins-Powell. The Geoffrey Twining Egginton Prize in Fine Arts again produced an impressively diverse range of work, which provided a refreshing display outside the Tutorial Office and was awarded to Julia Cabanas. These artistic awards have broadened the range of student activity that is recognised in the end of year prizes and are greatly enjoyed by both the receiving students and the Fellowship in being able to give such acknowledgments.

In March the College held its first Graduate Conference. Following feedback from postgraduate students, this event sought to give our students a forum to present their work to their College peers whom they normally see for more social reasons. Fourteen students gave oral presentations and more presented posters over lunch. A keynote talk was also given by Dr Lucy MacGregor (1990), former Research Fellow in Geological Sciences, and the event was a success. It was ably stewarded, as so many of our expanding programme of postgraduate activities are, by Philip Rubery in his capacity as MCR/SCR Liaison Fellow.

In conjunction with the School of Clinical Medicine we welcomed Professor Mihaela van der Schaar to give the 2018 Oon Prize lecture entitled "Medicine 2.0: Transforming Clinical Practice and Discovery through Machine Learning and Electronic Health Engines". This was a very successful event with many attendees from across the University who heard a highly topical talk on the application of artificial intelligence to healthcare; it is always a great pleasure to welcome the broader University community into the College for such academic occasions.

Meanwhile, the Downing community continues to be sustained more locally by the Directors of Studies and Tutors, assisted by the Nurse & Chaplain. One of the most popular events of the week is “Keith’s café”, where the Chaplain hosts for drinks and donuts (five varieties!) outside the chapel every Thursday afternoon at 3.30pm. In exam term this mild escapism is complemented by jigsaws and puzzles in the antechapel as students seek a break from the imminent Tripos exams. We are very fortunate in having a chaplain with such an inclusive and unobtrusively supportive approach. His café is such an institution that it proved an ironic hit at 3.30am during the Downing College Ball.

On the other hand, one of the least celebrated roles in College is that of the Dean. For many students, the role which exists to “maintain discipline among members of the College in statu pupillari” is not obviously benign. However, a deft touch can smooth over many disputes either between students, or between students and the College staff, and prevent problems before they become worse. For much of the last year I have been lucky that, in order to cover sabbatical leave and in the run up to his retirement from the Fellowship, Bill Clyne has reprised the role as Dean that he first held more than twenty five years ago. Bill combines real interest and care for students with an acute sense of appropriate behaviour which has earned the respect (if not the admiration) of those he has needed to interview and I will miss his good judgment from the Tutors’ meetings.

At the time of writing, the University is in the process of submitting its plan to the new regulator (the Office for Students) relating to how to ensure access to the University from as broad a talent pool as possible. The University (and, by extension, the College) is being rightly required to do this without lowering academic standards. This is both challenging and ambitious. As a result of these requirements we have recently appointed Corinne Galloway to a new post of Director of Widening Participation, and she will help to ensure that we reach students with promising grade profiles who might not otherwise have considered themselves a potential Cambridge student. This expanded outreach project will benefit from the appointment of Dr Kamran Yunus as Admissions Tutor, who will oversee all our undergraduate recruitment. Previously the College has operated with two Admissions Tutors, both of whom were expected to fulfil the role alongside their other duties. With the increased complexity of both the recruitment and assessment process this is no longer a practical arrangement and so Kamran will have a more substantial role for the coming admissions round.

While the face of Downing, the open architecture and spaces that are so familiar to alumni, is unchanging, the reality of the College is these ever dynamic human processes. Through the Fellows and Staff we will continue to support a world class academic environment to offer the very best education for our students.

## THE ASSISTANT BURSAR'S REPORT

To the casual passer-by, it might seem that very little has happened on the Domus this year. Apart from the general sense that everything is clearer, sharper and better defined, Downing looks very much as Downing does.

But, to walk on by with that impression would be to miss the huge amount of detailed work that has gone on around the College this year, as much of it has taken place in the background or behind closed doors.

Starting outside though, the installation of the water feature, with its intriguing inscription, next to the Porters' Lodge has brought the spirit of contemplation inherent in the atmosphere of First Court to a new welcoming setting. From here, visitors can enjoy the view of the maturing planting around the Maitland Robinson Library. Across the Agora, the East Lodge Garden has been renewed with new planting and much-improved pathways that complete the second in the planned series of three 'Study Gardens' due to be completed next year by the replanting of the Rose Garden. All provide a newly accessible setting for the installation of Dame Barbara Hepworth's 'Divided Circle', positioned advantageously by Caruso St John architects in September.

Bordering the Rose Garden, deeper behind the East Range, the outhouses at the rear of the Master's Lodge – recently serving as a pottery – have been redesigned to provide residential accommodation for Fellows. A new Music Centre has replaced the Computer Room, providing two soundproofed practice areas for students and a beautiful office space overlooking the Rose Garden to accommodate both the new Director of College and Chapel Music and his baby grand piano.

On the opposite side of the Quad in the centre of the West Range, the West Lodge reception rooms have undergone a four month programme of refurbishment, very much in the spirit of the original architect, William Wilkins. All four rooms have been elevated to the highest standards with seamless incorporation of the latest in audio-visual technology and climate control.

Technology is more to the forefront in a major refresh of the Servery where the latest in information screens have been incorporated to delivering menu and promotions as well as data on allergens and environmental impacts. Coupled with the recent move to cashless transactions across the Domus, the Catering Department clearly have their eye on the future!

Back outside, the Gardens and Grounds Department continue to renew and restore. The West Lodge Garden, originally planned out by Douglas Rule and Sarah Clayton in 1999 has been returned to the original intended planting and the quinquennial tree survey has confirmed that there are over 600 trees planted on the Domus. The lawns appear to have survived another summer: no drought or the early attentions of the chafer bug, just the exertions of the May Ball to recover from this year...

## THE DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT'S REPORT

Since joining Downing in August, this year has been one full of new experiences for me as I have adapted to the rhythm of the College, learning about student life here and gaining an insight from Fellows into their fields of expertise.

I have enjoyed meeting many of you at alumni events over the past few months. The Downing community now stretches to over 8500 contactable alumni worldwide and we endeavour to keep you connected to College and with each other. I would like to thank our alumni who contribute their time and expertise in many ways to help us in this endeavour.

Downing members give generously to support College priorities – teaching, student support and wellbeing, Downing Arts and student sport and the upkeep of our beautiful historic buildings. Quite simply, we could not do everything without your investment in the College and I am delighted to report that alumni and friends have generously donated over £3.2m this year.

Sometimes, urgent priorities arise in College and we are fortunate to be able to ask our alumni to help. Such was the case with Economics, where it was found to be impossible to recruit a University Teaching Officer, so the decision was made to seek support from alumni to endow an Economics Fund in order to establish a teaching position in College. We are grateful to Richard Williams for stepping in quickly to make the first major gift of this appeal, but we have some way to go to reach our goal. A gift has also endowed the Oon Fellowship in Clinical Medicine and funded a hardship fund for medical students this year.

Over 400 alumni and Fellows met at the wonderful Memorial Service for John Hopkins and for afternoon tea back in College which provided an opportunity to catch up and reminisce. The John Hopkins Fund was established this year in his memory to support Supervisions in any discipline and the Tutorial system for all students in College, reflecting John's wide-reaching impact on all students. The Fund has so far exceeded £100,000 in gifts from alumni.

Our 1749 Society, of which the Vice Master, Dr Paul Millet is Honorary President, recognises those who have made a commitment of a gift in their will to Downing and its membership now stands at 339 members. We look forward to meeting members who are able to attend the 1749 event this summer. We encourage all alumni to consider a gift at any level and many of you did so after speaking to current students during the annual telethon in September, which raised a huge total of over £283,000 in donations. We are grateful to all our donors and welcome those of you have made a gift for the first time in particular. Thank you.

Looking ahead, we are planning a series of activities and events in 2020 to recognise the 40th anniversary of women matriculating at Downing and hope that you will join us in the celebrations.



*Yoko Ono, Wish Tree (1996/1997), En Trance, Lonja del Pescado, Alicante, Spain, 1997.  
Photo by Miguel Angel Valero. Courtesy of Yoko Ono*

## THE HEONG GALLERY: LOOKING TO THE SKY FOR ANSWERS

Something that you might not know about The Heong Gallery is that it came into being as the fulfilment of a Section 106 obligation under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

As planning permission was sought for Battcock Lodge, the College proposed an art gallery as a commitment to public art to offset the disruption caused by the building works. This obligation is the impetus behind most of the public art one sees outside commercial buildings. The Heong Gallery was the first ever gallery accepted to fulfil this obligation by Cambridge City Council, on condition that we host three exhibitions a year over a three-year period. This commitment ended on 6 February 2019, but the benefits of the Gallery to the College community and city compelled us to keep going.

Our first exhibition after the mandatory three-year period was up was *Kip Gresham: The Art of Collaboration*, celebrating over four decades of printmaking excellence. Sixty-one original prints by forty artists took visitors through a visual history of hand-printmaking since the 1970s. From the figurative styles of Elisabeth Frink and Antony Gormley, to the abstract oeuvre of John Hoyland, and the Pop Art collages of Eduardo Paolozzi, the exhibition was a showcase for collaborative art-making, and the enduring legacy of an ancient art form. The exhibition catalogue is a valuable resource in all legal deposit libraries and specialist museum libraries in the land, and will ensure that the exhibition lives on. Kip Gresham was on hand all along the way, from speaking to Art History and Fine Art students from Cambridge University and Anglia Ruskin University, to advising secondary school art teachers on the setting up of print workshops. The crowning achievement of the show was the print symposium at The Howard Theatre, which brought together academics, artists and Kip for a behind-the-scenes look at contemporary print collections and artist experiences of printmaking.

Exhibition eleven takes us into uncharted territory with the work of the famed doyenne of Contemporary Art, Yoko Ono. For the first time, we are working closely with the artist's studio and a guest curator to create an installation that re-imagines several of her classic works in the specific context of the gallery. YOKO ONO SKY PIECES explores Ono's fascination with the sky. Following her exile from Tokyo during the World War II bombing raids, the sky has appeared repeatedly in Ono's work as a metaphor for peace, freedom, the unknowable and the eternal. The central piece of the exhibition will be a new configuration of *Sky TV* (1966/2019), in which a closed-circuit camera will record the sky, transmitting real-time views through a network of twenty-five television monitors into the gallery. The East Anglian sky has attracted generations of artists to live and work in the region, and this exhibition will transport it to the Gallery in real time. The shifting permanence of the sky

serves as a reminder of this mute, life-giving witness to all life on earth and to the darkest chapters of the history of humanity. Ono's practice has always focused on challenging viewers to look at everyday phenomena with new eyes and on creating spaces in which thought experiments and introspection can be flourish, and YOKO ONO SKY PIECES promises to prompt, confront and soothe all who engage with it.

This year, on 28 June, the first batch of undergraduates who have never known Downing without the Gallery, graduated. Among them were some of our keenest gallery assistants, musicians who have performed in the Gallery and others who have participated in our art workshops and attended events. Some of them will have won prizes for their own art, including the Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Twining Eggington Prize, inspired by the artworks in the Gallery. At the very least, they will all have profited from the opportunities to work, create and be enriched by our varied exhibition programme. This valuable addition to College life is wholly sustained via the support of alumni and well-wishers. We thank our 1717 Patrons, led by Sir Quentin Blake (1953) for their pledges of support over the next five years. We also thank all of you who have made donations to Downing Arts in general or the Gallery in particular. Your donations are hard at work ensuring that Downing is a model of public engagement through the arts and all-round student development, benefiting the tight-knit College community, the University, and the city at large.

**Dr Prerona Prasad**  
Exhibitions and Programming Manager

The **Heong Gallery** is open Wednesday to Sunday 12pm – 5pm

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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 Alumni Day and Annual Dinner is also included in this *Newsletter*.

### **Dates already arranged for 2019–20 include:**

Year Reps' Meeting and Dinner	Fri 27 September
Alumni Day & Association Dinner	Sat 28 September
Advent Carol Service, London	Thurs 5 December
Varsity Rugby, Twickenham	Thurs 12 December
Mathias Dinner	Sat 1 February
Cranworth Dinner, Middle Temple	Thurs 6 February

Griffins' Dinner	Sat 29 February
Annual Reunion Dinner (pre-1957/60/70/80/90/00/10)	Fri 3 April–Sun 5 April
Segreants' Dinner	Sat 25 April
Whitby Dinner	early May
Brammer Dinner	early May
MA Day and Dinner	Sat 16 May
Donors' Garden Party	Sat 13 June
DCBC May Bumps Marquee	Sat 13 June
1970 Reunion Dinner	Sat 4 July
1749 Society Garden Party	Sat 11 July

### **And for 2020–21**

Year Reps' Meeting and Dinner	Fri 25 September
Alumni Day & Association Dinner	Sat 26 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 [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development)

## **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.

### **Accessibility**

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 one guest.

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](mailto:dining@dow.cam.ac.uk)

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:contact@alumni.cam.ac.uk) or visit <http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/benefits/camcard>

## FROM THE ARCHIVIST

## THE FIRST EVER DOWNING MAY BOAT – 1864

Just before Christmas 2018, the College received an unexpected – but very welcome – package. Sent anonymously to the Head Porter, it contained a framed photograph of the Downing Boat, May 1864. This was exciting enough, but we quickly realised the photograph showed the first ever May Boat crew, taken when the Boat Club was less than a year old and the College had only a handful of students. A note enclosed with the photograph explained that it had been “Stolen in an impetuous and irresponsible youth” by the sender, a visiting Oxford student, and was being returned with “sincere apologies” more than fifty years later. The photograph was in excellent condition given its considerable age and we are grateful for the eventual safe return of such an important item of great significance to the history of the College and the Boat Club.





This is the earliest known surviving photograph showing Downing students, including two (Richard Henn Collins and Norman MacColl, seated far right) who went on to become Fellows. The Boat Club had only just been formed, in late 1863, proposed by John Buckley Bradbury (later to be the last Downing Professor of Medicine) and seconded by Richard Henn Collins, an Irishman and one of the first new Foundation Scholars admitted in October 1863. A change in the College's statutes in 1861 had finally enabled it to offer scholarships and exhibitions to entice new students and resulted in the admission of the first new "pensioners" (normal undergraduates) at Downing for more than thirty years! Henn Collins was elected Secretary of the new Boat Club, with Latham Christopher Norris Percy Brickwood elected its first Captain. One of his first acts was to present a trophy to be competed for by Downing rowers, the "Brickwood Challenge Sculls". Its first winner was Richard Henn Collins and the silver oars, with accompanying plaques (see above) recording each year's winner, are still held by the College today.

Downing made its debut in the 1864 Lent Bumps, with no official colours and racing with violet blades with black Maltese crosses, starting twelfth in the third division. They made an admirable start, going up two in the Lents and ending the Mays as Head of the Third Division and sandwich boat – a remarkable achievement given the Club was still less than a year old.<sup>1</sup>

Significantly, the 1864 May Boat photograph includes more than half the student population of the College at that time. Eight of the nine pictured had come up to Downing since April 1863 – four of them in the months after the formation of the Boat Club (see extract from the Admissions Register opposite). Four of the crew had migrated from other Colleges, which seems to have been relatively common during this period, presumably influenced by the financial incentive of new scholarships or the prospect of

<sup>1</sup> S. French, 'The Long Haul: The Story of the Boat Club' in *Aspects of Downing History* (Downing College Association, 1982). The early history of the Boat Club is summarised at <https://downingboatclub.co.uk/the-club/history/>.



**The Hon. John Marsham** was admitted a pensioner in April 1864, from Christ Church, Oxford and Eton. The second son of Charles, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Romney, and Lady Margaret (daughter of the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Buccleuch), he graduated in 1866, the year he was ordained as a deacon (and as a priest the following year). He served as a curate until 1868 before becoming Rector of Barton Seagrave, Northamptonshire, where he remained for 40 years, followed by a short time as Rector and Archpriest at Haccombe, Devon.

**William Yates Foot** was admitted a Fellow Commoner in March 1862 from Rossall School, matriculating in Michaelmas 1862. He graduated in 1866, the year he was ordained as a deacon, and was ordained as a priest in 1867. He was Curate-in-charge of Ashford Carbonell, Salop from 1867–72 and Vicar of Moulsoford, Berkshire from 1879–89.

**Louis Henry Tosswill** matriculated at Gonville and Caius in 1862 before migrating to Downing in January 1864, studying Medicine. He was House Surgeon and Physician at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London before a long medical career in Exeter.

**Latham Christopher Norris Percy Brickwood** matriculated as a pensioner in April 1863, studying Law, and was admitted to the Inner Temple the following month. He graduated BA and LLB in 1866 and was called to the Bar in 1867, acting mainly on the South Eastern Circuit.

**Lyttleton Stewart Winslow** (later Forbes-Winslow) matriculated at Gonville and Caius in 1862, before migrating to Downing (with Louis Tosswill) in January 1864. He was a physician and recognised expert on insanity and mental disorders. He was the Founder, Consulting Physician and Director of the British Hospital for Mental Disorders, London.

**Robert Bonnor Miers** matriculated at Trinity in October 1862, migrating to Downing as a Fellow-Commoner in March 1864. Sadly, he died suddenly on 29 May 1866 before graduating.

**Alfred Salwey** was admitted as a Fellow Commoner, June 1863, matriculating the following term. He was Chairman of the Quarter Sessions in Shropshire and a JP in Shropshire and Herefordshire.

The photograph has now been conserved and a copy made for the original frame, so that it can be safely displayed in College. It was on display at the Boathouse for returning Segreants in April (see opposite), alongside the Brickwood Challenge Sculls oars and selected items from the Silver collection, curated by Dr Pratt, Fellow Archivist. The



*Photograph courtesy of Ian Watson*

framed copy is now destined for the Captain of the Boats' room, with a copy intended for permanent display at the Boathouse.

### **Image credits:**

*1864 May Boat photograph (DCPH/2/3/275) reproduced with kind permission of Hills & Saunders.*

### **Portraits:**

*Lord Collins by Charles Wellington Furse (1868–1904)*

*Normal MacColl by Edward Clegg Wilkinson (1862–1917)*

*The Master, Fellows and Scholars of Downing College in the University of Cambridge.*

**Jenny Ulph**  
College Archivist

As a postscript to the series of articles in the *Newsletter* regarding alumni who died in the First World War, **Chris Lowe (1958)** discovered a previously unknown family connection with **Samuel Wilton MC (1911)**. Chris has researched Mr Wilton's military career in greater detail and a copy of that research can be obtained from Jenny Ulph.

## FUTURE ARCHIVE PROJECTS: CAN YOU HELP?

### **40 Years of Women at Downing: Request for Memories**

2020 will mark the 40th anniversary of the admission of women as students at Downing (after the election of the College's first female Fellow, Dr Jane Weston, in 1978). The College Archivist is currently planning an archive exhibition to celebrate this significant development and would love to hear from any alumni – male and female – who matriculated at Downing between 1977 and 1983. If you would be happy to fill out a questionnaire detailing your memories of that period in the College's history for the Archive, please contact the College Archivist, Jenny Ulph ([ju213@dow.cam.ac.uk](mailto:ju213@dow.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 762905 (Mon, Wed, Fri)). Thank you.

Follow the Archive on Twitter (@DowningArchives) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/downingcollegearchives](https://www.facebook.com/downingcollegearchives))



*Taking a peek at the Paddock Bushry Basheer – Highly Commended  
Downing Alumni Photographic Competition*



## NEWS OF MEMBERS

## I TRAVEL, THEREFORE I AM

There is a Greek word for it – *holophile* – one who loves to travel. It is a condition for which there is no cure and I was probably destined to suffer from it. I was born in what was then called Tanganyika Territory. My father had gone to Tanganyika to work as a geologist, my mother to teach. They met and married there. Africa was my formative experience. What would have seemed exotic to a child in England was my everyday world: the local tribespeople who came to the house to sell produce, the hyenas which, every night, knocked over the dustbins crying “oo-wup”, the striking granite hills which surrounded the town. In those days, ex-pats were entitled to come “home” on leave every three years and they did so by ship, via the Suez Canal. I vividly remember the journey we made to the UK and back when I was 5. I recall stopping in Aden and looking up at the distant mountains (in 1990 I stood on those very mountains, near the beautiful old town of Ibb in Yemen, looking down to Aden far below). We sailed up the coast of Italy passing Stromboli, a volcano that continuously erupts, as my father explained to me. My lifelong fascination with volcanoes had been forged. I have since climbed them and peered into their craters in places as far apart as Kamchatka in Siberia, the eastern Congo and Nicaragua. I began my own serious travelling in 1979 with a trip to India and have not stopped.

For me, the best travel is far from the madding crowd. The Sistine Chapel is, of course, astounding, but trying to look up at the ceiling while you are being buffeted by several hundred people who are trying to do the same, rather detracts from the experience. I realised almost from the start that remote places were for me the most rewarding. I also appreciated that if there was somewhere that was exciting and off the beaten track, it was wise to visit it promptly. Some of the most interesting places that I have visited are now off limits. Many places that I saw in Syria in 2010 have since been destroyed or damaged, such as the incomparable crusader castle of Krak des Chevaliers, the magnificent ruined city of Palmyra, and the centre of Aleppo. In 2013, I went to Iraqi Kurdistan. Its impressive capital is the ancient city of Irbil. Amidst the dramatic and rugged landscapes is Lalish, a hauntingly beautiful and peaceful place that is the holy of holies of the Yezidi sect. One family that was visiting there included a beautiful girl, with her little sister and baby brother. Lalish is just 37 miles from Mosul, but 75 miles from Irbil. In the light of the subsequent murderous persecution of the Yezidis when Islamic State took Mosul, I have always hoped that that family was not from there. There are other countries that I have visited which are now effectively closed to travellers, such as Burkina Faso, Libya, Mali and Yemen. All of them have great treasures to see.

What memories really stand out? Here are just five of many. The first is of cruising down the Kongsfjorden in Spitzbergen, heading for Ny Ålesund, the most northerly town in the world. The sea was like glass and was punctuated by translucent green icebergs.





*The Moai on Easter Island*

At the end of the fjord were three ice-sculpted peaks, known as the Tre Kroner. The second is of climbing to the corrie lake above the climbers' base camp for Cerro Fitzroy in Argentina on a day when both Fitzroy (one of the most beautiful mountains in the world) and the neighbouring peak, Cerro Torre (a series of huge parallel stone daggers), were both completely clear of cloud. A condor was hovering above me. The third is of the glorious Naqsh-e Jahan Square in Isfahan, Iran, with its palaces and two exquisitely beautiful mosques, faced with turquoise and blue tiles. The fourth is of the cemeteries of the Nubian kings at Meroë in Sudan, with their numerous sharply pointed pyramids amidst the sands of the Bayuda Desert, and a lone, distant rider on camel. The last is of the great stone platform ("ahu") of 15 moai statues at Tongariki in Easter Island. It is the largest ahu on the island and its setting is dramatic, with headlands on either side and the Pacific breakers behind it.

There have been uncomfortable moments. I was briefly arrested for taking a photograph of the Presidential Palace in Antananarivo in Madagascar (it looks like a small French château). They could not work out how to take the film out of my camera and released me. In Algeria, it is apparently illegal to have binoculars and mine had night vision for night safari purposes. "You are a spy – look at all the countries you have visited!" Fortunately, our local guide persuaded the airport security officer otherwise. In North Yemen, our driver had to go off-piste in a hurry, as some local tribesmen wished to kidnap us. In the eastern Congo, I was charged by an Eastern Lowland Gorilla, but fortunately he stopped before he reached me. My first encounter with a Komodo dragon was on Rinca Island. I was standing four feet from the dragon. "Oh," said the park ranger, "she has just gone into attack mode." I lived to tell the tale.

Wonderfully funny things happen too. In Spitzbergen, the Russians have rights to mine coal under an international treaty and, when I visited, there were two Russian

towns there, Barentsburg and Pyramiden. My ship left Longyearbyen late. We should have visited Barentsburg in the early evening, but the ship arrived at midnight (it was still completely light). Our formidable Russian guide was waiting for us. "My name is Olga. You are late. You are so late that I cannot show you the most northerly herd of Friesian cows in the world. Their cowshed is now locked!" I am still gutted.

**Charles Harpum QC (Hon) (1972)**

## LIFE ON THE ROAD WITH THE BBC

**Simon Wilson (1983)** recently returned to the UK after more than 20 years living and working around the world as a BBC journalist. Here he shares a few memories:

"Always carry something to read with you, you never know when you are going to be stuck in some awful place for hours, even days." Those were the wise words of advice I was given by a veteran BBC correspondent as I left for my first overseas posting to Bonn, back in 1996. And they have come in very useful on many occasions since – at various dubious airports in third world countries, at military checkpoints in tricky parts of the Middle East, and more recently on the rail lines into London now I have returned to Britain and joined the ranks of the early morning commuting hordes.

That initial posting to Germany quickly set the tone for the next two decades of my professional life. Although nominally the TV producer in Bonn specialising in the rather dry politics of the Federal Republic, I found myself (not unwillingly) deployed wherever the God of News decided to cause mayhem – to conflicts in the Balkans, transport crashes and natural disasters around the world and, memorably, for one rain-soaked week in 1997 to Hong Kong for its handover to Chinese control.

There were plenty of lighter moments along the way. At the 1998 Football World Cup in France, I struck lucky and was selected to be the BBC News producer at the England team hotel in Brittany. All went well until England lost on penalties to Argentina and it fell to me to try and get some on-camera reaction from the man who missed the crucial spot kick – the famously combative midfielder David Batty. The BBC had the only camera there and as the players got off their bus, I shouted out the timeless sports journalist question: "David: What's your message to the fans back home?" Fortunately, we were not live at the time. His reply was a stream of invective so crude that the tape to this day remains locked in the deepest part of the BBC archive, never to be shown.

Clearly, the BBC decided my future did not lie as a sports reporter as in 2001 I was posted to Jerusalem and most of the following six years was spent producing TV coverage

of the conflicts between Israel and its neighbours and the vicious war in Iraq following the US invasion in 2003. My wife, Ulrike, and I also started our family during this time and went on to have four daughters in the following seven years – prompting the observation from one wag that if we took nothing else away from our time there, we had at least learned the secret of Middle Eastern family planning.

In 2008, the opportunity came to head to Washington as the BBC Bureau Chief. These were fascinating years to spend in America, covering both Barack Obama's presidential election victories. I was lucky enough to be in the crowd for his first inauguration and to see how much it meant to his supporters, particularly the generations of African-Americans who thronged the streets from before dawn in freezing temperatures. At the same time, and it's only really possible to see this with hindsight, some of the same forces that brought Obama to office were provoking the rise of the Tea Party movement and high-profile populist politicians like Sarah Palin, whose introduction to the national stage I witnessed first-hand at a Republican convention in Minneapolis. In retrospect, it is now possible to draw a clear, if roundabout, political line from that moment to Donald Trump's election as President eight years later.

Those years in Washington also brought me to the scene of disasters – both natural and man-made. I travelled to Haiti for the devastating earthquake and happened to be a few hours' drive away from the terrible school shooting at Sandy Hook in Connecticut and was swiftly on the scene – experiencing in both places one of the trickiest parts of the modern journalist's job. Audiences expect accurate and up-to-date coverage from the scene of news events – but also increasingly, and rightly, demand that our operations cause minimal intrusion into communities in the midst of terrible grief. It is an incredibly difficult thing to balance, but something we must always try to achieve.

Returning to Europe and a posting to Brussels in 2013, I was expecting a slightly quieter time. But our old friend the God of News had other ideas yet again, this time dropping his thunderbolts in Ukraine as it tried to break from Russian influence, in Paris and Brussels which suffered large scale terror attacks and on the migrant trail from the Mediterranean to northern Europe as more than one million refugees fled the fighting in Syria.

The result of the Brexit referendum in 2016 came to dominate my last two years in Europe. Much has been written about how the BBC and other news organisations covered the vote and its aftermath in the UK. For us in Brussels, the task was (and remains) relatively straightforward. Working with Europe Editor Katya Adler and other colleagues, we were determined that the EU side of the story should at least be heard in Britain and that EU officials and political leaders should be quizzed and held to account as much as possible. Others can judge how successful that effort has been – but I think there is little doubt that one of the ironies of Brexit is that as much if not more has been seen and heard on our television screens from Brussels in the three years since the referendum than in the forty years before.

So, after 22 years on the road, I have returned home to find a very different country from the one I left in the mid 1990's. There are obvious superficial differences such as no smoking in pubs, the increased obsession with celebrity and a massive and visible property development boom (in London at least). But at a more profound level, Britain is clearly wrestling with many of the same issues I have found elsewhere on my journey: identity, security and political and economic divisions. I suspect this may be one of the more interesting foreign postings yet.

## AN ENTREPRENEUR'S TALE

It took us just six weeks to get sued. I had just founded an irreverent student paper called *The Tab*, along with George Marangos-Gilks, who like me was studying SPS at Downing. We were having fun winding up the University and breaking wild stories, and optimism was running even higher than it usually did in Michaelmas term.

That optimism was swiftly punctured when an email dropped from a well-known law firm demanding the immediate removal of a story we had published about Lizo Mzimba, a well-known children's TV presenter, under the headline "BOOZEROUND". The story, which included blurry snaps of the innocent entertainer, claimed Lizo had drunkenly cavorted with undergrads in a local club before being gaffer taped to a wall. It was inaccurate and highly defamatory.

At the age of 20 we – along with two national papers who picked up the story – were being pursued for defamation, and we were out of our depth. For the first (and possibly last) time, I thanked God that I joined a college so full of lawyers. I did what any independent-minded, intelligent young adult would do: I went on my hands and knees to Downing's Senior Tutor and begged for help.

We started *The Tab* because no one was reading *Varsity* and *The Cambridge Student*. Almost every young journalist makes the false assumption that they should be taking on the Big, Serious Issues: global politics, Premier League football. We found Cambridge students were craving something more local and familiar.

*The Tab* was focused on stories from inside the Cambridge bubble: aggressive swans attacking Blues rowers, gossip from the ADC, bitter college football rivalries that spilled into fights on the Cindies' dancefloor (and yes, that's the popular spelling of Cindies, we held a vote on the site).

The polite term for our tone is "irreverent". The name "Tab" is a pun on "Cantab" and "tabloid". We felt Cambridge was serious enough and it needed lightening up. We

embraced slang, gossip and drama, and simply taking the proverbial out of serious people was a huge motivation.

But we also prided ourselves on doing real, shoe-leather reporting where other titles wouldn't. *Tab* reporters went to white supremacist rallies, knocked on doors and stuck microphones in people's faces in nightclub smoking areas. Sometimes this went a bit far, as in the case of the Lizo story. But the cocktail of scoops and scandal was a hit and by January 2013 25,000 people were reading *The Tab* every day.

Not everyone was a fan: *Varsity* erected a sign in their office which read "Policy on *The Tab*: do not mention *The Tab*". *The Guardian* declared us "neither funny nor clever". On April Fool's Day, we published a false story claiming the University had stripped the BNP Leader Nick Griffin of his degree. *The Sun*, seemingly unaware of the date, published the story as an exclusive. The University press office was furious and called us in for a dressing down.

Pretty quickly students from other universities got in touch asking if they could launch *The Tab* on their campus and it became clear this could be a business. We needed some capital, and Downing was absolutely crucial in us getting it. We pitched *The Tab* at Downing Enterprise and won investment from the College, plus four alumni: Jonathan Lander (1986), Robert Markwick (1979), Chris Bartram (1968) and Julian Childs (1969). All of them have been incredible sources of advice, support, inspiration and (yes) funding. Julian sadly died last year and I will always remember his encouragement and generosity.

Having trousered the investment cash, we took *The Tab* to universities across the UK. The model is the same as it was originally at Cambridge: a team of student journalists on each campus, overseen by a student editor. Today there are 1,200 of them across 87 UK universities. More than 200 former *Tab* journalists are working on Fleet Street today, including seven from the original Cambridge *Tab* team. Our London-based staff recruit student journalists, train them and work on stories. We also have an advertising team who make the money. In total it's 21 people.

Between 2015 and 2016 we got some serious injections of capital, first from a venture capital fund called Balderton and then from Rupert Murdoch. Murdoch had been my dream meeting since we started the business. His newspapers are responsible for some of my favourite scoops and I was convinced he would be interested if only we could get in front of him. So when one of our investors arranged a meeting in summer 2016 with the man himself, I was buzzing. The only hitch: the meeting was scheduled for the day after Glastonbury and I really wanted to go to Glastonbury.

You might not think four days of mud, partying and live music is the ideal preparation for a do-or-die meeting with the most successful media mogul alive. And on reflection, you're probably right. Fortunately it was just a few days after Brexit and spirits were high at the News UK building.

I turned up to the meeting with my co-founder and best friend George Marangos-Gilks, both of us still had glitter on our faces. I had to borrow my friend's father's shoes because all I had were muddy trainers. My pitch was simple. I printed out every story that News Corp's papers and TV companies had ever copied from *The Tab* and I put the huge book in front of them and let them read it. Pretty soon the man himself was asking: "so how much do you want?" and we shook on deal. I found Rupert humble, charming and very funny.

These funding rounds allowed us to go out to America and explore growing *The Tab* there. The appeal was obvious: America has ten times more students than the UK. We spent three years in New York and it was a wild time. We took *The Tab* to 80 campuses, touring an American college culture which was caught halfway between the *Animal House* party years and the new age of campus activism and culture wars. The American audience is different: they like things to be a bit more aspirational and serious. Everyone warned us before: "You'll have to change the tone in America", as if we were *Nuts* magazine trying to open an office in downtown Riyadh. And they were right.

We launched a separate online women's magazine called *Babe.net* which served up sassy feminist commentary and news with an hilarious "don't give a f..." tone. *Babe* shot to national recognition when we broke a "#MeToo" story about stand-up comedian Aziz Ansari – who is a huge celebrity in the US. It was one of those stories where you turn on your TV and it's on every channel. Will Ferrell did two comedy sketches about it. The story was incredibly divisive and we endured weeks of anger, death threats and the odd positive response. But I was proud of it.

Sadly, I could not sustain our American operation. It's a huge country which means you need a lot of cash and we spread ourselves too thin. So, like Tesco and Marks & Spencer before us, we pulled out of the US having failed to conquer it. It was disappointing and I deeply regretted losing such talented and dedicated staff who had become good friends, but you gotta do what you gotta do.

Back home, the business is much stronger. We are on the cusp of making a profit after ten years of hard slog. It's a tough industry and just being alive after ten years is an achievement in itself. *The Tab* is now one of the largest youth publishers in the UK: we reach more young people than most other digital upstarts like *Vice* or *Lad Bible*. I want to build on that strength: we reach three million students every month, but only a fraction of them remain with us after they graduate. With some investment we can hold on to them longer and cater to a wider audience.

Whatever happens, we will keep our student core strong and continue to recruit generations of talented students who go on to take top jobs. Downing College will always be a vital part of our story: as *The Tab*'s birthplace, supporter and of course, a great source of legal advice!

**Jack Rivlin (2007)**

**FOR THE RECORD**

Details of Awards, Honours, Appointments, Publications, Performances, Marriages and Births can be found in Magenta News.

**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. There are some members for whom we have only the basic facts. 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.



**GEOFFREY ARTHUR ALLEN (1950)** died on 23 April 2018, aged 89. He read English followed by Archaeology and Anthropology. His wife, Mary, writes:

As Geoffrey went up to Downing as a mature student after National Service, he married at the end of his first year. On leaving he became bursar of what is now Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria. After four years he returned to the United Kingdom and lectured in liberal studies and English at various colleges, finally becoming vice president of the Selly

Oak Colleges in Birmingham. When his children were educated he changed career and became a joint administrator, with his wife, of several National Trust properties. Most of his retirement years he spent in Salisbury where, as a committed Christian, he became very involved in his church and spent time improving his painting capabilities. He died in Birmingham leaving a cherished family of his wife of 66 years, three children, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



**ALAN ARNOLD (1958)** died on 26 February 2019, aged 80. He read Geography. His son, **Mark (1984)**, writes:

Alan Arnold was born in 1938 in Crumpsall, Manchester. He attended North Manchester Grammar School for Boys and was an early beneficiary of the grammar school system. He excelled on the sports field (cricket and football, including the Lancashire & Cheshire GS XI, and proved hard to beat over 440 yards) as well as in the classroom. He was awarded an Open Exhibition to Downing, which brought with it £40, then a princely sum. He was, he thought, the first Oxbridge prize-winner his school had produced; he was certainly the first in his family to go to university.

He did his National Service in the RAF in Germany before coming up in 1958. After barrack-room life, there was a period of adjustment when his work was said not to match the award he had received; but he soon settled down to College life. He captained the 1st XI football team, playing the occasional game for the Falcons as well. He kept wicket for the 1st XI. In addition to his sprinting, he completed the Boundary Run (the circuit of 32 miles around Cambridge) and kept the tie to prove it. He was also proud of his Griffin's tie.

After graduating, Alan spent a term teacher-training at Charterhouse. His time there began inauspiciously. Arriving late for his interview, he walked purposefully straight past the headmaster and introduced himself instead to an ancient housemaster. The former seems not to have held a grudge. When Alan applied for his next post, the head obliged with a reference: " ... our first impression is that this man is fitting in well here (a thing of which I did not feel absolutely confident when I first set eyes on him ...)".

In 1962, Alan took up his first full time teaching post at Rydal School in North Wales. During his nineteen years there, he devoted himself to creating and developing the school careers department, became housemaster of Hathaway (of which he appointed **Stephen Powell (1982)** his last head of house) and swapped his football boots for rugby boots.

In 1981, Alan was appointed Second Master, deputy to Headmasters Philip Stibbe and then Chris Brown, at Norwich School. He remained there until his retirement in 1998, overseeing the admission of girls into the sixth-form in 1994 and spending his last term as acting Headmaster. He acquired a reputation for being firm but fair, recognised and appreciated by some only long after the event. His teaching philosophy remained the same it has always been: "There is always a talent and improvement is possible ... the teacher's job is to find it". He asked for no more than that a person should try their hardest and he expected everyone to do so. His regret was that not everyone had equal access to the education they deserved.

When the history of Norwich School (which predated Edward VI) came to be written in 1991, he merited little more than one line. But it was one of which he was immensely proud: "A. Arnold, a vigorous, determined and hard-headed Lancastrian ..."



Alan cycled long into his retirement before ill-health overtook him. He survived his second wife, Dorcas, by little over a month. He is survived by his children, Andrew, Mark and Jane, and his grandchildren.

**JOHN MAURICE BARON (1951)** died on 26 July 2018, aged 88. He read Law. He qualified as a solicitor and practised with Lee, Crowder in Birmingham, latterly as Senior Partner. He leaves his wife, Jill, and two daughters. His son pre-deceased him.

**STEPHEN RICHARD BOLEY (1965)** died on 8 February 2019, aged 71. He read Mechanical Sciences.

**MARK VINEY BRAIMBRIDGE (1946)** died on 31 October 2016, aged 92. He read Natural Sciences. He was a pioneering heart surgeon. After retiring he became very involved in horticulture, co-founding the European Boxwood and Topiary Society, contributing many articles to its Topiarius magazine.



**JAMES COURTENAY BROOM (1959)** died in July 2018, aged 77. He read Estate Management. **John Austin (1959)** writes:

Jim died after a 22 year-long battle with MS. He came up in 1959 aged 19 directly from Lancing College to read Engineering, but soon switched to Urban Estate Management, as that did not interfere with afternoons on the river! He was an extremely popular and competent oarsman, normally rowing at 4 in the First Boat. He particularly enjoyed rowing at Henley and going back in later years. He was part of a small group of us who

after the usual riotous bump supper went to Coe Fen to lasso some very reluctant ponies which we then led through a garden in Lensfield Road and liberated to spend the night on the sacred College turf. The porters' astonishment next morning was a joy to behold!

Many evenings at the Fountain ("The Squirt"), May Balls and Perkins Dining Society dinners were part of Jim's very busy social life. He was a real gentleman with a very wry sense of humour. We met up frequently throughout the last 60 years, with weddings, parties, anniversaries, Henley days, birthday dinners and College events.

Jim came from a farming family (he had a brother and sister) near Dorking and often invited me and others for a long weekend in the country. His first job as a

Management Trainee with Unilever was to sweep the factory floor! He went on to pursue a marketing-orientated career with Cheeseborough Ponds, Lyons Bakery, consultancy with Glendenning and was at one time the Marketing Director of Reckitt & Coleman's Toiletries Division at age 33. He then teamed up with Tom Meinhard to form a consulting partnership for 20 years with many clients including such diverse enterprises such as Greene King, Access and HJ Heinz.

Jim met Valerie, daughter of a Wigan doctor, soon after Cambridge and they married in 1967. In due course they set up home in a large country house in Cobham. They travelled the world, but went back to Paxos every year with the family. They celebrated their Golden Wedding at home, with their three children, seven grandchildren and many friends.

Jim was above all a wonderful family man, very self-effacing, happiest when surrounded by his children and grandchildren. He was stoical, but not dispirited, in the face of his ever advancing MS and the support given to him by Valerie particularly and the children Dominic, Jonathan and Victoria was heart-warming to see. The memorial service at St. Andrews in Cobham was packed out with hundreds of friends, ex-colleagues, family, **Charles Judd (1960)** and myself, to celebrate the life of a very fine gentleman and friend to so many.

**GEORGE TIMOTHY ELLWOOD CADBURY (1951)** died on 26 May 2018, aged 86. He read Economics.



As reported briefly in the 2018 Newsletter **JULIAN BRUCE CHILDS (1969)** died on 24 July 2018, aged 68. He read Oriental Studies. His wife, Andrea, writes:

Julian had had a wonderful life and leaves wife Andrea and their two sons Ethan (aged 15) and Cameron (aged 12). Julian retired at 49, meaning he had enjoyed nearly 20 years of life away from the world of finance and financial information in which he was employed since he graduated. During these years, Julian spent much time and energy in and "on" Downing College – it meant a huge amount to him. He said that Downing had made him what he was and he wanted to repay that, however he could. He enjoyed choosing ties and griffin-embellished jewellery for the Alumni Association, just as much as he enjoyed supporting the Boat Club, particularly at Henley Regatta every year. Vessels 'Basil 1' and 'Basil 2', named after his father, gave Julian much pleasure. Julian had enjoyed his working life based in cities worldwide – Hong Kong, Tokyo, Manila, New York – and spent little time in

London and the UK before his retirement. He was a devoted friend and colleague to those he had met at Downing and always enjoyed social occasions in Cambridge and London. Downing was at the centre of Julian's soul, and remained so until he died from the cancer he had been battling for the previous three years.

**JOHN BRIGGS CHIRNSIDE (1945)** died on 5 May 2019, aged 91. He read Law. His son, Alastair, writes:

John Chirnside was born on 17 December 1927 in Bolton-Le-Sands, near Morecambe in Lancashire. The youngest of three brothers, he attended Lancaster Royal Grammar School, where he excelled in particular in Latin and in Greek. He went on to read Law at Downing, where he made some of his closest friendships and where he was very proud to have rowed for the College and to have won his blade.

He started work as an articled clerk with Cumberland County Council in 1949 and, with the exception of a two-year commission in the RAF, he worked in local government for forty years, moving from Cumberland to Wiltshire to Oxfordshire.

He served as Chief Executive of South Oxfordshire District Council from 1973 until his retirement in 1989. During that time, he also served as the secretary of the Local Government Legal Society. He was actively involved in the creation of the Weekend Schools for solicitors in local government. By the time he stepped down as the organiser in 1983, they were attracting hundreds of delegates to conferences in universities around the country.

It was while working for Oxfordshire County Council in 1971 that he met and married Kathleen Walker, who predeceased him and with whom he had two sons.

He was a keen golfer and a member of Huntercombe Golf Club in Oxfordshire for more than 25 years. His other great passion was motoring: he was an active member of the Triumph Motorcycle Owners Club and at one point the owner of twelve motorcars. He was a committed Christian, who served as Church Warden in Standlake for many years and who later supported the church in Benson, where he lived from 1980 until his death this year. He maintained his interest in rowing, becoming a member of the Stewards' Enclosure at Henley Royal Regatta, where he always wore his Downing blazer and regularly rowing himself on the Thames in a double sculling skiff, which he named "Uncle Humphrey" after his good friend from his years at Downing, Humphrey Llewelyn, later the Reverend Humphrey Llewelyn and Alastair's godfather. Downing featured in his everyday life too: he was old-fashioned enough always to wear a tie, even to work in the garden, and it was often in the College colours. He is survived by his sons, Alastair and Stewart.



**PETER BLINMAN STEWART COOPER (1948)** died on 21 January 2019, aged 91. He read Law. His daughter, Alexandra Cooper Brass, writes:

Peter Cooper was part of the renowned “Cambridge Mafia” of that period. As President of the Law Association he formed a lifelong friendship with his Deputy at the time, Geoffrey Howe. However, despite a deep love of the Law he decided to enter the world of journalism where, amongst other things, he wrote a column for the Farmer’s Weekly, as well as being a regular contributor to the widely read publications of “Eagle” and “Girl” magazines. Later in his career he moved into the field of publishing at Cornmarket Press and became a director of AGB. Although he did not pursue a career in law, his law degree stayed with him and he was famous for being a legal font of all knowledge, even for the many solicitors, barristers and judges amongst his friends.

In his retirement Peter devoted himself to charitable causes. He was also a much-respected Governor of St Bride’s church in Fleet Street, where he oversaw the creation of the Bridewell Theatre and established a relationship with the Curator of the Queen’s private art collection, in order to enable previously unseen works of art to be displayed for public viewing in the St Bride’s Foundation. His connection with Buckingham Palace was further cemented by the work that he carried out with Prince Charles on behalf of the William and Mary Foundation. Other charitable ventures included the work he did on behalf of St Mary’s Church Primrose Hill, raising considerable funds for its restoration in his capacity as Chairman of the Friends of St Mary’s, as well as founding the Charity “Arts Access” which he set up in order to benefit the disabled.

Peter was always ready to lend an ear and give advice to anyone who approached him with a problem that needed resolving. He spoke often of his Cambridge days and wore his Downing tie with pride right to the very end of his life. He was universally loved by all who knew him, but no more so than by his devoted wife of 60 years, Mary, his three children Christopher, Victoria and Alexandra and his much-loved grandchildren. His funeral earlier this year was attended by over 200 people. Time spent with Peter was always a time to be treasured. So many wonderful memories. He is greatly missed by all who knew him.

**ROGER DUDLEY SALWAY CRICK (1941)** died on 14 July 2018, aged 95. He read Mechanical Sciences.



**JACK DALGLISH (1943)** died on 28 October 2018, aged 93. He read English. His son, Richard, writes:

A pupil of Wallasey Grammar School, Jack Dalglish won an Open Scholarship in English to Downing College in December 1942. He came up for the May Term in 1943 and took Prelim, gaining a high 2:1. His supervisor was F R Leavis. He joined the Royal Navy in October 1943. After initial training he was selected for a six months intensive course in Japanese. Successfully completing this, he was commissioned as a Sub-Lieutenant

RNVR in the Department of Naval Intelligence and posted to Bletchley Park, where he decoded and translated intercepted Japanese radio messages. During this time he met Joan Anne Wilkinson, who worked for another secret organisation, the Political Warfare Executive. They were married on 1st August 1945.

After demobilisation in 1946, Dalglish returned to Downing and took Parts I and II of the English Tripos. With Leavis's approval and support he was accepted to study for a PhD, and applied for an extension of his ex-service grant for that purpose. In September he received a letter from the then Ministry of Education refusing his application on the grounds that Downing did not support it. This was the work of W.L. Cuttle, who had answered the Ministry's inquiry himself instead of referring it to Leavis, who later expressed his disagreement with Cuttle's actions. With a wife and, by then, a child to support, Dalglish took a temporary post at a London grammar school. He subsequently taught English at Portsmouth G S, Manchester G S and, as Head of Department, Tiffin School, Kingston. During this time he published numerous poems, articles and reviews, a critical study of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and an edition of Eight Metaphysical Poets which has sold worldwide for over forty years.

In 1963 Dalglish was appointed H M Inspector of Schools. The Inspectorate was organised in seven divisions across England, each led by a Divisional Inspector (who was a Regional Director). In 1973 Dalglish was promoted to Divisional Inspector of Eastern Division, which covered seven counties and five Outer London Boroughs. His headquarters office was in Cambridge and he was accorded High Table dining rights at Downing. In 1980, because of the unexpected resignation of the current incumbent, he was asked to take over as Staff (Senior) Inspector of English, a post of national responsibility. During this period he was responsible for several Inspectorate publications, including *Curriculum Matters No. 1: English 5 to 16*.

He retired in 1985 and moved to a village in West Sussex. There he became active in CPRE (the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) and a parish councillor. He published a collection of comic verse, *Strictly For The Birds* and another volume, *Selected Poems*. He and his beloved wife Anne celebrated their seventieth wedding anniversary in

2015. Anne died in May 2017 and Jack died on 26 October 2018, survived by his daughter, two sons and several grandchildren.



**IAN DEARDEN (1965)** died on 15 December 2018, aged 71. He read Natural Sciences followed by Moral Sciences. **Keith Leech (1965)** writes:

Ian came up to Downing from Nelson Grammar School with an Exhibition to read Natural Sciences. Having completed Part 1 he transferred to Moral Sciences and graduated in 1968. His early fascination with philosophy became his overriding interest although he was also an authority on a range of subjects including linguistics and fungi. He was awarded a MPhil (1971) and PhD (1974) at Bedford College, London and then lectured on the subject for several years at Bedford College, the City University, the Polytechnic of North London and the University of Essex and taught for the London University Department of Extra-Mural Studies.

He wrote 3 books: *Do Philosophers Talk Nonsense ? – An Inquiry into the Possibility of Illusions of Meaning* (2005 revised 2013), *The Problem of Philosophical Nonsense – A Short Introduction* (2015) and *Explaining Oneself – Can it be done ?* which was published as recently as last year.

During his final illness he was still writing articles and still involved in discussions with other philosophers via academia.edu. At the time of his death he had plans to publish more material in hard copy form. In the future the value of his contribution to philosophy may be more widely appreciated than it is now.

**CHARLES MILNE DODDS (1957)** died on 8 April 2014, aged 76. He read Law.



**GRAHAM DUNN (1968)** died on 23 January 2019, aged 69. He read Natural Sciences. His colleague, Professor Andy Vail, writes:

On graduating from Cambridge in 1971 Graham moved to Heriot-Watt University to complete a PhD in Brewing and Biological Sciences. His post-doctoral work was undertaken in the Department of Biochemistry at Oxford before he re-trained by completing an MSc in Applied Statistics. Graham

then entered a career-defining association with mental health research. He spent 17 years at the Institute of Psychiatry in London, where he established a reputation as a conscientious scientist and sympathetic statistical consultant. He developed and introduced new methodology to the discipline, authored several books as well as multiple journal articles and rose to become Director of Education and Head of the Department of Biostatistics and Computing.

In 1996, Graham was appointed to the first Chair of Biomedical Statistics in Manchester. His research continued to be internationally renowned, especially in the mental health arena and his methodological approaches revolutionised causal inference. Graham founded the Biostatistics Group before going on to head the School of Epidemiology and Health Sciences. Graham's staff and students appreciated his warm and supportive approach: he believed strongly that leadership involved serving his team. Once, after cutting down to part-time hours, he re-arranged his working days in order to support a staff strike.

Outside of work Graham was a keen photographer, particularly of wild animals and plants around his remote home in the beautiful location of Dentdale. He conducted an annual survey of birds for the RSPB and documented wild orchids that grew in his paddock.

He died peacefully after a long illness. Many of his colleagues will remember his infectious laugh, kindness and his talent for nurturing others.



**NARAYANEE "NIMMI" ISABELLA MANIFOLD ELLIOT** (née de Mendonça) (2001) died on 15 April 2019, aged 36. She read Medicine. Rhia Ghosh (2001) writes:

Nimmi was born in South London to Nyani and Rudi de Mendonça, the youngest sister of Rudolph and Jonathon. She attended Elmhurst School, then James Allen's Preparatory School before achieving a full scholarship entry to James Allen's Girls' School at the age of 11. Nimmi was a bright and inquisitive child, and she thrived at school. Wanting to help others even from a young age, she was the volunteer services senior prefect

and a senior leader in the Saturday literacy scheme for local under-served children. All this alongside her beloved Saturday afternoon checkout job at Waitrose in Beckenham, which sparked a life long loyalty to the chain!

She had always planned a career as a doctor and arrived at Downing College in 2001 to study medicine. The previous summer had been spent hiking in Nepal and travelling in Mexico, where she performed her first operation – prior to any actual medical training! As well as fuelling her enthusiasm for her chosen career, she was bitten by the travel bug,

which would never fade. The hard work of medical school came as a shock (as it did for all of us), but Nimmi still found the time to try her hand at rowing, shooting and scuba diving, through which she met her future husband, Geoff. With her fun, open and kind-hearted nature Nimmi made many life-long friends at college, all of who will remember her ready smile and ever-open door. She loved her time at Downing, and was the mastermind behind our college yearbook, which still sits on many of our shelves today.

After finals were over, she went travelling again, this time to Cuba, Malaysia and Sri Lanka, before returning to undertake her clinical studies at Imperial College in September 2004. In typical Nimmi fashion, she threw herself into clinical school, and finally began to feel more like a “real doctor”, loving every minute of it. She spent time at the Karolinska Institute for her medical elective, before qualifying in 2007 and undertaking junior doctor jobs in Chelsea & Westminster and Northwick Park hospitals.

In January 2009, she married Geoff in a beautiful wedding ceremony and then jetted off to Africa for their honeymoon safari. Later that year, Nimmi began her training in Emergency Medicine, which was to be her specialty. Her ability to make difficult decisions under enormous pressure, whilst being able to connect with everyone, made this an excellent choice for her.

In November 2011, Nimmi became a mother, with the arrival of their son Rémy, followed happily by the arrival of Santiago in September 2013. Anyone who saw her with her boys knows that she was a devoted mother, balancing routine with the spontaneity and fun that so defined her personality. When the exciting opportunity came for the family to move to New York City in 2014, there was minimal hesitation at the chance. A whirlwind of activity and it was done in a flash, and was a great success.

As she settled her family into Manhattan life, she began the onerous task of preparing for her US medical licensing exams (USMLEs). She found out that she passed her first set on the same day that she got a diagnosis of colorectal cancer, aged just 32. Undeterred, she underwent chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery without complaint, and then resumed her studies. Within months her illness returned – Nimmi’s response was to bring her final set of exams forward, which she successfully passed, thus earning her licence to practise in the US. Sadly she did not get a chance to start her medical residency in the US as she had planned, and ill health forced a return to the UK at the end of 2018 to be close to family.

Throughout her illness, Nimmi retained her adventurous spirit – she went on safari again, this time with her two young boys, travelled to France, the Niagara Falls, the Catskills, New Orleans, where she drove a Ferrari around a racetrack, and took a helicopter ride over Manhattan on her final day in the US – all between rounds of treatment. She was an amazing character and will be dearly missed by her family and friends.





**CHRISTOPHER EMMOTT (1954)** died on 12 May 2019, aged 85. He read Natural Sciences followed by Law. His son, Stephen, writes:

Downing College was central to Chris's life, along with a lifelong love of rugby and latterly golf. He grew up in Lancashire before attending Oundle School, where that love of sports was ignited, followed by his national service stint with The British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and then Downing, where the love of sports was cemented.

After graduation, Chris returned to the North West and had a varied career starting in textiles before culminating in Alstom. During the latter part of his career, the love of golf really took over and he had the privilege of being Captain, Vice Captain and Treasurer of Alderley Edge Golf Club.

He was predeceased by his wife Betty and survived by his children Katherine and Stephen.



**DAVID IVOR KEITH EVANS (1951)** died on 13 June 2018, aged 88. He read Natural Sciences. His daughter, Alison, writes:

David Evans was awarded the Saunder's Scholarship to read classics at Downing. He went on to study medicine at St Thomas's Hospital Medical School. He met his wife, Brenda, while they were working as junior doctors in Carshalton and they moved to Manchester with their young family in 1965. He worked briefly as Senior Registrar before being appointed Consultant Paediatric Haematologist at the Royal Manchester

and Booth Hall Children's Hospitals, where he remained until his retirement in 1992.

David was a medical pioneer who dedicated his career to setting up and running services to provide the best facilities for children in the North West. He made an enormous and lasting contribution to work in his field which continues at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital (RMCH) today. In 1983, he set up a public appeal to raise money to establish a new Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at the RMCH. It raised over £750,000 to fund the new unit which opened in August 1988.

In the late 1980s, he was approached to suggest patients suitable for an organised trip to Disney World. On being told that some of his patients were too sick to join the trip, he and his team sought funding to organise their own trip. He led the medical team and group of volunteers who provided one-to-one support for the children for the first three trips of what became "Destination Florida".

David had many talents and could turn his hand to anything. He played banjo in a jazz band in his youth and had a great love of music. He was a keen all-round sportsman and continued to enjoy skiing and cycling holidays into older age. He was proud of his Cambridge sporting achievement in winning the freshman pole vault – although, as he liked to say, he was the only entrant!

David and Brenda moved south to Oxfordshire in 1999. He enjoyed an active retirement, highly involved in the local community and pursuing his many and varied interests, until shortly before his terminal diagnosis in March 2018. He died from glioblastoma multiforme. He is deeply missed by his wife, Brenda, three children and three grandchildren and all his other family and friends.

**ROY FREEMAN FOX (1954)** died March 2019, aged 83. He read Modern Languages. **Ian Gibson (1954)** writes:

Roy died after a long illness in Sweden in March. He had been disabled since a stroke 16 years ago and died of cancer. Roy had lived in Sweden for a great many years and married Ingegerd, who is Swedish. He was head of an English language school in Gothenburg and wrote and published an English/Swedish business dictionary. Roy came up to Downing from Bemrose school in Derby with an Exhibition in French and Spanish. He soon made his name as a tennis player, and was made captain in 1955. He was also a long-distance runner, and famously, for a bet, attempted to run from Cambridge to London overnight. Those of us who accompanied him on bicycles began to flag long before he did. He didn't make it, but it was an extraordinary achievement to get as far as he did. Roy was a gentle soul, with a great sense of humour and a real capacity for friendship. His many friends will miss him, as will, of course Ingegerd and his family.



**VANESSA ELIZABETH FOX (1980)** died on 22 May 2019, aged 58. She read History followed by Law. **Lydia Jones (1980)** writes:

Vanessa Fox came up to Downing from Tadcaster Grammar School to read History Part I and Law Part II as one of the first cohort of women to be admitted to the college in 1980. She had a wicked wit and intellect and was one of the most voracious readers that I have ever met. Her Kenny B associates will remember her hogging the bathtub whilst reading Little Dorrit and her massive collection of Mills and Boon paperbacks bought on Cambridge market.

Vanessa could have done anything in the Law, but she was always determined to make a difference to the lives of women and became one of the leading collaborative lawyers in the North of England and the head of Family Law at Keeble-Hawson, Sheffield.

Her kindness and warmth, which increased with age, down to earth practicality and mentoring of young women will never be forgotten. Personally, she was my daughter's godmother and one of the most supportive and stimulating women I have ever met. I teased Vanessa that she had a poem for every occasion to which she riposted that I had a hymn to match and so together we were set up for life. Her biggest fault, she admitted herself, was being unable to avoid saying the most effective thing. I can never forget her comment at a reunion dinner when a certain alumnus mentioned that he was in John Major's thinktank and her retort was: 'Well, you obviously aren't thinking too hard'!

Vanessa always lived life to the full. She fought a truly heroic battle against secondary breast cancer during the past year and passed away peacefully in a Sheffield hospice with her husband, Dr Bert van den Ende (pictured with Vanessa on page 57), whom she married 3 years ago and who brought incredible joy into her life, by her side. She has two wonderful sons, Thomas and Robert, from her first marriage with **Simon Bromley (1980)**.

A trust to help young women from state schools studying humanities at Downing will be set up in Vanessa's name.

**CHRISTOPHER RICHARD FRADD (1963)** died 4 April 2019, aged 73. He read Economics followed by Law. He retired as a partner of Walker, Fradd and Hardy.

**PATRICK OWEN GALLAGHER (1965)** died on 21 November 2018, aged 91. He read Classics. He relocated to New Zealand, entered the church, held various teaching posts and in due course was appointed Principal of Sacred Heart College, Auckland. He authored *The Marist Brothers in New Zealand, Fiji and Samoa, 1876 to 1976*.

**TIMOTHY DAWSON GLOVER (1951)** died on 28 January 2017, aged 89. He read Veterinary Science. Tim Glover was born in Shipley in 1922. He attended Bingley Grammar School during the Second World War and went on to the University of Edinburgh where he was awarded a BSc (Vet Science) (1950) and a DSc (1974). He practiced for a short time as a veterinary surgeon in Leyburn. In 1951 he moved to the University of Cambridge where he completed an MA (1955) and a PhD (1956) as a Research Assistant to Sir John Hammond in the department of the biochemist Professor Thaddeus Mann, the Director of the Agricultural

Research Council Unit of Reproductive Physiology and Biochemistry. He published a paper with Professor Mann in 1954 on the composition of seminal vesicle fluid.

For the next 20 years Tim taught Veterinary Anatomy at Cambridge, Stanford (USA), and Liverpool, holding positions from Lecturer to Reader. In 1975 Tim accepted the position of Chair of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy at the University of Queensland and quickly developed a professional association with Dr John Hennessey, then Queensland's premier human infertility specialist. Through his associations with Doug Saunders in Sydney and Ian Johnston in Melbourne and the AID Workshops that Ian coordinated, Tim introduced donor semen cryopreservation to John Hennessey's practice. The Queensland Fertility Group (QFG) was formed in 1982 to enable the development of IVF in Queensland. The QFG achieved the first IVF pregnancy in Queensland in 1983. Tim was a foundation member and Council member of the Fertility Society of Australia and became the first non-medical scientist chairperson of the Fertility Society of Australia in 1986. In 1990 he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Fertility Society of Australia.

Tim and his wife Claire, a dietician, retired back to Braithwaite near Keighley in Yorkshire in 1988 and amongst other pursuits Tim took up conducting personalised trips for tourists through the dales. After the loss of his wife and the aggravation of a chest condition he returned to the warmer climate of Brisbane in 2006 where he devoted his time to family and writing.

Tim was appointed an Emeritus Professor of the Department of Veterinary Science of the University of Queensland on his retirement, already holding an Emeritus Professor position in the Department of O&G in Leeds. Tim was a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Science (1963), a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology, and an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Institute of Biology. He was a past president of The Australian Institute of Biology, the ASEAN representative to the International Planned Parenthood Federation, and a member of the WHO Committee on the Regulation of Male Fertility.

Tim was a co-author and co-editor of two books on Male Fertility and Semen Analysis and in retirement wrote a philosophical book on male fertility entitled "Mating Males, an evolutionary perspective on mammalian reproduction".

**JAMES DUNCAN GORTON (1956)** died on 22 July 2018, aged 80. He read Natural Sciences.

**BRIAN WILLIAM GRASSAM (1945)** died in January 2019, aged 91. He read Natural Sciences.



**PAUL GUERRA (PABLO DE LA GUERRA) (1982)** died on 25 January 2019, aged 56. He read Law. **Giles Dealtry (1982)** writes:

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Paul (or Pablo) Guerra. Born in Spain, but brought up in England, Paul was educated at Christ's Hospital before arriving at Downing in 1982. Part man part rubber ball, he studied law under the expert and patient guidance of John Hopkins. Paul participated fully in college life including a stint as President of the Cranworth Law Society and was an enthusiastic Griffin.

He also represented Cambridge at rugby league and wore his Hawks tie at every opportunity in later life. However, his main contribution was to bring sunshine, fun and panache wherever he went and as a result was much loved by a very wide circle of friends, colleagues and admirers.

After leaving Cambridge, Paul joined the herd migration to the City and worked latterly as a Director of HSBC. He is survived by his beloved wife Joyce and his two adored sons.

**THOMAS JOHN HARRINGTON (1954)** died on 7 July 2018, aged 84. He read Natural Sciences. His wife, Helena, writes:

John, known as Thomas to his contemporaries at Downing, was born in Aberdare South Wales on 13 July 1933. After his early education in the local primary he attended Ratcliffe College, a boarding school in Leicestershire. He entered the Rosminian Order, a Catholic religious teaching order in 1950 before going to Downing College, where he had been awarded a major scholarship to study Natural Sciences. He enjoyed both the study side of university and the sport of rugby and cricket. His first teaching post was at Ratcliffe College and from there he went to Italy to study theology at the Lateran University, where he also studied for a diploma in Christian Architecture and was Principal Cantor in the Basilica di San Giovanni in Rome.

On his return to England, John taught mathematics before taking up a post in the chemistry department at Bradford Grammar School where his contribution went way beyond the class-room. His love of rugby and cricket was transmitted through coaching the junior teams. John was appointed Head of Chemistry in 1975, a post he held till his retirement in 1997. He was also actively involved in the school's dramatic society including taking the part of the Constable in the 1985 production of *Jonathan Wild* which was specially written for him.

John enjoyed his visits to Downing College when the opportunities arose and would encourage his pupils to consider Downing College at the time of university choices.

John is survived by his wife Helena, two sons, Michael and Paul, and three grandchildren.

**BRIAN LESLIE HONESS (1958)** died on 13 March 2019, aged 83. He read Agricultural Science.

**DENIS JONES (1960)** died on 10 August 2017, aged 76. He read Natural Sciences.



**DAVID WOLFE KAHAN (1944)** died on 11 January 2019, aged 91. He read Natural Sciences. His daughter, Ann, writes:

David Kahan came up from Harrogate Grammar School to read Natural Sciences and was then employed in the electronics industry, initially as a radio development engineer. Moving on to Edison Swan, he built up a new section of the laboratory working on the measurement and specification of cathode-ray-tube characteristics and then continued as an expert in this and related fields for 25 years. He then began a second career as a teacher / lecturer and was a patient and well-liked lecturer in physics and electronics at a number of FE and HE Colleges. Following an early retirement from teaching, he worked as program developer and tutor for ORT – an international vocational training organisation and then took on consultancy work for the Paint Research Organisation and SGS Inspection Services Testing Division. A keen amateur singer from his University days he sang in several choirs throughout the years and also devoted time to his local synagogue and community. He is survived by his wife Irene, three of his four children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



**PAUL KENNETH LEPSOE (1983)** died on 3 July 2018, aged 59. He read Law. **Ceri Lawley (1983)** writes:

I am deeply saddened to report the death of a dear friend in July 2018 after a difficult illness. I met Paul within a few minutes of arriving at Downing College in 1983 where we both read Law. We quickly bonded over a host of common interests and became life-long friends. Paul loved his time at Downing College and lived out his time there to the full. He was passionate about the history and traditions of both Downing College and Cambridge University, about intellectual debate, choral music, the Anglican Church and rowing. He also had exceptionally deep and long-lasting respect for our Senior Tutor, John Hopkins, enjoying his whimsical sense of humour, intellect and jokes.

Paul was a remarkable person – he was loyal and kind, a man of principle, with deep intellectual curiosity, and strong commitment to what he believed in. He had a passion for politics and current affairs, a strong sense of citizenship and civic duty, and a genuine interest in others.

Paul was born in Barrie, Ontario, Canada, but spent many childhood holidays in Norway with relatives. He studied politics and economics at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, and attended the University of St Andrews, Scotland in his third year on an exchange scholarship – a time that allowed him to develop a deep love of all things British. After graduation, he was recruited to the Canadian Foreign Service and had several overseas assignments, including to India and Jamaica. Recognising that his true calling was to be a lawyer, he next earned his law degree at Downing, obtaining his BA in 1985 and MA in 1990.

He returned to Canada to earn his LLB at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1986. After articling in Ottawa, Paul became the legislative assistant to two prominent Canadian parliamentarians – first to the Hon. Flora MacDonald, then the Minister of Communications and then to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. After leaving Parliament Hill, Paul spent over two decades in private practice at various law firms in Ottawa. Throughout his professional years, Paul was also active in the Conservative Party of Canada, serving as legal counsel with energy and commitment. More recently, he became a deputy judge in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, an achievement of which he was particularly proud.

Paul is deeply missed by his beautiful wife, Jane Prud'homme and by his two beautiful daughters, Claire and Anna. They were at all times the core and foundation of his life. He is already missed by many good friends all around the globe.



### **PATRICK EVAN CAMERON MACKWOOD (1953)**

died 2 June 2019, aged 86. He read Mechanical Sciences. His son, Andrew, writes:

Patrick Mackwood died at Tanglewood Care Home in Horncastle, Lincolnshire, five weeks after a fall in his home. He is survived by his three sons and two grandchildren.

Patrick was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka then Ceylon, in 1933. In England he attended Charterhouse school, followed by National Service with the late author Gavin Lyall. After Downing he qualified as a Chartered Civil Engineer.

Working in Sweden for a couple of years, he had a serious mountaineering accident two months before the birth of his second son. Fortunately he made a good recovery. Most of his working life was spent in North Wales, working for the Highways Department

in Caernarfon County Council. In his retirement, both he and his wife, Lena, obtained their pilot's licence for light aircraft. In 2007 they moved to Horncastle, Lincolnshire, Lena dying in 2010.

Patrick was a keen squash player and a regular mountain walker in both North Wales and in other countries. He sponsored a number of African children via World Vision and Action Aid over more than 30 years.

He was a lifelong Southampton FC supporter having attended home games in the 1950s and early 1960s. He was a great fan of Lewis Carroll and was also interested in solving mathematical problems and crosswords, twice being a competition winner, receiving leather bound Chambers dictionaries as a prize.



**GEOFFREY ROBERT MASON (1960)** died on 29 June 2018, aged 76. He read Natural Sciences followed by Economics. His daughter, Leonie, writes:

Geoff Mason was born in Chorley, Lancashire in 1942. He remarked himself that 'it was not a good year to be born, on first thoughts', but he recognised how fortunate he was with the educational possibilities that opened up and the provision of the NHS. After attending Bolton School, he secured a scholarship to Downing where he read Natural Sciences, much to the delight and joy of his parents, Robert and Lucy. Geoff's father died suddenly before he went to Cambridge – but he continued nonetheless and embraced university life.

After a brief foray into industry, working for Pilkington Glass, Geoff was encouraged to enter the teaching profession, as 'a natural'. This is where he spent the rest of his working life. He taught physics at two independent schools: Alleyns in London and the King's School, Macclesfield, in Cheshire. In London, he met and married Judith and, in Macclesfield, Leonie was born. Matthew was born 3 years later, after a move to Bexhill in East Sussex.

Here, Geoff was Head of Physics at Bexhill Grammar School. He was able to build up a department from small beginnings, with many of his students going on to study physics, maths or engineering at university. In his own words, this was 'a hugely enjoyable period' and he was fully involved in the life of the school, helping to direct theatre productions of the *Wizard of Oz* and *Toad of Toad Hall*.

Geoff then moved to be Vice Principal at Esher College in Surrey, continuing to teach in the classroom, but increasingly involved in the management, staffing and financing of the school. It was here that he met and later married his second wife, Suzanne. They were a great team and, with their other senior colleagues, saw the college grow from 500 to 1200



students and into a very successful Sixth Form college, which it still is today. He brought great skill to his work and younger teachers particularly benefited from his encouragement.

Geoff and Suzanne both took early retirement and, whilst still involved in sixth form education as consultants, they embarked on many years of travel, making up for not having had 'gap years'. They made good and long-lasting friendships on boats and ships of all sizes, sailing in the Greek Islands and the Caribbean, and going on cruises – culminating in a world cruise. In later years, they spent many very happy months in Puerto de Mogan in the Canaries. Through Esher days and onwards, Warsash in Hampshire – on the River Hamble and overlooking the Solent – was a haven and their home. Geoff and Suzanne were excellent hosts of friends, colleagues and family members. They were hugely involved in local life: Geoff was honorary treasurer at the Sailing Club and at the Local History Society, where he helped Suzanne digitise and organise the photographic archive.

Geoff was a generous, kind, proud and supportive father and, with an active imagination, he had a never-ending collection of bedtime stories that grew as we did. He was a wonderful 'GRM' to Suzanne's two grandsons and a mainstay to her family, not least as he cared for Suzanne devotedly in her last years of illness. After her death in 2017 it was a great comfort to him – and to us – that he had such good friends living locally. Coffees, lunches and theatre trips kept him busy, no doubt with a good dose of wit, wine and a great deal of 'putting the world to rights'. He relished being 'Grandad' in his last few years and his relationship with his granddaughter was one of mutual adoration. He visited Amsterdam to see her as often as he could, and his regular Skype chats were the highlight of his week. It showed him at his best – enjoying, committed to and investing in the next generation.



**PAUL ANTHONY MORETON (1966)** died on 4 May 2019, aged 71. He read Mechanical Sciences. His daughter, Claire, writes:

It is with great sadness that the family of Paul Moreton announce his death as a result of complications from polycystic kidney disease and a kidney transplant in 2010. Paul led an incredibly full life following his graduation from Downing College, finding an outlet for his passion for mechanical engineering initially with Perkins Engines, then a long career with Detroit Diesel (part of General Motors), which took his

family around the world to Kenya, Singapore, Greece, Germany and the US, while he held increasingly senior positions. He travelled widely through Africa and the Asia-Pacific region, all the while adding to his encyclopaedic knowledge of the world, with the British Car industry a particular speciality. He managed to fit in sailing in semi-retirement in the

tranquil setting of the Massachusetts coast and latterly was able to enjoy time with his three grandchildren back in the UK. He is survived by Jane, who he married while still a student, and his three children.

**ANTONY PARRY (1947)** died on 3 August 2018, aged 96. He read Economics.



**TRICIA HUANG YING PENG (1992)** died on 17 October 2018, aged 45. She read Natural Sciences.

Born in Malaysia, Tricia attended Tanjong Katong Girls School followed by Victoria Junior College. Having been awarded a scholarship by the Economic Development Board (EBD), Tricia studied biology at Downing.

Following Cambridge, Tricia joined the Biomedical Sciences Group of EBD which promoted development of a biomedical sciences cluster in Singapore. In 2011 she joined the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*Star) as a Director in the Biomedical Research Council. From A\*Star Tricia moved to the Ministry of Health where she administered a S\$2 billion fund for research in government hospitals. Tricia married Foo Lai Yong with whom she had a son Ashley Foo Li-Ann.

**CHARLES HOLDEN PICKUP (1968)** died on 24 July 2018, aged 68. He read Natural Sciences.

**JOHN LESLIE RILEY (1965)** died on 1 August 2018, aged 72. He read Mathematics. Michael Cohen (1965) writes:

In April 2018 it was the 50th anniversary of graduation. We met John and Angie for this celebration in Cambridge and then shortly thereafter we all attended an international actuarial gathering in Berlin. John and Angie talked about coming to visit us in Canada the following year. Alas, it was not to be.

During our second year at Downing John and I shared 1 Parker Street, a delightful digs run by the inimitable Mrs Beal, a feisty New Zealander, John upstairs, me on the ground floor. It was John who suggested we attend a presentation on the actuarial profession, so we went to together to find out what it was all about. Both John and I decided to pursue this career and we both ended up working for insurance companies, in John's case, Sun Life Assurance, where he eventually became a manager in charge of international

business. He subsequently became an independent consultant, with clients in France and Luxembourg.

We continued to meet John at various international actuarial meetings, starting in Paris in 1990 and more recently in Cape Town and Berlin. John was always the same down to earth fellow, enjoying life and being great company. While we didn't see much of each other, our meetings were always a joyous occasion to swap stories and reminisce about our times together in Cambridge. We even discussed whether we would try to meet at the next International Congress of Actuaries, to be held in Sydney, Australia. It was quite a shock to hear soon after saying goodbye in Berlin that this was the last time we were to see each other.

To all who met him, John struck them as kind, even-tempered, unflappable, and completely straightforward. All those things were true of him as a student, which made him more grown-up than many of us. After half a century of working, marriage and becoming a parent he was still the same, each time we saw him. By all accounts, John was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and friend and will be deeply missed by all. John loyally supported the musical talent of his friends from Downing at concerts of the Downing College Musical Society.

John's wife Angie, was an employee of Downing when we were students. John will be greatly missed by my wife, Marguerite and me. If we do go to Sydney in four years' time, there will be one person sadly missing from the group.

**ROBERT JOHN ROBERSON (1950)** died on 10 September 2018, aged 88. He read Estate Management.

**JOHN HENRY RUGMAN (1959)** died on 28 November 2018, aged 79. He read Geography. He worked for GKN plc, latterly as head of Human Resources.

**WILLIAM STOTHART (1944)** died on 18 January 2019, aged 92. He read Economics.

Last year's Newsletter reported the death of **JAMES SUGDEN (1965)**. Patrick Tyson Cain (1965) has provided the following recollections:

The Huddersfield Examiner obituary of James Sugden (1965) reprinted in the 2018 Newsletter recounts his distinguished career in the textile industry, but in so doing rather misses the essence of the man (my room-mate in I3 for two years, and a friend for life), let alone his contribution to the College.

He came up to Downing to read Modern Languages – from Sedbergh, where he had been taught German by the redoubtable Hammer (author of the celebrated “German Grammar And Usage”). A Yorkshireman staunchly (sometimes self-mockingly) loyal to his county, his knowledge of who he was enabled him to explore other languages and cultures with curiosity and confidence. He also had a fine sense of humour. He and I were supervised (for German essay-writing) by Dr Roy Wisbey, our Director of Studies, who also had responsibility for the College’s investments. Occasionally supervisions were interrupted by a phone-call, apparently from a stockbroker, which Dr Wisbey, with an apology to us, would take. I still enjoy recalling the Sugden fantasy version of the scene, which evolved over the years, in which the ever-courteous Dr Wisbey’s remarks on the subjunctive were interrupted by an relentless sequence of insistent callers seeking the College’s money from bookmakers in Newmarket to the Governor of the Bank of England and the Monarch herself.

After Part 1, Sugden moved to Economics, to which he applied himself with dedication, if perhaps not enthusiasm. In spending long hours in the Marshall library he was, he would suggest, seeking not a deeper understanding of Joan Robinson’s economic theory but closer acquaintance with a rather attractive librarian from Fen Ditton. His eye for female beauty, and his attractiveness to women, co-existed with that straightforward sense of morality and loyalty which made him such a reliable friend, husband and father.

He was, essentially, a practical person. His eye for how to get things done enabled him to secure our set of rooms in College in the second year, (when most non-scholar contemporaries had to live out) and even, through some arcane quirk, obtain permission to keep an ancient (even then) Austin Seven. He played squash with enthusiasm, sometimes (since the Downing courts, exceptionally, were on the Domus) after an evening of monetary theory. Like his father, he was a scrum half. He was not only a regular member of College XV, but served as Secretary. Indeed, he was always prepared to serve, discharging unglamorous roles with quiet efficiency. In his last year, despite the demands of Finals, he was happy to become Assistant Secretary of the Amalgamation Club when Stuart Tendler was President. He also arranged for the Northern artist Lawrence Isherwood to hold an exhibition in College.

He was so highly regarded in the Borders that at his funeral service in Hawick a special structure had to be erected in the churchyard for all those unable to find a place in the crowded church. And so appreciated by his old school that it was represented there by its Chairman of Governors, as well as by the current housemaster of the house of which James had been House Captain more than fifty years before. An outstanding and utterly unselfish man and always invigorating company.



**VICTOR TARNOFSKY CBE (1951)** died on 5 January 2019, aged 87. He read Natural Sciences. The following has been adapted from the eulogy given at his funeral:

Victor Tarnofsky was born in 1931, the eighth and youngest child of Peter and Sarah Tarnofsky, a baker and his wife, who had come to this country from Poland around 1912.

He grew up in London's East End, except during the war, when he was evacuated to Somerset, in the care of his 14-year-old brother **Nat Tarnofsky (1943)**. Vic followed his scholarship to grammar school with national service in the RAF where he was a teaching sergeant. It was there that he was advised to lose the cockney accent if he wanted to get on in life. And get on in life he did, gaining his degree from Cambridge University and then a role in the civil service, working in the Patent Office.

He rose through the ranks to become Assistant Comptroller, writing government white papers, negotiating at international conferences and helping developing nations set up their own intellectual property organisations. He travelled to Geneva (50 times), Brussels (also 50 times), Paris, Luxembourg, Nairobi, Dakar, Washington and Sri Lanka. When he retired, he was made a CBE for his service to the country, which he received from the Queen.

But that's just what he did, not who he was. He had an interest and a curiosity in everything. As well as being awarded a half-blue for playing chess for Cambridge University, he won a shelf-full of cups and shields for bridge and became an accomplished watercolour painter after he retired. He loved science and music, knowing the first lines of a huge number of songs and operatic arias.

He was often described by those who met him as a true gentleman, for his kindness, thoughtfulness, honesty and decency. Despite his ill health in later life, he never complained, was unfailingly brave and always found something positive in any situation, frequently with humour. His sense of humour was dry, quick, witty, mischievous but never at the expense of others.

Vic is survived by his wife Avril, their children **Sarah Tarnofsky (1989)** and Peter (Magdalene 1991), and their granddaughter Natasha.

**STEPHEN TENDLOW (1958)** died on 27 September 2018, aged 80. He read Law.

Stephen Tendlaw (later changed to Tendlow) was born at the Majestic Hotel in Harrogate to Eva and Max. Shortly afterwards the family left England and returned to Germany but, after Kristallnacht, his father was taken to Dachau. Stephen and his mother fortunately escaped and, with Stephen's British passport, obtained a visa to

go to England. His father reached Sweden six months after his incarceration, however, Stephen never found out how he had managed to escape. Max was then interned on the Isle of Man and later served in the armed forces whilst mother and son settled near Saltaire, Bradford, and both learnt English listening to the radio programme "Listen with Mother". Subsequently, Stephen proved to be a very able pupil at Bradford Grammar School, fluent in German and French as well as speaking other European languages. He was one of the last tranche of young men enlisted for National Service and found himself in the Royal Navy learning Russian.

At Downing, Stephen read Law and became Captain of Bridge and JCR Secretary. After going down, rather than become a lawyer, he went into his father's textile machinery business in Bradford. Later, he became a Director of E&L (Erhardt & Leimer) Ltd., the UK subsidiary of E&L, headquartered in Augsburg, Germany, a globally-acclaimed company manufacturing specialist control equipment for use in the textile, paper and allied industries. This appointment involved him in travel worldwide.

Between 1991 and 1998 he was Director of the West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry and held many other pro bono senior appointments in the local community. He was a member of the Bradford Health Authority and Chairman of the Information Guidance Medical Patients Group. He was also a member of the Halifax German Circle. Stephen always kept in touch with Downing and regularly attended alumni events until he contracted diabetes, which eventually affected his mobility. He was an active member and one-time Treasurer of the Cambridge Society of North and West Yorkshire.

Stephen led a very full life, which included a love of theatre and classical music; in this respect, he was sometime Chairman of the Bradford Playhouse and Film Theatre/Bradford Music Club. He had an extensive knowledge of composers and attended concerts far and wide. Outdoors, as a younger man, he was keen on mountaineering and in later life, thoroughly enjoyed walking on the Yorkshire fells. He had many true friends and was a loyal and caring person.

**JOHN ROGER THOMPSON (1958)** died on 28 January 2019, aged 81. He read Natural Sciences. He followed his father **Arthur Thompson (1918)** to Downing. The link between College and the Thompson family was further strengthened as his two younger brothers, the late **David (1959)** and **Philip (1960)** also matriculated here. His wife, Lynne, writes:

After our marriage in 1967, John taught at schools in Swaffam, York and in the West Riding where he eventually became Head of Rastrick Grammar School. Between 1993 and 2003 we both worked in Albania, Tunisia and Brazil as volunteer teachers with BMS World Mission. John was Director of the school we set up in Tirana and was a lecturer in English at Vlora University for two years.

John eventually retired to Alcester and continued to be a lay preacher in the Baptist Church where he was also Church Secretary. He became a member of Alcester Male Voice Choir from 2007–2014 after which they described him as, “A very modest and unassuming man, which hid a life full of achievement.”

In 2015 he was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s, a disease which robbed him of his mind, so cruel for one who was a “thinker” and which ultimately led to his death. Until the last few months, we still managed to get around and he attended church regularly on a Sunday.

John is survived by Lynne, their three children, Simon, Rebecca and James, and four grandchildren.

**JAMES “JIM” HARTLEY THORNLEY (1954)** died on 7 September 2017, aged 81. He read Natural Sciences. **Michael Denham (1954)** writes:

Jim completed his medical studies at the Middlesex Hospital, London and qualified in 1960. After junior house posts at Addenbrooke’s and other hospitals, he was appointed lecturer in pathology at the Bland Sutton Institute at the Middlesex Hospital. He passed the MRC Pathology examination in 1968. In 1971, he emigrated to Ontario, Canada where he was appointed Director of Microbiology at the Henderson General Hospital, Ontario. He retired in 1995 as Chief of Haematology and Microbiology and Head of Pathology. He was tenured Professor of Microbiology at McMaster University. In 2000, he returned to Downing for its bi-centenary celebrations. His later years were unfortunately impaired by Parkinson’s disease.

**MICHAEL TOVELL (1990)** died on 28 February 2019, aged 46. He read Natural Sciences followed by Law. His friends, **Rob Howse (1990)** and **Duncan Sinclair (1991)**, write:

Our dear friend “Mikey T” was one of the great characters of our Downing era.

Mike had come up to Downing from Windsor Boys School, having led them to their first major rowing successes, rowing for England and at Henley. A Griffin and DCBC Captain of Boats, Mike twice stroked the University Lightweight and later joined the CUBC squad. He rowed in the Downing headship crews for the Mays and Lents, defending one and taking the other. Rowing was a lifelong passion and he led by example as well as spending time to mentor those new to the sport, in the event encouraging several future Olympians to take it up at Cambridge.

He took the Part I Natural Sciences tripos before switching to Law for a further two years. After Cambridge, he joined the Army as an officer in the Parachute Regiment. His intellect and leadership to the fore, he saw active service in Kosovo, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. Closer to home he was given the great privilege to serve as the Regimental Officer at

Sandhurst, responsible for the selection and instruction of a generation of Parachute Regiment Officers (several of whom we met at his Memorial service and who shared their own fond memories of a characterful born leader). He 'retired' as a Major after 16 years service and moved on to a career as a technology entrepreneur. Mike never forgot the privilege of being a Downing alumnus. He was a regular donor to the college and he often returned to coach DCBC including just a few weeks before his death.

But what we will miss is not captured by a list of achievements, impressive though they may be. Mike was unique. He "lived his life in the arena" (to quote Theodore Roosevelt – himself a soldier, a natural scientist, law student and indeed sometime rower): he engaged in life to the full in every way, intellectually, physically, socially. He would light up a social event as readily as sit down for a chat. He walked with Arabian princes (giving them parachute drills) but did not lose the common touch (appearing on a Reality TV show). He led the charge to skinny dipping in the Emmanuel college pool. He saved the life of friend close to suicide having perceived something no-one else had.

Our friend was charming, charismatic, caring, intelligent, witty and occasionally a rogue. As several people have put it recently: no one was more genuinely pleased to see you than Mike. A conversation with him could range over the legality of the Gulf war, the physics of high velocity munitions, others' personal problems (rarely his own) or how to turn the Cam magenta, often littered with Blackadder quotes. Mike was insightful, engaging and humorous. It is a rare thing to know such a good interlocutor: both raconteur *and* a sympathetic ear. He touched many people in his too short life, over 200 of whom attended his memorial service at Sandhurst. He will be dearly missed.

A short book commemorating his life has been compiled by Mike's friends and will be in Downing library, with the DCBC captain and a few spare copies remain for close friends who were unable to attend the memorial. His friends also hope to establish a trust fund or other suitable memorial. Please feel free to email [memoriesoftovell@gmail.com](mailto:memoriesoftovell@gmail.com) if you wish to know more.

**DEREK EDWARD THOMAS TOULE (1944)** died on 8 June 2018, aged 91. He read Law.

**DAVID ARTHUR WEBSTER (1956)** died on 8 January 2019, aged 81. He read Natural Sciences.

**FREDERICK WEBSTER (1964)** died on 30 April 2019, aged 73. He read Land Economy.



**ROBERT MICHAEL WILKINSON (1964)** died on 20 February 2019, aged 73. John Elvidge, John Gansler, Stephen McQuillin, and Tony Sunman (all 1964) write:

Mike Wilkinson was a Mancunian and an ardent supporter of Manchester City, in the days before it was fashionable. He played tennis and football to a very high standard and captained the College teams. He played these games enthusiastically well into old age.

He was an effervescent and energetic character. In his first term he decided to make sloe gin. He commandeered a bath on H staircase, filled it, and left the mixture to mash. The purple stains could never be removed. In the long vacation he and five others made a memorable drive to Istanbul and Athens in a canvas roofed Austin Champ (an ex-army vehicle with gun emplacements on the bonnet and a 6.4 litre Rolls Royce engine). Highlights included having property stolen in Istanbul and overturning the car down an embankment near Thessalonica. The following year he travelled right around the Mediterranean via the Middle East and North Africa. He was never one to let mere practicalities get in the way of his adventures: on being told that the traverse of Crib Goch on Snowdon required the use of a rope, he turned up with a washing line.

He was admitted to the Inner Temple as a barrister, but sought an academic career. He had spent the previous months before coming up on VSO teaching in what was then Southern Rhodesia and teaching abroad became the pattern of his long- term career. At the beginning he taught at Fitzwilliam College and then was appointed as an Assistant Lecturer in Law at Manchester University. One of his colleagues there was Brenda Hale, who became the first female President of the UK Supreme Court.

He could not resist the call of Africa and was appointed to a post in the University of Makerere, in Kampala, Uganda. This was in the days of President Idi Amin, and Mike was challenged to a game of tennis by him. He had to take great care to lose. He moved on from there to the University of Malawi in Zomba, an idyllic spot in the highlands. By then he and his first wife Jen had divorced and his second wife, Susan, brought him two young children, and then they had a daughter of their own.

After thirteen years in Africa, he made the move in 1983 to teach at the University of Hong Kong. He remained teaching there for the rest of his life and became the longest serving member of the Faculty of Law. He served as Associate Dean of the Faculty in 1990–91, Head of the Department of Professional Legal Education in 1991–3 and 1996–2005, and Chairman of the Board of Studies of Law in 2006–15. He was appointed a Professor of Law and wrote a significant number of publications for practitioners and students on aspects of the law of Hong Kong. He taught many generations of lawyers and became the second Honorary Member for Life admitted by the Law Society of Hong Kong, an honour which was bestowed on him in recognition of his tremendous contribution to legal education. He also served as the University's Public Orator and had the pleasure of introducing both Lady Hale and President Bill Clinton.

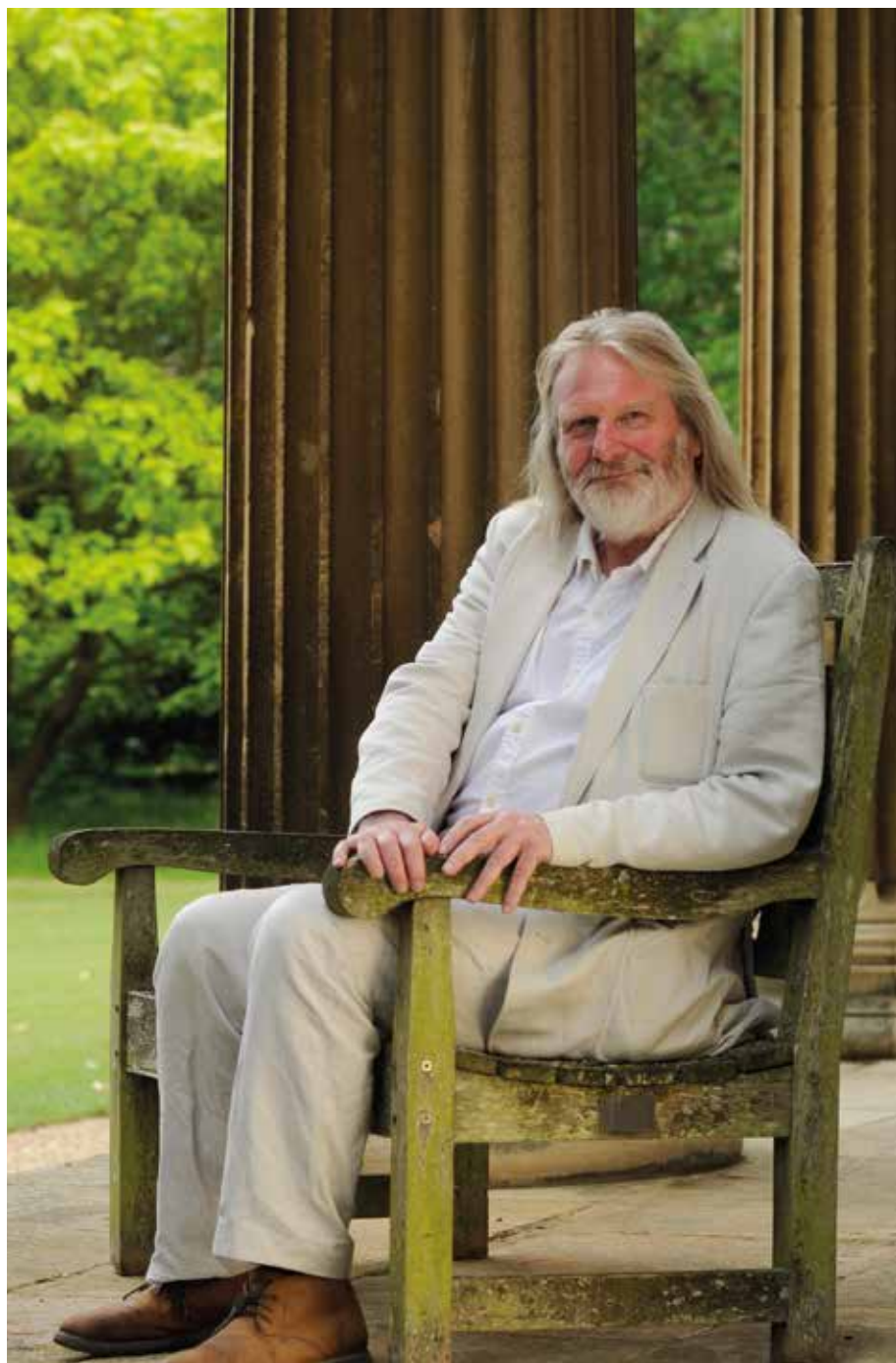
In his final years he suffered from cancer, but said that it was his teaching and his students that kept him strong. He told the Law Alumni Choir, who were devoted to him: "Retirement? I intend to teach till I physically cannot". He was lovingly cared for till the end by his partner, Jessica.

**KEITH PALMER WILLETT (1951)** died on 23 February 2019, aged 87. He read Metallurgy. He had a long career as a metallurgist, much of which was spent in Canada. He retired from Westinghouse, Turbine and Generator. For recreation he was a keen lawn bowler and curler.

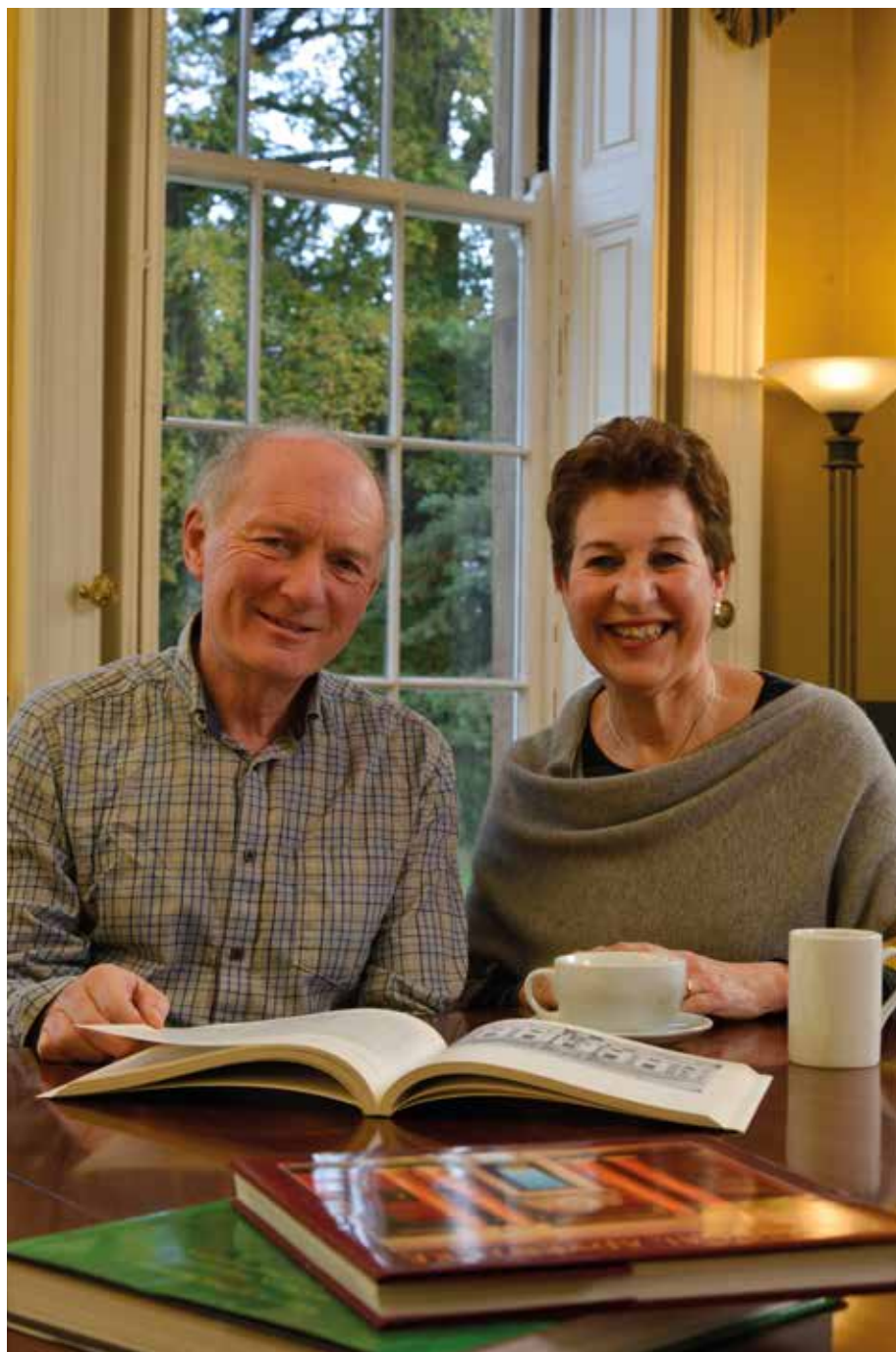
**MAURICE JOHN WINTER (1943)** died on 5 January 2018, aged 92. He read Natural Sciences.

*The Master, Fellows and Scholars wish to acknowledge the generosity of all those who have benefited the College in their Wills in the past year, as well as over the generations. Some such donors had notified the College of their intentions during their lifetimes, becoming members of the 1749 Society. For more information about the 1749 Society please contact Susan Esden 01223 334850 or [sal53@cam.ac.uk](mailto:sal53@cam.ac.uk)*





*Dr Paul Millett, Vice Master, who has taken over this year as President of the 1749 Society*



*The Master, Alan Bookbinder, and his wife, Vicki Ambery-Smith*

# DOWNING COLLEGE

COLLEGE RECORD  
2018–2019

## THE FELLOWSHIP

### THE PATRON

HRH THE DUCHESS OF KENT GCVO

### THE MASTER

ALAN PETER BOOKBINDER MA (Oxon) MA (Harvard)

### THE FELLOWS (IN ORDER OF ADMISSION)

PAUL CHRISTOPHER MILLETT MA PhD, *Vice-Master*, Collins Fellow in Classics, Senior Lecturer in Classics (1983)

WILLIAM MARK ADAMS MA MSc (London) PhD, Fellow in Geography, Moran Professor of Conservation and Development (1984)

TREVOR WILLIAM CLYNE MA PhD FREng, *Interim Dean from 14 April 2018* Fellow in the Mechanics of Materials, Professor of the Mechanics of Materials (1985)

CATHERINE LYNETTE PHILLIPS BA (Queens) MA (Toronto) PhD, R J Owens Fellow in English (1988)

GRAHAM JOHN VIRGO MA BCL (Oxon) QC (Hon), Fellow in Law, Professor of English Private Law, University Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) (1989)

DAVID JOHN WALES MA PhD ScD FRSC, Fellow in Chemistry, Professor of Chemical Physics (1989)

CHRISTOPHER ALLIM HANIFF MA PhD, *Fellows' Steward*, Fellow in Physics, Professor of Physics and Deputy Head of Department (1993)

NICHOLAS COLEMAN BSc MB ChB (Bristol) PhD FMed Sci, Verjee Fellow in Medicine, Professor of Molecular Pathology (1994)

ADAM NOEL LEDGEWAY BA (Salford) MA (Manchester) PhD (Manchester) FBA, Fellow in Italian, Professor of Italian and Romance Linguistics (1996)

IAN RICHARD JAMES MA MA (Warwick) PhD (Warwick), *Graduate Tutor, Fellow Librarian*, Fellow in Modern and Medieval Languages, Reader in Modern French Literature and Thought (1996)

SUSAN ELIZABETH LINTOTT MA PhD (Kent), *Senior Bursar, Senior Treasurer of Downing Dramatic Society* (1997)

ZOE HELEN BARBER MA PhD, Fellow in Materials Science and Metallurgy, Professor of Materials Science (2000)

SOPHIA DEMOULINI BA (Wooster) MSc (Minnesota) PhD (Minnesota), Fellow in Pure Mathematics (2000)

- IAN GARETH ROBERTS BA (Wales, Bangor) MA (Salford) PhD (Southern California) LittD FBA, Fellow in Linguistics, Professor of Linguistics (2000)
- MICHAEL TREVOR BRAVO BEng (Carleton) MPhil PhD, Fellow in Geography, University Senior Lecturer at the Scott Polar Research Institute (2001)
- DAVID ROBERT PRATT MA PhD FRHistS, *Fellow Archivist, Keeper of Art and Artefacts*, Fellow in History (2001)
- LIPING XU BSc (Beijing) PhD, Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Turbomachinery (2004)
- PAUL DEREK BARKER BSc (Imperial) DPhil (Oxon), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Chemistry, University Senior Lecturer in Chemistry (2004)
- GUY BARNETT WILLIAMS MA PhD, *Senior Tutor, President of the Downing Boat Club, Safeguarding Officer*, Fellow in Clinical Neurosciences, Assistant Director of Information Processing at the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (2004)
- MARCUS TOMALIN MPhil MA PhD, *Undergraduate Admissions Tutor, Tutor, Senior Treasurer of the Music Society*, Fellow in English, Research Associate in the Machine Intelligence Laboratory at the Department of Engineering (2004)
- JAY THEODORE STOCK BA (Trent) MA MSc (Guelph) PhD (Toronto), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Archaeology and Anthropology, Reader in Human Evolution and Adaptability (2005)
- NATALIA MORA-SITJA BSc (Barcelona) MA (Barcelona) MSc (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), *Tutor*, Fellow in History, University Senior Lecturer in Economic History (2005)
- WILLIAM O'NEILL BSc (Essex) MSc (Essex) PhD (Imperial), *Tutor*, Stephen Peel Fellow in Engineering, Professor of Laser Engineering (2006)
- AMY CATHERINE GOYMOUR MA BCL (Oxon), *Tutor*, Fellow in Law, University Senior Lecturer in Land Law (2006)
- AMY LOUISE MILTON MA MSc PhD, *Praelector*, Ferreras Willetts Fellow in Neuroscience, University Lecturer in Experimental Psychology (2007)
- BRIGITTE STEGER MA MPhil (Vienna) PhD (Vienna), Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Senior Lecturer in Japanese Studies (2007)
- JIE LI BS (Wuhan) MS (Paris) PhD (Paris), Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Fluid Dynamics (2009)
- KEITH JAMES EYEONS MA MA (Nottingham) PhD, *Chaplain, Praelector, Secretary to the Governing Body*, Fellow in Theology (2010)
- ROBERT KEITH HARLE MA PhD, *Dean*, Fellow in Computer Science, University Reader in Computer Science (2010)
- TIMOTHY JAMES BURTON MA MB BChir PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Pharmacology, Clinical Lecturer in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (2010)
- MARTA MORGADO CORREIA BA (Lisbon) PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Biological Sciences, Senior Investigator Scientist at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2010)
- ALICIA HINAREJOS BA (Valencia) MPhil (Valencia) BA (UNED) MJur MPhil DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Law, University Senior Lecturer in Law (2011)
- KAMRAN YUNUS BSc (Bath) MA PhD (Bath), *Admissions Tutor, Tutor*, Fellow in Chemical Engineering, Technical Officer at the Department of Engineering and Biotechnology (2012)
- JOHN STUART RICHER MA PhD, Fellow in Physics, Professor of Physics (2013)
- SARAH LILIAN KENNEDY BA (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) PhD, *Fellow Development Ambassador*, Fellow in English (2013)

MÓNICA MORENO FIGUEROA BA (León) MA (Mexico City) MA (London) PhD (London) MA, Fellow in Social Sciences, University Senior Lecturer in Sociology (2014)  
 BRENDAN PLANT BEc (Sydney) LLB (Sydney) MSc (LSE) PhD, *Fellow Editor*, Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law (2014)  
 HARRIET GROOM MA MSc PhD, Henslow Research Fellow in Natural Sciences (Biological) (2015)  
 ANDREW NICHOLAS HOLDING MChem (Oxon) PhD MRSC, *Tutor, Senior Treasurer of the Amalgamation Club*, Fellow in Biochemistry, Senior Research Associate at Cancer Research UK's Cambridge Institute (2015)  
 RUTH ELLEN NISBET BSc (UCL) PhD, *Senior Treasurer of the Boat Club*, Fellow in Biochemistry (2015)  
 EWAN JAMES JONES BA MPhil PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in English, University Lecturer in Nineteenth-Century Literature (2015)  
 EDWARD CAVANAGH BA (Canberra) BA (Melbourne) MA (Witwatersrand) PhD (Ottawa), FRHistS, Isaac Newton Research Fellow in History (2016)  
 PRIYANKA JOSHI MSc (Pune) PhD, Everitt Butterfield Research Fellow in Biomedical and Biological Sciences (2016)  
 MICHAEL CRISP MEng PhD, Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Photonics and RF Systems (2017)  
 NICHOLAS RAWLINSON BSc (Monash) PhD (Monash) MA, Fellow in Earth Sciences, BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences (2017)  
 ZOE KOURTZI BSc (Crete) MA (Newark) PhD (Newark) MA, Angharad Dodds John Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience, Professor of Experimental Psychology (2017)  
 JOANNE FINNIE JONES MA (Aberdeen), *Director of Advancement* (2018)  
 ANTÓNIO FERRAZ DE OLIVEIRA BA MA (Warwick) PhD (Warwick), Whitworth Research Fellow in Geography (2018)

## THE MORGAN FELLOW

ARIEL GOMEZ DIAZ BSc (Bogata) MSc (ICL) MSc (Paris) PhD (Oxon)

## THE HONORARY FELLOWS

GILES SKEY BRINDLEY MA (London) MD FRS  
 SIR FRANCIS GRAHAM SMITH MA PhD FRS  
 SIR ARNOLD STANLEY VINCENT BURGEM FMedSci FRS  
 SIR ALAN BOWNNESS MA CBE  
 DAME JANET ABBOTT BAKER MusD (hon) LLD (hon) CH DBE  
 ALAN NORMAN HOWARD MA PhD FRIC  
 SIR TREVOR ROBERT NUNN BA CBE  
 GODFREY MICHAEL BRADMAN FCA  
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 RICHARD JOHN BOWRING MA PhD LittD  
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 THE RT HON SIR KIM MARTIN JORDAN LEWISON MA  
 AIR CHIEF MARSHALL SIR STUART PEACH BA (SHEFFIELD) MPhil DTech (hon Kingston)  
 GBE KCB ADC DL  
 THE RT HON LORD DAVID LLOYD JONES MA LLB  
 THE RT HON SIR RICHARD GEORGE BRAMWELL MCCOMBE MA FRCS (hon)  
 BARRY JOHN EVERITT BSc (Hull) MA PhD (Birmingham) ScD DSc (hon Hull) DSc (hon  
 Birmingham) FRS FMedSci  
 MICHAEL APTED BA CMG  
 MARTIN BAKER MA FRCO  
 STEPHEN CHAMBERS MA (Chelsea School of Art) RA  
 CAROLINE WILSON MA MA(Bruxelles) CMG  
 GEOFFREY GRIMMETT MA (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon) DSc (Oxon) ScD FRS, Professor of  
 Mathematical Statistics

### THE EMERITUS FELLOWS

ALFRED THOMAS GROVE MA  
 IAN BONAR TOPPING MA  
 ROBERT JOHN RICHARDS MA PhD  
 CHARLES HARPUM MA LLB LLD QC(hon)  
 JOHN ALAN HOPKINS MA LLB (dec. 19 September 2018)  
 MARTIN JOSHUA MAYS MA PhD  
 PHILIP HUSON RUBERY MA PhD ScD, *MCR Liaison Fellow*  
 CHARLES PORTER ELLINGTON BA (Duke) MA PhD FRS (dec. 30 July 2019)  
 MARGERY ANN BARRAND BSc (London) PhD (London)  
 RICHARD MICHAEL SMITH BA (London) MA (Oxon) PhD FBA  
 STAFFORD WITHINGTON BEng (Bradford) PhD (Manchester)  
 PETER JAMES DUFFETT-SMITH MA PhD  
 PETER DAVID EVANS MA PhD ScD  
 PAUL FREDERICK LINDEN BSc (Adelaide) MSc (Flinders) PhD FRS  
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 JOHN STUART LANDRETH McCOMBIE MA MA (McMASTER) PhD  
 TREVOR WILLIAM ROBBINS CBE MA PhD FRS Angharad Dodds John (Emeritus) Fellow  
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 DAVID JOHN FELDMAN MA DCL (Oxon) PhD FBA FRSA  
 JOHN STUART LANDRETH MCCOMBIE MA (McMaster) MA PhD



### THE EMERITUS ASSOCIATE FELLOWS

JULIAN JEFFS MA QC  
 WILLIAM TUDOR-JOHN MA  
 GEORGE FREDERICK PULMAN MA QC  
 JOHN NEVILLE TAIT MA

### THE FOUNDATION FELLOWS

HUMPHREY BATTCOCK MA MBA (London Business School)  
 TADAYOSHI TAZAKI MA  
 ALWYN WAI-YIN HEONG MA BA BM (Oxon) BCh (Oxon) MBA (Chicago)

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 RICHARD ALEXANDER FRISCHMANN MA  
 CHRISTIAN FLEMMING HEILMANN MA  
 THE LORD VERJEE MA CBE  
 RICHARD ANTHONY WILLIAMS MA  
 JONATHAN HOWARD MA  
 CHRISTOPHER JOHN BARTRAM MA FRICS  
 MARIA FERRERAS WILLETTS MA (Oxon)  
 ROBERT JOHN MA DLitt (Swansea)  
 LOUISE ARNELL BA MA (Open) MA (Sussex)  
 ROBERT MARKWICK MA MBA (Manchester)  
 GIFFORD COMBS AB (Harvard) MPhil  
 JAMES SIMON EDWARD ARNELL MA  
 EDWARD GARY BLANKENSHIP MLitt (Columbia) AIA  
 STEPHEN MARK PEEL MA MSA (Yale)

### THE FELLOWS COMMONER

DAVID CHAMBERS BA (Oxon) MSc (LBS) MSc (LSE) PhD (LSE)  
 JOHN GEOFFREY HICKS MA FREng (Emeritus)  
 BARRIE HUNT MA MEd (Exeter) FIMA CMath  
 TIMOTHY RAWLE MA  
 PETER THOMSON MA (Emeritus)  
 GABRIELLE BENNETT BA (Virginia) MA  
 PENNY FURNISS MA  
 SIMON WALKER MA

### THE BYE-FELLOWS

MICHAEL ASHBY BA MPhil  
 RICHARD BERENGARTEN MA  
 ALEXANDER BLEISTEIN BA  
 IAN BUCKLOW PhD  
 MATTHEW CARTER MA MB BChir  
 ANDREW COCKBURN MSci PhD

ANDREJ COROVIC MA MB BChir MRCP  
JUSTIN DAVIES BA MA MChir FRCS  
WILLIAM DAY BA (Durham) MA BCL (Oxon)  
EOIN DEVLIN BA (Dublin) MLitt (Dublin) MPhil PhD  
BUFFY ELDRIDGE-THOMAS BA  
NEDA FARAH BSc (Edinburgh) PhD  
TIMOTHY HEAM BSc (Birmingham) PhD MRSB  
VICTORIA JONES MA MB MChir MRCS  
LUCIA LI MA MB BChir  
YONGCAN LIU  
KATHLEEN LIDDELL BSc (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) MBioeth (Monash) DPhil (Oxon)  
DAVID LOWE MA ARAM (Hon)  
DEEPTI MARCHMENT MA MB MChir  
CATHERINE MAUNDER MA  
ARAM MOORADIAN AADipl (hon) ARB RIBA  
JOHN MORGAN BA MSci MA PhD  
ALEX MORRIS BA MSc PhD  
THOMAS OLIVER BMedSci (Nottingham) BMBS (Nottingham)  
JILL PEARSON BA VetMC RCVS  
PRERONA PRASAD BA (Delhi) MA MPhil DPhil (Oxon)  
WILLIAM SCHAFER PhD  
FREDERIC-GUILLAUME SCHEIDER MA (Bonn) PhD (Zürich)  
HENRY SHEVLIN BA BPhil (Oxon) PhD (CUNY)  
JOHN TADROSS BSc (London) PhD (London) MBBS (London) AICSM DIC  
GARETH TAYLOR MA PhD  
JENIFER VARZALY BCom (Adelaide) LLB (hon Adelaide) LLM (Adelaide) MSt (Oxon)  
MICHAEL WAKELAM BSc (Birmingham) PhD (Birmingham)  
HUI XU BA (Peking) PhD (Illinois)  
XIN-SHE YANG MSc (USTC) DPhil (Oxon)

### THE VIRGINIA FELLOW

(Thomas Jefferson Visiting Fellow from the University of Virginia)  
KATH WESTON AB (Chicago) AM (Chicago) AM (Stanford) PhD (Stanford)

### THE KEIO FELLOW

NAOKI KANAYAMA BA (Knox College USA) LLB (Kyoto) LLM (Doshisha) DL (Kyoto)

### THE POMONA FELLOW

MARIA NEGRITTO MSc (Buenos Aires PhD (BRI-COH)

## THE DIRECTORS OF STUDIES

Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic	Dr D R Pratt	
Archaeology	Dr D Viejo-Rose*	
Architecture	Mr A Mooradian*	
Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	Mrs T Boulding*	[MT18]
	Dr B Steger	[LT19 & ET19]
Chemical Engineering	Dr K Yunus	
Classics	Dr P Millett	
Clinical Studies	Mr R J Davies*	
Computer Science	Dr G Jenkinson*	[MT18 & LT19]
	Dr R Harle	[ET19]
Economics	Dr A Morris*	
Education	Dr Y Liu*	
Engineering	Dr M Crisp	(Part IA)
	Dr L Xu	(Part IB)
	Dr J Li	[MT18 & LT19]
		(Part IIA)
	Prof W O'Neill	[ET19] (Part IIA)
		(Part IIB & Man Eng)
English	Dr S Kennedy	(Prelim & Part I)
	Dr E Jones	(Part II)
Geography	Dr M Bravo	(Part IA & Part IB)
	Prof W Adams	[MT18] (Part II)
	Dr A Ferraz de Oliveira	[LT19 & ET19]
		(Part II)
History	Dr D R Pratt	
History of Art	Dr F Salmon*	
Human, Social and Political Sciences	Dr A Meghji*	(Part I)
	Dr D Viejo-Rose*	(Part II Arch & Bio Anth)
	Dr A Meghji*	(Part II Soc & Soc Anth)
	Dr H Wydra*	(Part II Pol. and Int. Relations)
Land Economy	Prof J McCombie	
Law	Dr A Hinarejos	(Part IA)
	Dr B Plant	[MT18 & ET19]
		(Part IB, LLM & MCL)
	Dr A Hinarejos	[LT19]
		(Part IB, LLM & MCL)
	Mr W Day* and Ms J Varzaly*	(Part II)
Linguistics	Prof A Ledgeway	

Management Studies	Prof B Lambrecht*
Mathematics	Dr C Warner*
Medical Sciences	Prof N Coleman
Modern Languages	Dr I R James
Music	Dr A Howard* [MT18 & ET19]
	Miss N Varka* [LT19]
Natural Sciences (Biological)	Dr A Milton, Dr M Correia and Dr E Nisbet
Natural Sciences (Physical)	Dr A Holding
Natural Sciences (Physical – Materials)	Prof T Clyne
Natural Sciences (Physics)	Prof C Haniff
Natural Sciences (Chemistry)	Dr P Barker
Natural Sciences (Geology)	Prof N Rawlinson
Natural Sciences (HPS)	Dr R Jennings*
Philosophy	Dr M Tomalin
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences	Dr A Milton
Theology	Rev'd Dr K Eyeons
Veterinary Medicine	Mrs J Pearson*

\* External Director of Studies

## COLLEGE LECTURERS

Anatomy	Dr V Jones
Biochemistry (MVST)	Dr M Carter
Classics	Mr F Basso
Classics	Dr R Omitowoju
Economics	Dr A Morris
Engineering	Dr X-S Yang
Mathematics	Ms C Maunder
Mathematics	Dr G L Taylor
Natural Sciences	Dr N Farahi

## COLLEGE TEACHING ASSOCIATES

Cell Biology	Dr W Schafer
Economics	Mr M Ashby
Engineering	Dr I Bucklow
Engineering	Dr A Cockburn
History	Dr E L Devlin
Law	Mr W Day
Law	Ms J Varzaly
Medicine	Dr L Li
Medicine	Dr D Marchment

Modern and Medieval Languages	Dr C Woodford
Natural Sciences	Dr T Hearn
Natural Science (Chemistry)	Dr M Housden
Natural Science (Chemistry)	Dr J Morgan
Pathology	Dr T Oliver
Pathology	Dr J Tadross
Philosophy	Dr H Shevlin
Physiology	Dr A Corovic

## NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

## OBITUARY



*Photograph Julia Hedgecoe © taken for Hughes Hall*

**JOHN ALAN HOPKINS MA LLB** died on 19 September 2018, aged 81. He was a Fellow in Law at Downing College for 43 years during which time he taught thousands of Law students and single-handedly transformed the College's reputation in legal education.

John Alan Hopkins was born on 16<sup>th</sup> December 1936 in Hemsworth, Yorkshire. He attended Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Wakefield until the age of 12 when his family moved to Pontypridd where he attended Pontypridd Boys' Grammar School. Following national service he read Law at Queens' College, Cambridge. After graduating in 1960 he read for the LLB where his studies were focused on international law. In 1961 he was elected to a Research Fellowship at Downing College, where he was

mentored by Professor Clive Parry, the Whewell Professor in International Law, who had a profound influence on him and who instigated his meeting with Cherry Busbridge, another researcher in international law. John and Cherry married in 1964 and had two children, Philippa and Richard. The joint influence of Hopkins and Parry on the study of Law at the College was reflected much later by the creation of the Hopkins Parry Law Fellowship which was endowed with money raised from his former students.

In 1965 John was both elected as an Official Fellow of Downing College and was appointed to a University Lectureship. He served as Director of Studies in Law for 35 years and as a Tutor and then Senior Tutor for 28. He was a Visiting Lecturer at the Inns of Court School of Law from 1980 to 2001. In 1982 he was elected as an Honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple. In 2001 John was appointed as a Visiting Professor at City Law School where he continued to teach until 2015.

John was also for many years an Admissions Tutor and interviewed thousands of prospective students. When asked what he was looking for when making admission

decisions, he would respond by referring to 'Squirrels Nutkin' rather than 'Eeyores', seeking those who were 'bright eyed and bushy tailed'. Classic children's literature was important to him. He ensured that there were two copies of *Winnie the Pooh* in the College Library, one in Latin. He was elected the first President of the University's Pooh Sticks society, the creation of which he had instigated.

John was instrumental in establishing an annual law summer school at Downing in 1984, together with a consortium of universities from the United States. The Cambridge Study Abroad Program is today one of the longest-running and best respected of the US summer schools. John delivered a lecture series on public international law every year until 2018 when ill health prevented him from continuing.

As an academic John was almost exclusively a teacher rather than a researcher, who used the intimacy of the Cambridge small-group supervision system to instil precision of legal thought and critical analysis in his students. John taught Constitutional Law, Roman Law, International Law and Equity at Cambridge, both in supervisions and in lectures and for many years the Law of Trusts to student barristers on the Bar Vocational Course.

He always took great pride in mapping the legal careers of his Law students. The career of many judges, barristers and partners of City Law firms was determined at a meeting in Hopkins' room with a statement that they should go to the Bar or to a particular firm of solicitors. Some did not heed this advice and went into careers outside the law, as diplomats, civil servants, politicians, journalists, clerics and performers – John Cleese was one of his first students.

After he retired from the Downing Fellowship and his University Lectureship in 2004 John was elected an Emeritus Fellow. Having been appointed as Director of Studies in Law at Hughes Hall in 1994, he continued until 2012. On leaving that role he was elected to an Honorary Fellowship. He also kept up his teaching at other Cambridge colleges for many years after his retirement.

He had many interests outside the law, especially cricket (he wore his MCC tie at every opportunity), music (especially Wagner and Mozart), biography and nineteenth century literature (he would often quote large chunks of Trollope). However, his greatest interest, in addition to his family on whom he doted, was his former students. Not for him was personal success in legal scholarship or practice, but the pride of success in those he had educated, which was reflected back as pride that they had been taught by the man they affectionately called 'Hoppo'. To celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday a dinner was held in the College hall and a photograph unveiled of him supervising, in armchair with pipe in hand, explaining the law to his students; a picture which has been placed outside his old room now named after him.

Downing College was founded 'for students in law, physic and other useful arts and learning'. When John joined the Fellowship its reputation for the teaching of Law was

unspectacular. At that time no sitting judge or practising Queen's Counsel had read Law at the College. On the occasion of John's 80th birthday a party was thrown by over 80 judges and Queen's Counsel, all of whom had been taught by him at Downing; such was his influence on the College and the legal profession.

### **Memorial Service for John Hopkins**

On 4 May 2019 nearly 500 people met at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge to celebrate the life of John Hopkins. The service was led by Downing's Chaplain, the Revd Dr Keith Eyeons. The music, both the organ playing and the singing by the College choir was of the highest quality, being led by Louisa Denby (Assistant Organist) and Chris Hamilton (Organ Scholar). The hymns were *"All people that on earth do dwell"*, *"Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore him"* and *"Love divine, all loves excelling"*.

There were two readings. The first from Job 28, verses 12 to 28 read by the Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones, Honorary Fellow. The second from Romans 8 verses 12 to 28 read by Ms Amy Goymour, the first Hopkins Parry Fellow and now a Fellow and University Senior Lecturer in Land Law.



*Cherry, Philip and Richard Hopkins at the Memorial Service  
Photograph Martin Bond © taken for Downing College*



There were two tributes which are set out below. After the service refreshments were provided at the College, where a Book of Condolences was available.

### **Tribute by Mr George Pulman QC, Emeritus Associate Fellow**

When John Hopkins retired, the College's Cranworth Law Society held its annual dinner. Mr John Collier, the senior law Fellow at Trinity Hall, got up and spoke. I repeat what he said verbatim (as one junior barrister said in court)

*"John Hopkins has made Downing the best college for law in Cambridge."*

Applause – beyond “whelming”, perhaps “overwhelming”.

It remains a possibility that a small number here today might not wholly agree with John Collier. But this reputation was known in schools – and before I mentioned that I was a Downing man.

When John arrived at Downing there were few if any QCs and judges amongst members. When he was 80, there were 80 Judges and QCs invited to a private birthday party at his club, The Athenaeum.

And this reputation is not affected by John's commitment to public service as a school governor. Over the decades he was a governor at Eastbourne, Harrow, Sherborne and Wellington College. None is near Cambridge. He went regularly to Governors meetings, leaving early and getting home late. And he made significant, valued, contributions to their work.

One does not come up to Cambridge to do job training, whatever you read. You come up to learn an academic discipline. John Hopkins taught each of us how to learn law, how to understand it and how to put it into practice. What I have just said is a sound illustration of just how good his teaching was – we learned to love law, and to understand different systems of law. For example, three Downing graduates are Diocesan Chancellors, knowledgeable in Canon Law. This is more than any other Oxbridge College. John once said, after four, repeated, hours of “commixtio and confusio” (Roman Law), that he felt the need for a glass of college sherry.

Each of us knows of John's kindnesses: they were different in each year. One man was so ill that he should have gone home to be nursed and to recover there. But he would not have been “in residence” to complete that year. So John and Cherry looked after him in their home. He was “in residence” in Cambridge, completed the year and got his degree with his friends. A disabled man, a member of an ethnic minority, could not get articles as a solicitor. John wrote to all those whose minds might be changed. One changed. The

man got articles. He ended his career as the most senior solicitor in a major Government Department. If I can speak of two major cases, over fifty years ago; how many more must there have been? People at Downing are happy. Not surprisingly, this helps academic achievement, as the Class Lists have shown. (So it's not all grade inflation).

### *Interviews*

John excelled at interviews. He could identify a future Court of Appeal judge, a future senior partner, a captain of industry or senior member of the Civil Service – at the age of seventeen. He was prepared to take risks on the people who, he thought, were likely to be good. And to reject those who were not going to make it. He told me once how he had to write to a Housemaster to say “You should not have sent this man – you should have known he was not up to our standards”. It was a school not far from Windsor.

Or the girl whom he asked

“Who is your favourite author?”

“Jane Austen”

“Which is your favourite of her books?”

“Pride and Prejudice”

“And what other books of hers have you read?”

“Er..um..er..”

“And is Pride and Prejudice your A level book?”

“Yes” she said brightly, but disastrously.

### *Tripes*

The Tripos results showed how good he was at interviewing seventeen year olds. Once he got it wrong. He thought the boy was good enough for CU but not quite for Downing. Girton offered him a place. He got a first. So Cherry's teaching was of the same standard.

### *Lectures*

He dressed properly – dark suit, tie and gown. Black shoes. A small but clear example of what was appropriate. The lectures were clear and interesting. They were delightfully delivered – probably a good story or joke in each one. All lectures were full. He was that good.

He taught also at the Inns of Court School of Law and the same quality was plain there. One senior judge, then a Bar student, told me that, at the end of the course, all of his year spontaneously stood enthusiastically to applaud him. When the applause died down, John declared that he was “whelmed, but not overwhelmed”.

John did not give up lecturing for the vacations. He lectured to significant numbers of U.S. lawyers who came to Cambridge for his popular courses.

A little known, but significant consequence is this. Large numbers of US practitioners learned the courtesies and practices of the English Courts. (What we call a “runner” they call a “fender bender”). John’s lectures did not instantly end some of the unattractive courtroom manners there: but they go a long way to helping this change. And Middle Temple’s historical links with USA, from the Declaration of Independence onwards, are helpful.

Some of us remember *Re Vandervell no2*, a Chancery appeal to the Court of Appeal presided over by Lord Denning MR. Lord Denning had delivered a masterly judgment. It distinguished, disregarded or declined to follow all the old authorities – all to what might be called “the great surprise of the Chancery Bar and the Chancery Division Bench”. John was at a party, as was Lord Denning. John went up to him and asked why he had decided the case in this novel way – imagine how hard we might have found that! “Lord Denning”, said John, answered:

“There was no way that woman was going to get any money.” “

What I didn’t realise - until years later - was that John was teaching us all a good lesson. It is sometimes expressed, rather coarsely, (and indeed I said this to my pupils): “Shits lose”. John taught with skill. The less able of us resort to blunt ordinariness.

### Careers

John maintained contact with his undergraduates. Friendships between Tutor and the taught were cherished and fostered. Every now and then Downing people returned to tell the current generation what practice was really like. Two days before a dinner he asked me to get there early. At 5.30, 5.45, 6pm and 6.15 an undergraduate arrived. I would talk to each about the Bar. When the quarter hour was up John would gently end our discussion. And a new young person would be welcomed.

John didn’t overdo it; many wanted to give this practical help. He made sure you did “mini pupillages” (Bar) and “work experience” (solicitors). And he knew where you should apply. Only the best; and places where you had a chance of tenancy at the end.

The gratitude of those involved was reflected in the generosity which the “Hopkins Parry” Fellowship appeal generated. The appeal raised £1 million in about three years. I was chairman of the appeal. A few years later I said to John

“I came to that college party at the Vintners Hall where the Master (then Stephen Fleet) invited people to “put their names forward to help.” The next thing I knew was that Stephen wrote to thank me for agreeing to “chair the appeal”. It wasn’t quite what I’d offered.”

“Yes George” said John, “it was all planned rather well, wasn’t it.”

John’s references are delightful. Very often there was a last sentence: “He is the best rugby playing violinist from Scunthorpe I’ve ever met.”

### *Middle Temple*

Lord Ackner, Master Treasurer of Middle Temple, nominated John Hopkins as Honorary Benchers, thus adding fifty per cent to the number of Middle Temple Benchers in Cambridge (the other two were Prof. Kurt Lipstein and Prof. Glanville Williams).

John became a very popular Benchers. He came to the Inn for its great occasions and he helped undergraduates with advice and with references. John's advice left no doubt that there *were* four Inns, that they might join any one; and that they would in fact join Middle Temple. Most did.

He could and did meet the senior judiciary at Middle Temple as well as others whom he had taught – whether they were Benchers, member of Hall or students. All were delighted to see him. Not all agreed with his politics. All respected his wide knowledge of law – and he knew every reported case in which one was involved.

### *Family*

John had the great joy of being able to be justifiably proud of his children. He saw Philippa become a QC as well as being a mother. It was with a quiet paternal pride that he spoke of his son Richard as a Priest. To have both of your children sharing your faith, albeit in different churchmanship, is a joy not given to all.

Those for whom John was tutor range from world famous names, whether in law or sport (Mike Atherton) or entertainment (John Cleese), to barristers and solicitors, priests, businessmen and public servants – all at the height of their professions or aspiring to this.

All of us know why, in different ways, we are grateful to him. He set an example to which many aspire – of integrity, faith, intellectual rigour, duty, kindness, public service, humour and generosity. Merely to aspire to this example is the best evidence of his bequest to those who follow.

### **Tribute by Graham Virgo QC, Fellow, Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education, Professor of English Private Law.**

I first heard the name of Mr John Hopkins in May 1983 from my head teacher who had heard I was contemplating applying for Law at University and who encouraged me to consider Cambridge. He sent me a note: 'think about Downing, our friend John Hopkins is there'. Even though he was the head of a large comprehensive school in the Midlands, which rarely sent students to Oxbridge, of course John Hopkins knew him – he cultivated links to many schools.

It was suggested that I go to Downing to meet Mr Hopkins. I went to his room and knocked. He shouted 'Come', in that unmistakable booming voice and I opened the door.

What did I expect? The stereotypical Cambridge don's study? I suppose it was: lots of books/piles of papers/mismatched furniture/pipe smoke. The stereotypical don? Perhaps. Mr Hopkins sitting in that slightly too big for him chair – austere, patrician, with pipe in hand. Then he smiled and I saw that mischievous glint in his eye – not what I was expecting – and of course obviously not stereotypical – unique.

I sat opposite him in the smaller green interview chair – the one which felt that it could give way at any moment. I perched on the edge and we started to talk, or at least he did. I was very shy and he told me, as I saw so often with hundreds of applicants subsequently: 'sit back, you will find it a lot more comfortable'. I did and I did. He seemed genuinely interested in me and encouraged me to apply. I did.

I was interviewed in December. First by Mr Harpum. Then by Mr Hopkins and Mr Lloyd-Jones – as he then was – together. This was before the *Liversidge v Anderson* days, where the candidate was given a piece of paper with 'the Secretary of State has reasonable cause to believe' and had to interpret it. My interview was more conversational: why Law, what did I think of Lord Denning and then, if I was marooned on a desert island what record would I leave behind never to hear again? If I had said something by Wagner or Mozart my life might have been very different.

I was offered a place. Mr Hopkins obviously saw something of the Squirrel Nutkin rather than the Eeyore: his answer whenever asked what he was looking for – students who were wide-eyed and bushy-tailed.

I had three life-changing years – particularly because of Hoppo, as we called him, and his supervisions where we were taught to think like lawyers. In the first year: Constitutional Law and Roman Law on a Saturday morning. In the second year: International Law, which we all thought was a compulsory subject. Equity in the third year – where Hoppo exhibited rigorous analysis, a search for logic and structure and principle, and was critical of judges: sometimes saying, 'I taught him you know – he never understood Equity.' And there were supervisions in Tort and Contract with Cherry too. Hoppo and Choppo the dream team.

Hoppo did hours of supervisions for Downing and many colleges each year and this continued after his retirement, at Hughes Hall.

Hoppo was Director of Studies and Tutor to the Downing lawyers. He provided careers advice to us. In the second year he would sit us down and tell us which Law firm or which Chambers to apply to. For me, it was Coward Chance and various mini-pupillages. I decided to become a barrister. Whilst at Bar School, he wrote to me and suggested I come back to Downing to teach. I did and taught Law with John for the next 15 years.

I learned a great deal from John over that time. How to interview applicants. How to supervise. How he genuinely liked students. He was interested in them and shared with them their triumphs and disasters, whether academic or sporting. He cared about

his students, and would invite them to his room for a chat if he was concerned about their welfare or if he felt that he needed to light a rocket to get them to focus on their studies, an approach which usually succeeded. His approach was student-centred. At a time when universities are being swamped by data and judged by metrics we must never lose sight of the students as individuals at the heart of the University.

John had a particularly impressive tendency following a meeting with a student who needed their spirits lifted to say to me as the student left, but before the door closed, 'she is really bright' or 'he could get a first if he knuckled down'. The door shut and then he would tell me: 'I meant them to hear that'. But timing is everything and when I have tried the same technique, often the door has shut before I got the words out.

John's care of his students continued after graduation. He provided an extraordinary after-care service. He had a prodigious memory for his former students' names and schools. He was a life-long mentor and adviser. He had a profound influence on my own career. Even now when I have to make a significant career decision I find myself thinking, 'and what would John say?'.

At the end of the academic year John's teaching did not stop. Every July he would teach American law students from Mississippi and Richmond international law. I well remember his speeches at the end of course dinner for the Mississippi lawyers. Perhaps then he consciously played the part of the stereotypical English don, giving them what they wanted and welcoming them back to 'the true allegiance': he could easily have said he wanted them to 'Make America Great Britain Again'.

Over the forty plus years as a Fellow at Downing, John built Law in the College. Numbers applying and being admitted increased under his guidance. He also built up the College law library. At the end of Easter Term he would solicit a 'voluntary contribution' from his students and would go with the other law fellows on a road trip to Wildy's warehouse in London: a truly Dickensian building, where he would build up collections, book by book, filling gaps each year and then returning to Downing with the boot of his car full of books.

John had a profound influence on the College, including as Senior Tutor and Admissions Tutor. But Fellowships being what they are, John did not always see eye to eye with all the Fellows. I remember the retirement dinner of one Fellow who disagreed with John about just about everything. In his speech at the dinner that Fellow said directly to John: 'We will never agree about much, but I respect you for what you have done for the College and because you care about the students'.

John was strong-willed, but he was willing to admit when he got things wrong. Most significantly, he acknowledged readily that his early opposition to admitting women to the College was wrong and he became a strong encourager of women forging successful careers in the Law.

What makes a great man? Personal achievements certainly – and with John there were many. But the true mark of greatness is personal influence. For those of us he influenced, we carry on what we learned from him and will pass it down the generations. I know that this is true of John's children and his grandchildren in whom he took intense pride. It is true of those he taught and who have gone into the law, as judge, partner, barrister or solicitor, or who have done other extraordinary things. It is true of those he taught and who now teach – who aspire to exhibit his intellectual rigour, clarity of thought and expression, compassion, humour, fun – this is the standard by which great teaching is judged.

This is the mark of a great man – his influence on all of us here – whatever we called him, Mr Hopkins, Hoppo, John, and whatever we went on to do – he was our friend at Downing.

### **The John Hopkins Fund**

The College has established a fund in John Hopkins' memory to secure and enhance the Supervision and Tutorial systems and provide the highest academic and pastoral experience for students in all subjects at Downing. Gifts can be made online at [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development) or by contacting the Development team at [development@dow.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@dow.cam.ac.uk)

## **NEW FELLOWS**



**António Ferraz de Oliveira** joined the College in October as the Whitworth Fellow in Human Geography. His current research focuses on ideas of territory in nineteenth- and twentieth-century European thought. He has been working towards the publication of his first book, provisionally titled *Territory and the Anarchist Imagination: An Intellectual History 1840 – 1919*. Alongside his research, António has also enjoyed acting as the Director of Studies for Geography Part II, and supervising papers on Historical Geographies of Globalisation and Political Geography and Geopolitics. Recent publications include *Kropotkin's commune and the politics of history*, *Global Intellectual History* 3.2 (2018): 156–177.



**Jo Finnie Jones**, Fellow and Director of Advancement, leads the Alumni and Development team which runs alumni events and communications for Downing members, whilst fundraising to support College priorities in the near and longer term.

Jo joined Downing following five years as the Head of Major Gifts for the University of St Andrews, working remotely from home in the south east in order to reach alumni in London and internationally during the University's 600<sup>th</sup> campaign. Prior to that, she spent seven years at the University of Edinburgh managing a team which secured support for scholarships, research and the library.

Jo was born in Edinburgh and brought up nearby. She read French and History at Aberdeen University, which included a year working in France, before completing her MA in 1995. On graduating, she gained her first fundraising experience in the Development office at Aberdeen during their Quincentenary campaign. She then completed a postgraduate course in Edinburgh before moving to London, where she worked in TV and publishing, latterly managing the publicity for the Booker Prize for Fiction.

She returned to educational fundraising, a career which she has enjoyed now for 18 years and is delighted to be a member of Downing College.

## REPORTS FROM FELLOWS

**Bill Adams** has been revising his book *Green Development* (first published in 1990) for a fourth edition. This should (finally) be out with Routledge late in 2019. He is also working on a new co-authored book project on novel genetic technologies in conservation, with Yale University Press. A recent paper is 'Geographies of conservation III: Nature's spaces' in *Progress in Human Geography*.

**Michael Apted's** (Honorary Fellow) documentary *63 Up* was shown in June. The *Up* documentary series began in 1964 as a *World in Action* special for Granada Television, featuring a select group of 14 British seven-year-olds from a mixture of social backgrounds. Updates have been produced every seven years since then. The original title was inspired by the Jesuit motto "give me a child until he is seven and I will give you the man" and was intended to look into class divisions in Britain.

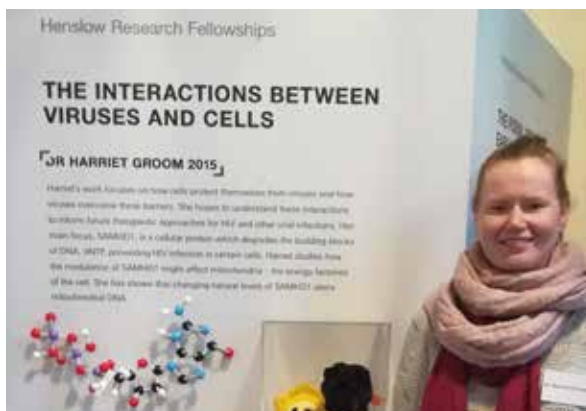


**Zoe Barber** has enjoyed some travel this year, including the organization of a Symposium on Multi-functional Oxide Films at the European Materials Research Society in Nice, France and an invitation to speak at a Workshop on Advanced Materials in Varna, Bulgaria, as part of a European Materials Networking project.

**Edward Cavanagh** was commissioned to write the chapter on 'Monarchy', for *The Cambridge Constitutional History of the United Kingdom*, which has proven challenging and fun. He saw one article published on 'The Imperial Constitution of the Law Officers of the Crown', just in time for fresh discussions in the media about the roles of a current Attorney General in negotiating on behalf of the government and providing benediction for its Brexit policy, although he believes that it is unlikely that this added to the readership of the article. He also delivered a first keynote on 'The Imperial Crown: History of a Constitutional Idea, 1660-1938', at a conference on the constitutional legacies of the British Empire, at the University of Glasgow, in May 2019. On a personal note, Edward discovered a real passion for fermentation: making funky sauerkraut and brewing strong ales and gifting them off to friends loyal and patient enough to put up with his discussions about the crown and its place in the British constitution. He is soon to leave the Fellowship and do something new.

**Keith Eyeons's** book *The Theology of Everything* has been shortlisted for the Michael Ramsey Prize. This £10,000 prize is awarded every three years to celebrate the most promising contemporary theological writing from the global church. The Archbishop of Canterbury leads the panel of judges and will announce the winner on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

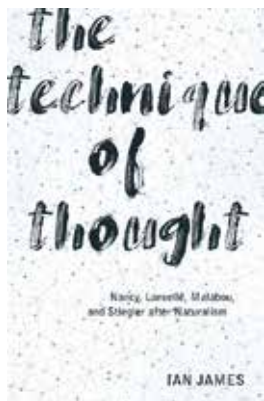
At the end of February **Harriet Groom** returned from parental leave, having had her little boy Felix. She came back to a busy time in the lab., with two new members arriving



*A prominent display at the entrance to the exhibition: Discovery – 200 years of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, at the University Library*

shortly after to work on a recently-awarded MRC research grant in collaboration with Professor Andrew Lever, Dr Manj Sandhu and Dr Hoi Ping Mok in the Department of Medicine. This research seeks to characterise a novel anti-HIV factor specific to African populations as part of a large collaboration with scientists across the globe. Whilst on maternity leave, Harriet's Henslow Fellowship work, studying the effect of antiviral protein SAMHD1 on mitochondria, was crafted into a feature for the exhibition entitled *Discovery: 200 years of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*, at the University Library (until 31 August 2019). Founded in 1819, the Cambridge Philosophical Society provided an open forum for Cambridge graduates to discuss current scientific ideas and present new research. Over the last 200 years, the Society has played a key role in raising the profile of Cambridge's most significant developments in Natural Sciences and, in recent years, has funded Henslow Fellowships, including Harriet's. With her research fellowship at Downing coming to an end, Harriet is focused on completing her fellowship research for publication and pursuing exciting new avenues for the future.

**Andrew Holding** was delighted to receive a Turing Fellowship from the Alan Turing Institute to support his research into breast cancer. In November 2018 he published a follow-up study to the work he undertook as part of his Virginia Fellowship in 2017. The work resolved a key contradiction in the literature and corrected 20-years of dogma in the breast cancer field. The research was published in *eLife* (2018;7:e40854) and is available for free under open access.



**Ian James** was a keynote speaker in Paris at the annual conference of the *Société française de littérature générale et comparée* (November 2018). In February his most recent book, *The Technique of Thought*, was published with Minnesota University Press: “*The Technique of Thought* explores the relationship between philosophy and science as articulated in the work of four contemporary French thinkers—Jean-Luc Nancy, François Laruelle, Catherine Malabou, and Bernard Stiegler. Situating their writings within both contemporary scientific debates and the philosophy of science, Ian James elaborates a philosophical naturalism that is notably distinct from the Anglo-American tradition.”

**Ewan Jones** has published several articles, including *Thermodynamic Rhythm: The Poetics of Waste*, which appeared in *Representations*. He has also been awarded a Riksbankens Jubileumsfond Fellowship, which will permit him to spend the academic year 2019/2020

at the School of Advanced Study in Uppsala. During this time he will complete his second book, which gives an account of the history of the concept of rhythm.



*Amy Milton in conversation with Stuart Pearson-Wright, during his exhibition Halfboy, at the Heong Gallery*

**Amy Milton** has continued with her research on the process of memory reconsolidation and its potential as a treatment for mental health disorders and has published several scientific papers in journals such as *The Journal of Neuroscience* and *Neuropsychopharmacology*. She also guest-edited a special issue of *Psychopharmacology* on the *Psychopharmacology of Extinction* with Professor Andrew Holmes of the US National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. In March 2019, she gave a TEDx Cambridge

University talk on *Destroying Memories: How This Could Improve Our Mental Health*. She also enjoyed speaking with Stuart Pearson Wright at the Heong Gallery's 2020 event, *Drawing on Memory*, in January 2019.

**Ellen Nisbet** is working on *Plasmodium*, the malaria parasite and related diseases. She has visited the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, Kenya, to examine East Coast fever: a cattle disease related to malaria. There, they have morning tea on the lawn outside, complete with exercises! (She isn't sure that this would go down well in Cambridge, though...) She is also continuing her research on dinoflagellate algae, essential symbionts in coral reefs. Ellen has given a number of outreach talks in schools and invited lectures at several universities, both in the UK and internationally.



*Morning exercises at the International Livestock Research Institute!*

**Brendan Plant** participated in a specialist forum organised by the Max Planck Institute for Procedural Law in Luxembourg on the uses of expert evidence by international courts and tribunals, following which he published his paper on *Expert Evidence and the Challenge of Procedural Reform in International Dispute Settlement* in the Journal of International Dispute Settlement. He also had the opportunity to apply his research in various fields of international law while representing or advising litigants in a number of high-profile cases. He acted for a sovereign client in two related disputes before the International Court of Justice concerning sovereignty over certain islands and maritime features in the South China Sea. And, in appeal proceedings before the UK Supreme Court, he advised a group of refugees who, after many years of confinement on British military bases in Cyprus, challenged the compatibility of the British Government's decision not to admit them to the UK for resettlement with its obligations under the Refugee Convention.

The year has been an important one for **David Pratt's** research into the early history of the English coronation service, which goes back to the late eighth century. His lengthy article, 'The Making of the Second English Coronation *Ordo*', recently published in the journal *Anglo-Saxon England*, shows that the form of the coronation rite used for English kings in the tenth and eleventh centuries was partly dependent on a West Frankish rite, originally composed for the coronation of Charles the Simple, Charlemagne's great-great-grandson, in 893. The English version of the rite was probably compiled late in King Alfred's reign and was adapted to fit Alfred's plans for the long-term unity and dynastic stability of his kingdom. These findings have a range of important implications for the development of the anointing rite in western Europe.

**John Richer** has continued to lead the Physics Tripos at the Cavendish Laboratory in West Cambridge. An exciting part of that has included working with the architectural team designing The Ray Dolby Centre (the third Cavendish laboratory), on the new research and teaching laboratory for the Department of Physics, for which construction has recently begun. The move to the Cavendish Laboratory's third home is planned for 2022 and will offer exciting opportunities for innovative research and teaching in physics. At the Battcock Centre for Experimental Astrophysics, John remains associated with the Atacama Large Millimetre Array (ALMA) telescope, for which he was the UK Project Scientist during its design and construction. ALMA is now fully operational in the Atacama Desert in Chile and continues to make groundbreaking astronomical discoveries, most notably perhaps its recent key role in making the first detailed image of the black hole system in the galaxy M87.

In collaboration with scientists and economists at the University of Cambridge, **Brigitte Steger** (Japanese Studies) and her colleagues have been awarded a £1m grant by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) to study *Circular Economy Approaches to Eliminate Plastic Waste*. Commencing in January 2019, the project aims to contribute towards the development of a sustainable plastics economy by examining the local and global distributions of plastics, providing innovative alternatives to plastics and developing novel technologies for the utilisation of waste plastics. The 18-month award will also help to establish a Cambridge Centre for Creative Circular Economy Approaches to Eliminate Plastic Waste. Brigitte's project *Cleanliness, Convenience and Propriety: Plastic and Waste in Consumer Societies* investigates how the use and disposal of plastic are embedded in the everyday lives of consumers, comparing Japan, South Africa, Uruguay and Cambridge. It asks how people's plastic use and recycling habits are influenced by the legal and procedural systems of waste collection/recycling and their own personal values, lifestyles and understanding of natural and social environments.

**Trevor Robbins** (Emeritus Fellow) is one of a team of researchers from University College, London and the University of Cambridge, together with several other UK-based centres, who conducted a study whereby six patients with treatment-resistant obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) entered a controlled double-blind trial of deep brain stimulation. The study was funded by the Medical Research Council, Wellcome and the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre. The study suggests the debilitating behaviours and all-consuming thoughts which affect people with severe OCD could be significantly improved with targeted deep brain stimulation.

**Graham Virgo** took up appointment as Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) in July 2018. Since then he has been standing in for the Vice-Chancellor when he travels abroad. Graham has been leading on the development of the Student Support Initiative, a Collegiate Cambridge campaign to raise half a billion pounds for financial and other support of students; developed a new mental health and wellbeing strategy for the collegiate University; been working on reform of the University's disciplinary processes; been engaging with various programmes relating to widening participation; and continues to get more involved in University sport. In August 2019 he was the Jones Day Visiting Professor in Commercial Law at Singapore Management University. A third edition of *Equity and Trusts: Text Cases and Materials* (prepared with Paul Davies) has been published and he has contributed to the 33rd edition of *Chitty on Contracts*.

**David Wales** organised and Chaired the 2018 Energy Landscapes Meeting in Kalamata, Greece, in August 2018.

## MIDDLE COMBINATION ROOM

The Middle Combination Room has seen a rapid rise in number over the last decade or so, with now around 400 members. The MCR committee has also seen its membership grow with the creation of several positions, including an expansion of our Equal Opportunity Role to encompass a dedicated Liaison, Women's, BME, LGBTQI+ roles. The MCR Committee now consists of 25 positions performing a variety of roles within college.

Post-graduate students at Downing are contributing to cutting edge research across a variety of disciplines in the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Arts. This was on full display at the Graduate Conference held at Downing, in which over 40 members presented their current research. The event, held at the end of March, was the first of its kind at Downing and supplemented the regular MCR Seminar Nights that take place once termly. These evening events are an opportunity for three post-graduate students to present their current or previous research hosted in the SCR, followed by a buffet meal. Friday night formals are still an intrinsic element of social life within college, and in term time, post-graduate students meet over dinner to socialise. Further to the regular Friday night formals, the MCR committee has worked hard to deliver a number of additional events such as Burns Night, Parents' Formal and the first super-swap held at the beginning of June in which a number of other colleges were invited to join Downing for an exclusive Graduate formal.

As well as these large-scale events, the MCR committee host regular social activities such as Sunday tea and cake. Every Sunday during term time at 3pm, MCR members are invited to meet over tea and relax from a hard week of work. Further to these regular events, several one-off events have occurred this year – often for the first time. These include the World Buffet, International Student Night and Cambridge Pride. The MCR, of course, welcomes alumni and if you would like to be kept informed of our activities and events on a more regular basis please email our communications officers, Julia Cabanas ([communications@mcr.dow.cam.ac.uk](mailto:communications@mcr.dow.cam.ac.uk)), and she will add you to our mailing list.

**SPORTING ACTIVITY****REPORTS ON SPORTS CLUBS****Badminton*****Captain: Zhengyan Ni***

The 2018-19 academic year has witnessed some of the most memorable moments of Downing Badminton. At the end of last year, the First Team was relegated to Division II by the finest margin and the Michaelmas term was a battle of come-back for Downing. After 7 matches against other colleges, Downing was successfully promoted to the Top Tier. Moving on to Lent 2019, all team members competed at their best possible capacities. However, after losing the decisive game against Pembroke, Downing Badminton First Team, for the second year in a row had to step back down. The recent two years have been the 'Golden Era' in performance in the history of Downing Badminton. Both the First Team and Ladies' Team had the potential to compete at the elite First Division of Badminton league. This remarkable feat was no fluke, but the natural result of exceptional commitment of all team members and also thanks to the new momentum injected from freshers. The commitment is evident from the consistent turn-out in the four training sessions every week throughout the year. In the next academic year, Downing Badminton will certainly keep up the positive trend and outshine this year's performance!

**Basketball*****Captain Dan Bowe***

Downing College Basketball Club enjoyed a successful year once again, with back-to-back promotions in the Michaelmas and Lent terms ensuring that we rose from Division 4 of the College League all the way to Division 2. This was followed by a deep Cuppers run where we were eventually defeated at the Quarter Final stage. None of this could have been possible without the tireless effort of our new players, with particular mentions going to the vastly-improved George Shen (who will be next year's captain) as well as freshers David Hu and Michael Batavanis and postgraduate recruit Esteban Almada. Victor Wei and I, two of the Club's longest serving members, are graduating this year – however we are confident that the Club is being left in more-than-capable hands and in a stronger position than where we found it!

**Football-Men's*****Captain Josh Sassoon***

The men's 1st XI enjoyed a successful season, reaching the Cuppers semi-final, where we narrowly missed out on a spot in the final in a closely contested match against Pembroke.

Our league campaign started very well and although we were battling to survive towards the end of the season, we managed to retain our status as a top division side. Despite their excellent season, the men's 2nd XI were unfortunate not to achieve promotion to the 3rd division, with goal difference being the decisive factor.

### **Football-Women's**

#### *Freya Robson*

Downing Women's Football played well throughout the season with some huge individual improvements from last year. Despite a really unlucky Cuppers campaign, the team did exceptionally well to retain their place in the Division 2 League with a mid-table finish. A couple of unlucky, close losses were forgotten after beating Emma 10-0 with a great display of skill and teamwork. Looking towards next season, the team looks strong and hopeful. More players are looking to trial for next year's university teams which reflects their hard work. Overall it has, as always, been a really fun season full of great performances!

### **The Griffins Club**

#### *Jeremy Manger*

2018/19 has been, yet again, another successful year for the Griffins Club and Downing sport as a whole. The Griffins hosted several events in Michaelmas, including a freshers welcome drinks and funded bar at the first DCRUFC vs Johns match of the year (a narrow loss, albeit one that was later avenged). This year also saw the return of the Annual Dinner after a brief hiatus. The evening was unquestionably a great success, with wonderful support from alumni and current students alike. We were also lucky enough to have the first awarding of the new Simon Cook award and were moved to have so many of Simon's contemporaries and friends present at the dinner to give some real meaning to the award. The club hosted its annual Garden Party in May Week and is looking to build on its success in the next year.

While it would be impossible to give all of those who have participated in college and University level sport their due recognition, such is the breadth of talent, we can nonetheless offer a brief summary of the year's sporting achievements:

At University level, the Varsity Rugby Match saw four Downing men earn Blues, two for their first time and a Downing woman not only earn her Blue, but also receive Player of the Match as part of the fantastic victory by the women's side. Downing was represented in fine form by Callum Sullivan in the Blue Boat at this year's Varsity Boat Race, helping the crew to a close and thrilling Cambridge victory. Throughout the last year, we have seen sportspeople from this college earn Blues, Half-Blues and University colours in a wide range of sports, from equestrian and powerlifting, to ice-hockey and cricket! This great college never disappoints in the amount of fantastic sporting talent it attracts, produces and nurtures and I am sure it will continue to do so in the years to come.



As for the college level sport, Downing continues to dominate in almost every area. We field highly successful teams in a huge variety of sports. Some notable highlights have been the Men's Rugby Club winning the Lent League, beating St. Johns for the first time in 5 years, and, most notably, winning the 2019 Cuppers Trophy, for the first time since 2013. The Mixed Netball team had a fantastic Michaelmas season and retook their rightful place in Division 1 and the football team made it to the Cuppers semi-final. The Lacrosse team has also gone from strength to strength, having moved up several divisions in the past year. DCBC performed solidly yet again in Lent Bumps and are gearing up for what promises to be an exciting few days of racing later this term. Clearly, these are merely some highlights, but suffice to say that Downing sport across the board is as strong as it ever has been, which is a fantastic thing for this Club and the College as a whole

## Hockey

*Men's captain Sam Buchanan*

*Women's captain Abi Jordan and Jemma Fairchild*

After a fantastic season in 2018 it was a sad fall from grace for DCHC. The club lost some vital players at the end of last year and unfortunately did not gain the requisite numbers to make up full teams – although the few players we did gain are very skilled. We have great hopes for future seasons and I am sure DCHC will rise again from the rubble under the strong leadership of the club's new captains, Alistair MacDonald and Rachel Caul.

## Lacrosse-Mixed

*Pranetr Pattabhiraman*

Downing College Mixed Lacrosse Club had a meteoric rise over the last couple of seasons, moving up to Division 1 with back-to-back promotions and ending the year remaining in the top division. As a great way to get involved with college sport, Mixed Lacrosse attracted many freshers, with the largest attendance in the club's history at the first training session this Michaelmas. Those who hung on were treated to several great games and contributed to a phenomenal comeback against the undefeated Selwyn side that propelled us into Division 1. A social in Michaelmas term facilitated bonding between all years and backgrounds, improving the team chemistry that was clear on the pitch. Unfortunately, Downing did not field a team in the Cuppers competitions this year. There are weekly matches against other colleges, usually played on the Downing paddock, as well as occasional training sessions to get everyone introduced and familiar with the rules. All are welcome, beginner or experienced. If you're interested, please contact Elana Pagano emp51@cam.ac.uk

## **Netball-Ladies**

*Captain: Jemma Fairchild*

Our Ladies 1st team have had a very strong year overall. After a number of close matches against some tough opposition in Michaelmas, we were demoted from Division 1 to Division 2. However, Lent term brought with it some excellent performances from the whole team and a great run of wins and we ended the term with promotion back to Division 1. Very promising for next year!

## **Rowing**

*Captain of Boats Stephen Harris*

*Men's captain Ollie Boyne Women's captain Kirsty Nangle*

DCBC has had another successful year which has seen the Club grow in numbers and maintain top positions in both Lent and May bumps.

Michaelmas saw Downing M1 dominate all the Cambridge colleges to be the fastest college at the Fairbairns race by a large margin. The novice rowers also performed well, gaining great experience from the Cambridge Rowing Tank, with the first novice Women's boat finishing in second place. One highlight of the year was the Club's winter training camp in Banyoles, Spain. This saw 32 rowers and 4 coxes travel to the Olympic rowing lake for a week of hard training. They also all had a chance to experience some Spanish culture, including a day trip to Barcelona. The rapid improvement of the novice rowers over this week played a big role in the performance of the lower boats throughout the remaining terms.

Lent saw Downing start 2nd in the Women's division, and 3rd in the Men's. Sadly, neither first boat could improve on these placements, with the Women dropping to 4th and the Men maintaining their 3rd place. There were some standout performances from the lower boats, particularly W2 who recorded 4 fast bumps across the 4 days to take their blades.

Moving into the Easter term, club numbers grew and the potential to field 5 Men's boats and 3 Women's boats in May bumps was present. Some exceptional organisational efforts by captains Ollie Boyne and Kirsty Nangle made this a reality with all crews getting on to compete during the week. The 4 days of racing were very positive, with M3 taking their blades convincingly. M1 also did very well to move up 2 places to 4th, while W1 were disappointed to drop 2 places to 6th.

The year culminated with a dinner to celebrate the 50th and final year of Downing legend Leo Judd coaching the Men's second boat. This dinner featured over 100 alumni who returned to mark Leo's dedication to DCBC. It was a fitting end to a wonderful year of rowing at Downing.

## Rugby

### *Captain: Connor Newell*

This year has been a highly successful year for Downing and we hope to continue improving and competing at the highest level of College rugby.

The league structure has changed recently and now the Colleges are split into five leagues each with four teams who play each other once, followed by relegation and promotion 3 times per year in order to keep Division 1 rugby as competitive as possible.

Downing began the year, as always, in Division 1 and recorded a 24-5 victory over Robinson. This was a great way to initiate the freshers and implement the new game plan developed by our Blues players over the summer. We then lost to St John's 33-21 in a highly competitive match with a performance demonstrating the dominance Downing rugby prides itself on nowadays. The final game of the first league was against Caius. However, our team was depleted due to University 2nd and 3rd team commitments and unfortunately we lost.

It was in the second round of the league where Downing really began to shine. The return fixture against Caius was cancelled by Caius, meaning Downing won 50-0. Our second match of the year was against St John's, which we won 10-7 with the final kick of the game recording our first win over St. John's in 5 years, a cause for much celebration.

Downing were in prime position to push for the league title and the final game against Churchill showcased everything Downing had been developing in training. Strong performance from the forwards, together with some slick back play yielded a 31-12 win and secured the league title for Downing over the Christmas break.

At University level, Downing was represented in the LX Club Varsity match by Tom Mullaney and Will Slaughter and then in the Blues Varsity match by Charlie MacCallum (1), Miles Huppertz (2), Johnny Dixon (18) and Oliver Smart (20).

Downing went into Lent term with high expectations. However, two games were cancelled due to frozen pitches meaning the only league fixture was against Fitzwilliam. This game proved tough with Fitzwilliam combining their team with Sidney Sussex and Trinity Hall. The weather really dominated with heavy winds pinning the Downing team in their own half. Sadly, Downing lost 15-0 but the Lent portion of league was abandoned due to weather leaving Downing as 2018/19 League Champions.

The league was followed by the annual Old Boys fixture which was well attended and featured a highly competitive game with a final score 52-40 in favour of the current side. After the game the day's Six Nations fixtures were aired in the clubhouse, followed by celebrations at The Alma.

We then moved our focus onto Cuppers. We were seeded 2nd behind St John's. Downing had a bye in the first round and then faced a combined Corpus, Clare and King's side. This game was a pleasant step down from the high standards of Division 1 with Downing cruising



*Downing rugby squad  
Photograph JET Photographic©*

to a 54-6 victory, aided by the return of the University players. Emmanuel forfeited the quarter final and so Downing moved straight to the semi-final against Fitzwilliam. Downing was confident that, with our University players returning, we could defeat the Fitzwilliam team. We were, however, frustrated for much of the first half and led only 8-5 at half time. Fitzwilliam took the lead in the second half and it was then that the strangest part of this season occurred. The floodlights at Grange Road cut out after 59 minutes.

A replay was rescheduled for Easter Sunday. Downing arrived at Grange Road once again, this time in the uncharacteristically intense April heat. From kick off Downing were dominant, scoring from a driving maul early on and holding off Fitzwilliam's attack with strong tackling. However, more scoring opportunities evaded us and the half time score was 5-0 to Downing. Again we started the second half well, dominating territory through excellent kicking. A grubber kick through saw Blues-prop-turned-centre Charlie MacCallum score under the posts. A penalty late on from Connor Newell saw Downing win 15-0.

Downing arrived at Grange Road for the Cuppers final on Saturday 27th April in anticipation of a potential first cup victory since 2013. Downing won the toss and elected to play against the strong wind for the first half, knowing that if we were still in the game at half time we could capitalise on the conditions as Caius tired. We spent much of the first half in our own 22 but, as has been the case all season, powerful defence kept the dangerous Caius side at bay. Slowly but surely, through expert execution of the driving maul, Downing worked their way up the field. The power of our pack which included Blues Miles Huppertz, Jonny Dixon and Ollie Smart, with University loose-head prop Charlie MacCallum lining up at outside centre was overwhelming for Caius. The deadlock was finally broken in the 32nd minute as a catch and drive from a line-out led to Will Slaughter applying the finishing touch at the bottom of the pack. Jasper Rossi was shown a yellow card for a deliberate knock-on in the 38th minute, but Downing weathered the spell with 14 players with ease.

Downing got in at half time 5-0 up, an ideal situation knowing the wind at our backs in the second half would allow us to pin Caius deep inside their own territory. A big scrum in the 50th minute from Downing led to Olly Smart touching down Downing's second try, with captain Connor Newell adding the extras to make it 12-0. Caius' hopes of getting back in the game were hindered when one of their players was sin-binned but, by that point, the game was being contested between the two 22s. Downing wrapped up their win with a second pushover try for Smart, with Newell's conversion making it 19-0. This victory was the culmination of all the hard work put in by the Committee this year in building Downing rugby into a dominant force that looks set for a strong future.

## **Squash**

### ***Captain Nick Chorney***

In Michaelmas term, the Downing Squash Club fielded a mixed team in the intercollegiate leagues, where we had a strong showing, moving up from Box 4 to 3 having won overall against all of our opponents. In the Lent term we entered both a mixed and women's team in Cuppers. In a field containing many University players, the women's team placed in the middle of the pack, ending at 6th out of 9 teams at the Round Robin stage. The mixed team was knocked out of the running for Cuppers in the 3rd round by the eventual runners-up Queens, but pushed on through the Plate brackets to reach the Plate final, where they fought hard but ultimately lost 1-4 against Trinity.

Meanwhile the club has continued its weekly training sessions during term time, providing players from the college at a range of levels a chance to improve their skills and get more out of the sport under the tutelage of our coach.

## Table Tennis

### *Captain: Vatsal Raina*

The incoming batch of freshers has brought budding table tennis talent to Downing TT, permitting two full teams to compete in the first and second divisions of the college league and cuppers too. Weekly turnout at training sessions boasts double digits, which surpasses all records for college level table tennis in the University. Although the second team struggled in the league and cuppers matches, the improvement in quality of play has been dramatic on all fronts with hopes of initiating a third team in the Lent term. With continued improvement in table tennis over the next season, ping pong will have to be renamed 'peng' pong!

## Tennis – Men's

### *Captain: Matthew Mears*

It has been a fantastic year for Downing tennis. Our 1st team totally dominated Division 1, and came within touching distance of a first league-cuppers double in years. A good intake of freshers, combined with the return of a number of older players to the fore, has provided brilliant squad depth. This was a big help in the 1s' success – 8 different players were involved in our Division 1 victory, despite each match only involving teams of 4. It has also allowed for some really fun team training sessions, particularly in Lent term. Rather frustratingly, however, various logistical issues meant the 2s did not live up to their potential to dominate Division 4. More frustrating still was our defeat at the quarter-final stage of Cuppers, where some questionable seeding and rather shady Jesus delay tactics hindered what should have been a run to at least the final. However, if Downing tennis maintains its upwards momentum it should feel very hopeful for the return of the double next season.

## Ultimate Frisbee

### *Captains: Ben Yass and Nick Wan*

DCU saw a promising start to the season with a very successful recruitment period in freshers' week. The freshers, despite being new to the sport, appeared to have a knack for it and took to the game very quickly. DCU faced some strong opposition in Michaelmas term with Will Beddow and Tiger Yotsawat leading the line, coming 12th in the league and 11th in indoor Cuppers. Throughout Lent term, now under the captaincy of Ben Yass and Nick Wan, DCU put a bit more emphasis on developing a system everyone was comfortable playing in. Helped by a reliable attendance of our freshers at the training sessions, with Toby Latcham and Candice Lau among those joining Jakob Metson and Rohit Prabhu, DCU managed to do well in the league with DCU managing to top the tables for their division for the latter half of term. The team continued training in Easter term and there have been

notable improvements both in terms of individual skills as well as playing as a team. Pitted against tougher sides with the likes of Trinity and Jesus, DCU still managed to work in some very nice plays and won two out of their five games. With a line of confident handlers and keen cutters, DCU is set up nicely to perform well next season and is looking forward to welcoming a new batch of freshers to our ranks.

### **Volleyball**

*Captain: Brandon Lee*

*Cuppers: 3rd place*

The Downing Volleyball team has done well this year despite struggling to put out a full team for most matches. We had won half of our games and were unlucky not to win the rest of them, as they were very closely fought and we were only narrowly edged out. It was great to see the team improve game by game, both in technique and also in teamwork - learning the rules was certainly a good start for some of our players who'd never seen a volleyball before! Thank you to all the diligent players who put in a good shift game after game and also to those who have been coming in and out of the team when called upon - it's definitely a positive outlook for next year.

### **GRIFFINS ENDOWMENT FUND**

The fund exists to enable Downing's talented sports players to participate at University level by providing support for kit, travel expenses and training costs. To support the fund by direct debit please visit <https://www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online> to download a donation form. Please return the completed form to the address given. Alternatively, one-off donations may be made online at <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' - or cheques made out to 'Downing College' and marked for the Griffins Fund can be sent to the Development Office, Downing College, Cambridge CB2 1DQ.

For further information, please contact Claire Varley ([cav10@dow.cam.ac.uk](mailto:cav10@dow.cam.ac.uk)).

## REPORTS ON SOCIETIES

**The Austyn Mair Engineering Society***Jane Wright*

The Society was revived a few years ago and already there are core events becoming an annual tradition. The first event of the year was the annual Freshers' Welcome / Welcome Back. Always a wonderful way in which to bring together the undergraduates, postgraduates and Fellows, we had a variety of students speak about their experiences of engineering. Topics included everything from comparisons of summer internships, talking about the Manufacturing Engineering Tripos, through to discussion of neural networks. Post summer examinations, Easter term will see the annual dinner which is always an event to look forward to. I am pleased to be passing on the presidency to Annabel Pigdon for the coming academic year.

**The Blake Society***Eli Hayes*

Summarising the last year of the Blake Society's life is incredibly difficult; in part because so much has happened – events, parties, speakers, and more – but also because it's really quite emotional for me, personally. Of all of the experiences I've had at Downing, being President of this Society has been my most formative and most loved. I am sad to leave it behind, but am comforted by the knowledge that it is in safe hands and, most importantly, proud of the year that is coming to a close.

Last summer we made the most of the heat and organised the Society's most well-attended Garden Party (in my memory, at least), themed *A Bigger Splash!* – my personal favourite painting. Unfortunately, David Hockney (who painted it) couldn't attend, although he did send his thanks that we would organise such an event in his honour. We also established an Art Room in College, to provide a regular space for students to engage with their more creative sides, which is much lacking around the city.

Coming into the new academic year, we organised a series of speaker events that were intended to both represent our own interests and to platform things we believed needed to be heard. Dr Alanna Cant, a Social Anthropologist, came to speak about *Oaxacan Woodcarvings and the Aesthetic Economy* in the Michaelmas term. In the New Year, the White Pube (an art critic duo making a *big* stir in the art world) visited us for the Society's most popular speaker event ever (we filled up the Howard Building)! Later in Lent term, we hosted five speakers from a variety of backgrounds for our panel event: *Taking Up Space: BME Voices in the Arts*, in the Master's Lodge. All of these events were not only successful, but contributed to a blossoming and desperately necessary arts scene at the University.



Our annual Christmas Party, *A Very Merry Christmas!*, was fuelled by mulled wine and live music and our annual dinner, this year themed *Botanicals*, was hugely popular and, by the sight of the college bar afterwards, much enjoyed by all our guests. It is impossible to talk about the Blake Society, though, without mentioning the Heong Gallery and Dr Prerona Prasad. Throughout the year we have held several creative events in the gallery space (our poster-making event that accompanied the *Do I Have to Draw You a Picture?* exhibition was by far the most memorable), which have worked to open the Downing environment up to more students from across the city. Without Prerona's consistent help and (much needed) guidance, I would not have managed this role alone nor would I have enjoyed it so much.

A final thanks must go to the efforts of Dr Sarah Kennedy, Dr Susan Lintott, Jo Finnie Jones, Cat Middleton, and Alan Bookbinder who, throughout the year, have each offered support to help boost the life of the arts in Downing. I am incredibly grateful.

### **Brammer Geographical Society**

#### *Harriet Seymour*

Downing geographers are proud to have been studying in the 100th anniversary year of Geography at Cambridge. They are working hard and undertaking exciting dissertation projects. Our second years have been on field trips to Imlil in the High Atlas mountains of Morocco as well as to Tenerife this year. Their summer dissertation research is investigating subjects ranging from the Northern Sea Route (Russia), environmental documentary film (USA/UK) and gender and identity in Toronto. As in previous years, the generosity of travel awards from Downing, as well as the Geography department, play a key role in making field research possible and bringing undergraduate dissertations to fruition.

Geographers at Downing continue to support each other inter-year, which takes on greater importance when student numbers have been fluctuating. We hope that the next academic year will bring more interaction with the alumni community with more social events through the society. We appreciate your support and hope to see you all soon!

### **Chapel Choir**

#### *Chris Hamilton, Organ Scholar*

After a highly successful tour to the United States and Canada in July, the Chapel Choir returned to College in October, full of enthusiasm for the year ahead. Michaelmas term started fantastically, with a service of installation of the new Master, Alan Bookbinder. As always the Advent Carol Service was a great success, with the Chapel suitably bursting at the seams and we again enjoyed the opportunity to perform in London at the Alumni Advent Carol Service, this year at St Andrew's Church, Holborn. The success of the Choir continued in Lent term, with highlights including a hugely successful weekend of services

in Peterborough Cathedral, a Catholic Mass in the Chapel with the Chapel Choir of Fisher House and a joint Evensong with Queens' College Choir, in their Chapel. We enjoyed welcoming Queens' to Downing in May for a joint service to return the favour – it's safe to say the sound of the combined choirs, totalling roughly 50 singers, was phenomenal in



*The Chapel Choir processes out of the University Church after the memorial service for John Hopkins  
Photograph Martin Bond © taken for Downing College*

the beautiful acoustic of the Chapel here at Downing. Easter term also saw the memorial service for John Hopkins at the University Church of St Mary the Great, during which the Choir provided music curated by Cherry Hopkins, including a movement from Brahms' Requiem. It was an incredibly moving service and the Choir sang beautifully. Then followed the annual Commemoration of Benefactors, during which the Chapel resounded to music from Stanford and Will Todd. At the end of the year our May Week concert, with a programme of music from Cambridge composers, provided an opportunity to add to our tour fundraising – at the end of June we travelled to Hungary to perform in Budapest and Szeged (twinned with Cambridge).

Thanks are due to my colleague, Louisa Denby (assisting organist); to Downing's new Director of College and Chapel Music, David Lowe, who has been a valuable mentor and advisor to us throughout the year, to the Chaplain for his continued support for the Choir and its ambitions and of course to the Choir themselves. We are greatly looking forward to another year of fantastic music making, tours and cathedral visits and hope to see you at some of our services and events!

### **Cranworth Law Society**

*Meg Gibson*

The Cranworth Law Society has hosted a range of events over the past year, which have all been very successful. The second and third year students received a talk from Professor Sarah Worthington, the Downing Professor of the Laws of England. This was especially useful in getting to grips with some of the finer details of Land Law and Equity, the benefit of which is something I'm sure any Law student can appreciate!

Once again, the annual trip to London was a real highlight of the Cranworth calendar this year. The first years had the chance to meet Downing alumni from various strands of the legal profession; we visited XXIV Old Buildings, Lord Lloyd-Jones and Lord Reed at the Supreme Court and were hosted for dinner by Norton Rose Fulbright.

In March, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the *Downing v Magdalene* Moot, judged this year by Lord Justice McCombe, Lady Black and Sir Andrew Morritt. I am very pleased to announce that Downing won the moot for the fifth year running, with an exceptional standard of advocacy shown by the first years.

Sadly this year we didn't have chance to hold another fancy dress formal where students can dress up as any case they like (the more creative the better)! We've definitely had some interesting costumes in the past few years, including a skirt fashioned out of the Canadian Constitution and the infamous *Re Collins* costume ... hopefully our new Presidents next year will revive this tradition!

## The Danby Society

*Brandon Lee*

The Danby Society is the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) society of college, where everyone can learn more about the latest developments in STEM. A major change for this year is the shift from subscription to college funding, which allowed everyone in college to access all the events we have to offer. We started off the year with a website redesign to improve the ease of navigation and to bring everyone the latest news in STEM development. This was followed by a mix of social and talk events. The first social event of the year was the traditional Freshers' Squash, which was enjoyed by all in attendance and offered our newest members a chance to learn more about their course with their senior counterparts. We also arranged a swap with the Larmor society – the Natural Sciences society of St John's – which was a lively occasion for intercollegiate discussion. This year we had tried to increase the variety of the talks offered, such that there is a mixture of STEM updates from not only academia, but also from industry. Glen Smith, the CEO of DriveWorks, came to talk about design automation and Dr Stephen Powell, an engineering manager from Cobham Mission Systems, talked about his work on a day to day basis in air-to-air refuelling. Dr Lorna Ayton, a researcher in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, gave us a fascinating talk on taking a leaf out of nature's book in order to optimise flight and Professor Andy Hopper combined the two areas with his talk by telling us about how he used his experience in academia to bring about innovations in industry. It has been a productive year and we hope to keep bringing our members interesting events in the future.

## Dramatic Society

*Joe Hilton*

The Downing Dramatic Society has had a great run this year, hosting five fantastic productions at the Howard Theatre as well as a variety of events at the Heong Gallery. We kicked off the year with a two-person production in the Heong Gallery: *Late Night Billiards in Venice*. The writer, Juliette Smith, devised the piece based upon Stephen Chambers' exhibition *Court of Redonda*, which was on display in the gallery at the time. The annual Downing Freshers' Production of *Hangman* by Martin McDonagh at the Howard Theatre in Lent term was a great success, bringing through a new generation of Downing thespians, many of whom will sit on the new Downing Dramatic Society Committee for 2019/2020. Under the creative direction of Seb Brindle, the cast transformed the Howard Theatre into a dingy 1960s pub in central England to great effect.

We were also very lucky to have our very own Stephen Bennett direct a stage adaptation of Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood* at the end of the Michaelmas term. Stephen, who founded Downing's Festival of New Writing, returned during the Lent term

to help out with the Festival, which is on its fifth run now. This was a great success thanks to our New Writing Officers, Oliver Rhodes and April Jakso, who put in a tremendous effort to select the finest new writing in Cambridge and transform it onto the stage. The Festival, which was supported by the John Family in memory of Angharad Dodds John, showcased nine independent student-run plays at the Howard Theatre which were then judged and reviewed by a panel. Following this success, we welcome Oliver onto the incoming Committee for 2019/2020 as our new president. He looks forward to continuing the Downing Dramatic Society's work and hopes to involve even more of Downing's students over the course of the next year. I also wish to extend my gratitude to the Howard Foundation for their ongoing support of the Downing Dramatic Society and to the rest of the 2018/2019 committee for all of the hard work they have put in throughout the past year.

## **FemSoc**

### ***Anna Gelband***

FemSoc has had a particularly exciting year: our first-ever external speaker event, growing numbers of new members and a real engagement from across college in feminist issues. Members of FemSoc attended the *Reclaim the Night* rally in Cambridge in March, raising awareness about sexual harassment and women's safety, which we feel was a great success. There have been lots of interesting discussion topics at FemSoc this year, ranging from intersectionality (organised jointly with BameSoc), to the female body and toxic masculinity. We have also hosted arts events, designing placards for the rally and creating feminist-inspired art. We have expanded our range of activities from being mainly discussion-based to including film nights, art sessions and speaker events, helping us to keep FemSoc exciting and ever-evolving. The introduction of funding from the college for free sanitary products for JCR members is another new initiative which will make Downing an even better space for its female members. FemSoc and its members have helped to push for and implement this scheme and there has been a lot of discussion about the issue of period poverty in our sessions. We look forward to seeing the future of FemSoc next year, which is in the capable hands of the new JCR Women's Officers and to 2020's celebration of Downing women!

## **Jazz Band**

### ***Pranetr Pattabhiraman***

The Downing College Jazz band had another great year, performing at regular gigs and expanding to new horizons, playing at the Hidden Rooms Bar and making their premiere at the Wolfson College May Ball. The core of the band, the rhythm section, welcomed our new drummer, Jacob Knight, who repeatedly manages to rein in the

chaos that is Jazz. Alice Jay added a voice to the band, flexing her experience with musical theatre in pieces like *And All That Jazz*. The band's termly gig at Downing Bar has garnered some regulars and a steady crowd. The Jazz Band made their annual appearance at MCR and JCR superformals, as well as the Griffins and DCMS garden party. The members expanded their roster in preparation for Downing and Wolfson May Ball, introducing jazz favourites such as *Spain* and *Chips n Salsa*, featuring our whiz on the sax, Adrian Ramirez-Valdez. Thanks are due to the current committee: Pranetr Pattabhiraman, Ben Stephenson, Ali Hyde and Dan Duffy for their efforts this year. We say goodbye and best wishes to Matthew French, Ben Stephenson, Ali Hyde, Alice Jay, and Nathan Parker. If you are interested in joining, hiring or supporting Downing College Jazz Band, please contact pp422@cam.ac.uk

### **The Maitland History Society**

*Nick Chevis*

It has been another fantastic year for the Maitland History Society! We held four speaker events on a wide variety of historical topics, which all provoked much debate and conversation among the members. Dr Arthur Asseraf joined us from Trinity College to give a talk on *Surveillance, new media, and radical Islam (in 1900)*. Professor David Runciman, former head of the Department of Politics and International Studies, spoke on the provocative topic of artificial intelligence: *What can history tell us about AI?*. Dr Rachel Leow, from Murray Edwards College, shed light on an overlooked international conference in her talk *A missing peace: The Asia-Pacific Peace Conference in Beijing, 1952 and the emotional making of Third World internationalism*. Finally, we welcomed Dr Sylvana Tomaselli, from St John's College, to talk about *The real Adam Smith problem*. It was a particular pleasure to host Sylvana, who has been a longstanding supervisor of Downing students – including our current Director of Studies for history, Dr David Pratt. The events were all very well attended and we are excited to see what next year's committee will organise for the society.

### **The Mathias Society**

*Jean Henri Nel*

The Society (for Economists and Land Economists) hosted several events during the year. Notably, these included a video-call conference between students and alumni, in which some alumni kindly gave up their time to speak to students about their careers and life after university, with the aim of giving advice and guidance and helping to keep the Mathias community connected and in touch. The Annual Dinner, for which the Master was the Guest of Honour, was again a very successful event and it was wonderful to see so many alumni return.

Finally, in collaboration with Apotheosis Cambridge, the Society hosted a talk by Dr Ha-Joon Chang, *Why do we need pluralism in economics?*, with three main arguments: the need for diverse theories for a better understanding of a complex world, the resilience that comes from having multiple theories, and the benefits of cross-fertilisation of ideas. It was great that many members were able to attend and enjoy the talk and discussion.

## Downing College Music Society

### *Declan Hickey*

The past year has been a triumph for music at Downing. The appointment of David Lowe as our inaugural Director of Music has borne much fruit, not least in the form of the new Downing Series concerts which have hugely enriched our musical calendar. It is a great virtue that student-run music at Downing continues to be given centre stage, at the heart of which lies the Downing College Music Society.

Our 2018/19 season began with a record number of performers at the annual Freshers' Recital in the Master's Lodge, many of whom have gone on to perform at subsequent DCMS events. The Michaelmas term also offered such diverse programmes as themes and variations for solo classical guitar, twentieth-century string quartets performed by one of the University's distinguished Instrumental Award Scheme ensembles and contemporary jazz in the Heong Gallery. The term finished with a concert of Gluck and Haydn presented by the newly-rebranded Trumpington Street Orchestra which, with the support of St Catharine's, now boasts its largest membership in recent years.

Highlights of the Lent term included a lecture-recital on the subject of Jewish women's songs from Northern Morocco, as part of the Cambridge Female Composers' Festival; an evening of music for wind quintet, comprising performers entirely from Downing and recitals from the college's choral and organ scholars. This format does not allow me to pay full recognition to the music of the Chapel Choir and our esteemed organ scholars, but their contributions should not go without some mention.

At the time of writing, the DCMS Easter term card has already yielded a professional recital from Swedish classical guitar virtuoso Martin Fogel and we look forward to a fascinating event entitled *Experimental Music: Deep Listening and Re-Imagining Beethoven* later in the term, as well as the Society's annual May Week concert and garden party.

It is testament to the ever-growing musical activity at Downing that I have had to make several omissions here. It is not possible to give due praise to all those who facilitate music-making in the college, whether through the DCMS, the Chapel Choir, the Jazz Band, or any other facets of college music. I would, however, like to pay special thanks to my committee over the past year for their enduring commitment to the society, to the Master and Maggie Cherry for enabling us to use the Master's Lodge on a number of occasions, to our Chaplain Keith Eyeons for his support of music in and outside the Chapel and to David Lowe, whose



*2nd year music students, Callum Sullivan and  
Declan Hickey, in the College Chapel*

introduction to the College has bolstered the music scene in ways I could not have foreseen. There is no greater pleasure for an outgoing President than to know that the future is bright for his society and I have every confidence in Hannah Harding and her Committee to continue down this exciting path for Downing music. I look forward to reading in this publication what new heights will have been reached in a year's time.

### **Philiminality Cambridge**

*James Dickinson*

Is it ethical promoting your academic talk with nude images on posters? Is it okay to find parts of your philosophy degree dull? Are professors actually any better than students when it comes to doing philosophy in an informal setting? These are just some of the more practical questions we've come across this year at the interdisciplinary philosophy society, Philiminality Cambridge. For reference, the answers are: yes, of course and not necessarily. This academic year has been particularly exciting for Philiminality. We have



put on three well-attended talks, and our audience has continued to grow. Our talks have been on Drag, Transcendental Arguments, and Essence and Essentialism. We've continued to achieve our targets of doing interdisciplinary philosophy, having speakers from a total of six different faculties. We've also had speakers at Professor, PhD, Masters and undergrad level, and they've discussed philosophy spanning over 2500 years. We are glad to see a growing interest in doing philosophy beyond the confines of the philosophy Tripos and hope to continue next year with a larger team.

## **The Whitby Society**

*Khalil Saadeh*

Downing College's Medical and Veterinary Society has had another active year with a wide range of academic and social events. To begin, there was the subjects' picnic, in which the new undergraduates were welcomed to Downing and medicine by 2nd and 3rd year students. The Michaelmas term was our busiest term for both academic and social events. Namely we hosted Whitby Cocktails in which medical students of all years were invited to enjoy a fun evening together, with both wine and non-alcoholic drinks available. On the more academic side, there were Part II Subjects and Summer Research Projects evenings, in which 2nd year students are given advice as they consider their intercalated year topic and if they want to test out whether scientific research is for them. For the clinical students, there was an Electives talk where 6th year students talked about a wide array of medical elective destinations and types in the effort to help the 4th and 5th years choose their own.

Each term the Welfare Officers prepared pots with a variety of sweets during drop in sessions which were attended by many of the undergraduate students, especially the 1st and 2nd years. One of our most successful events was the speaker event in the Lent term. Professor Dino Giussani was invited to talk about his research on pre-natal hypoxia and its association with heart disease in adulthood. This cutting-edge research and its implications for treatment of patients with heart disease, made it relevant to both pre-clinical and clinical students. After the talk many of us attended formal dinner at Downing with Professor Giussani. In the Easter term we hosted the Whitby annual talk and dinner. We were honoured to host the illustrious Professor Christopher Huang who gave an extremely interesting talk on medical career progression and the different routes involved, especially with regards to a career in academia. This was followed by a private formal at Downing which was also attended by most of the medical and veterinary students as well as alumni, including current supervisors. After the dinner, the results of the new academic year's committee elections were announced. Following the Whitby tradition, the libation ceremony of the new president Jeevan Fernando took place at the grave of Sir Busick Harwood, Downing's first Professor of Medicine. Finally, we are also saying congratulations and farewell to the graduating class of 2019. We wish them the best of luck.

# DOWNING GIFTS

BY THE DOWNING COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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