

# DOWNING



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COLLEGE MAGAZINE  
2021



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HOCKNEY: IN PERSPECTIVE  
WOMEN AT DOWNING  
COLLEGE NEWS  
MAGENTA NEWS

# WELCOME

**AS LIFE RETURNS** to normal, we can look forward to Michaelmas term in person and welcoming alumni back to College for reunions and events.

The artist David Hockney's distinctive style and use of colour is unfailingly cheering as is the photograph of him in his studio with his dog. Downing will host its own blockbuster Hockney exhibition at the Heong Gallery and the Fitzwilliam Museum next summer and it is currently the only scheduled show of the artist's work which is free. In our feature, art historians Martin Kemp (Downing 1960 and Honorary Fellow) and Martin Gayford provide fascinating insights into the inspiration behind the work of Britain's most famous living artist. As Martin Kemp says, *'People will be coming to the Heong Gallery to see one of the most extraordinarily creative visual intelligences of our time, working in incredibly varied, dynamic ways. We really need to be in the space, interacting with the pictures and bringing our own perspectives on what we're seeing.'* So, if you need another reason to visit College, this is it! And if distance prevents you

from making the trip, we will almost certainly be running virtual tours and talks.

Sadly, this year we had to cancel all alumni events and our 40 Years of Women celebrations and move them online. Not to be outwitted, College Archivist Jenny Ulph continued her research into the role women have played at Downing and her article highlights just some of the influential women in the College's history. You will also quickly surmise from reading this issue that despite moving many activities online, Downing Fellows, students and alumni have continued to be very busy over the last year.

We look forward to seeing you at events and in College soon and wish everyone in the Downing community the very best for the coming year.

**JO FINNIE JONES**  
Development Director

**SIMON WALKER**  
Honorary Secretary, Downing  
College Alumni Association

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# THE MASTER WRITES

**IN THE COLLEGE RECORDS** the year 2020–21 will forever have an asterisk after it, to indicate how extraordinary it was. Covid-19 not only caused untold disruption to the normal rhythms of Downing life, but it also prompted an impressive response, in terms of resilience, flexibility and determination across the whole of our community. It was, of course, a largely virtual year. Lectures, supervisions, exams and admissions interviews happened online. Governing Body and our other committees conducted their business on Zoom. For much of the year the same went for student societies, alumni events, MCR seminars and Chapel services.

It was impressive how well students adapted to online learning, much of it done from home, and to virtual exams, mainly taken in College bedrooms with access to books, notes and the internet. Perhaps this helped to produce results that on average were better than in a normal year. The disruption was greater still to students' social life. Lockdown meant socialising was restricted to household groups. For much of the year College facilities were closed, food was available only as a takeaway service and the Library was open only for pre-booked, socially-distanced slots.

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“Covid-19 not only caused untold disruption to the normal rhythms of Downing life, but it also prompted an impressive response, in terms of resilience, flexibility and determination across the whole of our community.”



The year had started with an unusual matriculation day. The Freshers gathered on the Paddock in individually painted circles two metres apart, to hear my speech and be photographed by a drone hovering above them. They were then matriculated on the portico of the Master's Lodge and picnic boxes replaced the normal sit-down dinner in Hall. Due to the situation over A level grades, it was a bumper year for admissions, with 148 new students matriculating, 20 more than normal. Governing Body was replenished too with new Fellows in Biology, Law, Economics, Clinical Medicine and History of Art. New Senior Bursar, Gavin Flynn, was thrown into the Covid-19 deep end, dealing with the loss of student rents during lockdown and the absence of conference income for a whole annual cycle.

During the year we were saddened by the death of two Honorary Fellows, Michael Apted and Sir Alan Bowness, Foundation Fellow Hugh Brammer, Wilkins Fellow Gary Blankenship and George Pulman QC, who was instrumental in College fundraising. More happily we welcomed the Honorary Fellowship Sir Colin Birss, a Downing alumnus appointed this year to the Court of Appeal. In the New Year we established a new post of Head of Student Wellbeing, in response to another, less conspicuous pandemic, that of student mental illness. Very sadly, in January a student died in College, the first to do so at Downing for many years.

As the year progressed, we saw two new research centres take root: one for Climate Repair under former Master Sir David King,



The Master addresses Freshers prior to matriculation

where I see Downing playing a part in addressing the great issue of our time and another for Classical Architecture, to which the College and its neo-classical buildings provide an ideal home. In Michaelmas and Lent terms no music and sport was possible and the Heong Gallery remained largely closed. Without events and gatherings, talks and recitals, without socialising in the Café or the Bar, the community could not thrive in the way we all cherish. But with better weather in Easter term and the easing of restrictions nationally, Formal Halls, a thriving outdoor bar, music recitals and some sports events restarted. There were no May Bumps, but we put seven boats on the river for a highly successful four-day Regatta. (I should mention too that Downing alumnus Callum Sullivan was President of the victorious Cambridge crew in the Boat Race in April). To my great regret we had to postpone the May Ball until 2022, but the garden parties and celebrations that followed the end of exams went ahead with gusto. Our delayed

but spirited Festival of New Writing took place in the Howard Theatre, though the Freshers' Play fell victim to the Delta variant, when three of the cast had to self-isolate on the eve of the performance. It will be re-staged in Michaelmas term.

To comply with social distancing, the finalists split in half for two graduation dinners in Hall on consecutive evenings. In a splendid end to such a disrupted year we had two graduation days, for both the 2021 cohort and the delayed 2020 year. The graduation ceremonies were adapted to meet Covid-19 restrictions, with no guests in the Senate House and no grasping of the Praelector's fingers or clasping of my hands as I conferred the degrees. The colourful processions from College to Senate House went ahead and parents and guests watched the ceremonies on large screens specially set up on the lawns. The graduands returned to join them for a socially-distanced picnic. Thank goodness for our wonderful big green spaces!

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"The graduation ceremonies were adapted to meet Covid-19 restrictions, with no guests in the Senate House and no grasping of the Praelector's fingers or clasping of my hands as I conferred the degrees."

Another casualty of Covid-19 was the programme of events the College had planned to mark the 40th anniversary of the admission of women. Sir Quentin Blake's whimsical sketches of 40 imaginary Downing women filled the Heong Gallery physically and virtually and we also held a webinar at which distinguished alumnae discussed women's progress over those 40 years. Disappointingly a large-scale reunion was not possible within the anniversary year.

However, other initiatives did go ahead as planned. The Racial Justice Forum, chaired by an external facilitator, allowed ethnic minority students to raise concerns about their experience in College and put forward ideas for Downing to realise its aspiration to be a truly anti-racist place to live and study. Sonia Watson, Chief Executive of the Stephen Lawrence Trust, gave a rousing Richmond Lecture about her work to uncover and challenge racist behaviour.

At the new Senior Bursar Gavin Flynn's suggestion, regular 'Town Hall' meetings, both virtual and in-person, allowed staff to ask questions and challenge him and me about

issues in College affecting them. This ushered in a new approach to internal communication based on openness and collaboration.

Looking forward, unless Covid-19 has yet more nasty surprises to spring, I expect life in College in Michaelmas term to return to normal with renewed energy. In-person teaching will resume. Social activities will be restored. Music, sport and student societies will be revived. Dinners, talks and in-person meetings will return. I am glad to say that the Downing community is ready to thrive again. Also in Michaelmas term new graduate accommodation will open on Regent Street, with an entrance directly into the woodland area of the Domus. It will be called '1749 House.' 1749 is the year of the death of the third Baronet George Downing. His Will made the College possible, so the name is to honour all past and current Downing alumni who have generously included the College in their Wills.

Lastly, we look forward to launching a new fundraising campaign. It will reflect our ambition to enhance our teaching, improve our student facilities and make a meaningful contribution to addressing climate change. As a first step we expect planning permission to be granted for our new Student Centre on the site of the Butterfield Café, with first-class amenities for study and recreation. To give the campaign a longer perspective the Fellows are currently discussing in depth Downing's priorities over the next 10–20 years; I look forward to telling you more about this and asking for your views as the next, much brighter, year unfolds.

ALAN BOOKBINDER



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STEPHEN BENNETT in conversation  
with MARTIN GAYFORD & MARTIN KEMP  
(18 May 2021) about the upcoming  
Heong Gallery exhibition

## DAVID HOCKNEY: In Perspective

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**MID-MAY.** Rain...and more rain. It almost feels like Spring has been cancelled. Fortunately, there is colour out there if we're prepared to look for it. The Heong Gallery, in collaboration with the Fitzwilliam Museum, is gearing up for a major exhibition in summer 2022 of the work of one of Britain's greatest living artists, David Hockney, and two of the world's most eminent art historians, Martin Kemp and Martin Gayford, have agreed to talk to *The Downing Magazine* about what's in store. The former is Emeritus Professor of Art History at Oxford – and a Downing alumnus and Honorary Fellow – while the latter has worked with Hockney on a number of book projects, not least the latest, a wonderfully uplifting account of the artist's relocation to rural Normandy, the title of which couldn't be more welcome under the circumstances, *Spring Cannot Be Cancelled*. The colour we've missed will soon be back. And, at the age of 83, it looks like David Hockney is still working overtime to make sure that happens.

**MK:** For the first time, we'll be looking at Hockney's work in conjunction with his ideas on perception and representation, while exploring ways of seeing as understood in contemporary science. That's never really been done before. He's been in discussion with (neurobiologist and specialist in the science of vision) Sir Colin Blakemore, who's an Honorary Fellow of the College, so we hope Colin will also be involved. This conjunction of ideas all seemed to come together to make Downing a perfect venue for the exhibition.

↑ David Hockney, "The Entrance" 2019 © David Hockney

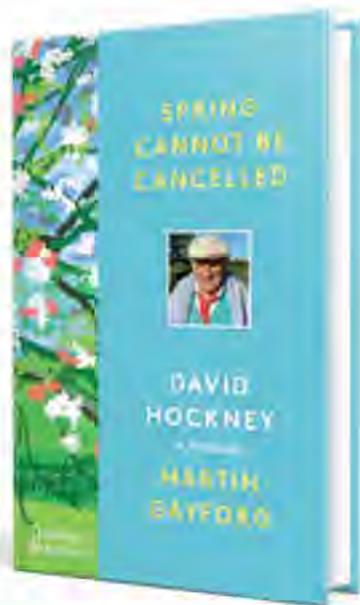
**MG:** Most people will probably be familiar with Hockney as a tremendously popular artist and as a much-loved personality. What we're trying to bring to the fore is that, while he's all those things, he's also a deeply learned, thoughtful, and original artist.

Gayford's new book touches on the idea of the 'Pleasure Principle' and the artist's own insistence that his work should entertain 'as a minimum requirement'. Does that playful streak in his approach present a barrier, in a way, to our view of Hockney as a major figure in western art?

**MG:** Internationally, in Germany, Russia... France, he's seen as a towering figure in contemporary art. In Britain, there's always been a traditional, highbrow opposition to any artist who's been so consistently popular with a wide public. I think that might be starting to break down, though, especially since the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday exhibitions.

**MK:** One of the deeply impressive things for me is that Hockney is constantly challenging himself and re-making how he puts images together. He could have easily settled down into the style of the California paintings but once he has done something and got it working, he's very restless. It's always about moving on to the next thing, the next experiment, the next bit of fun. And a lot of them are fun but it's fun that is directed towards very big ideas.

**MG:** And while Hockney does remark, in *Spring Cannot Be Cancelled*, that entertainment is 'a minimum requirement', it's not the whole requirement. There's a lot more. I imagine he'd say the same about Wagner and Shakespeare and Proust – all great figures he admires – that they start by



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"Gayford's new book touches on the idea of the 'Pleasure Principle' and the artist's own insistence that his work should entertain 'as a minimum requirement'."

entertaining and that allows them to go on and explore all kinds of deeper levels.

Hockney's restless determination – not to mention technical capacity – to find new ways of expressing himself seems to reflect that of the artist who is probably his greatest influence: Picasso.

**MG:** I think he learned, from Picasso, that there is nothing to be afraid of in changing your style. A few years ago, he said that if you stop what you're doing currently, it doesn't mean you're rejecting it, it's just that you want to see what's round the next corner.

**MK:** And like Picasso, Hockney is not only a very prolific, skilful artist, with enormous facility, but also a 'personality'.

And it's almost as if the public's acceptance of his unwillingness to stand still is part of the 'contract' we have with him.

**MG:** I think that, over the years, having developed such a rapport with the public, he has been able to do some quite radical things. Because it's Hockney, people have always been prepared to give him the benefit of the doubt. Another thing, in connection with Picasso, is that they were both virtuosi of drawing at such a young age. I've always felt, with David, that he is forever trying to find ways of not being trapped by his own virtuosity.

**MK:** One feature of the upcoming exhibition is his switch to using computers. He didn't like them, initially, because the results you got somehow felt too disconnected from the idea of mark-making. Once tablets came along, though, he found something that would respond to the speed and pressure of the mark and that had the colours to allow him to explore a new aesthetic of mark-making, specific to that medium. At the Fitzwilliam, we intend to mix David's iPad drawings in with historic paintings so that his work will actually be in a dynamic discourse with images from the past.

Is that notion of the artist consciously hiding his own technical virtuosity one of the reasons why Hockney is so keen to show the mechanics of the way he works; the use of certain kinds of marks and the enlarging of images to expose them more fully?

**MG:** Hockney once said that, when he looks at a picture, the thing he is most immediately

aware of is the surface – the marks the artist made. When he was configuring his current exhibition at the Royal Academy, he decided to print out all the iPad drawings on a much larger scale saying, "if you do that, you can see the marks better. It's all about mark-making, really, isn't it?" To him, the marks are the picture and vice-versa.

**MK:** It's that hand-made-mark factor that has prompted Hockney to say that photography will never replace painting, simply because 'it's not real enough'. It's the specifically human act of viewing and recording marks on a surface, that – far more than any artificial, photographic way ever could – forms a nexus of what is real.

**MG:** He is always reminding us that the eye is connected to the mind. One of the recurring themes of his work is that, whereas a photograph can only capture an instant, a painting or drawing can contain an indefinite period of time.

Hockney's pictures have always been able to convey both the instant and the passage of time. There's often a narrative quality. *The Splash* (1966) is a literal depiction of both surface and depth.

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"It's the specifically human act of viewing and recording marks on a surface, that – far more than any artificial, photographic way ever could – forms a nexus of what is real."



David Hockney "No. 263", 28 April 2020 iPad painting

© David Hockney

**MK:** That is a very traditional thing, in a way. If you look at, say, Leonardo's *Last Supper*, there are all sorts of 'bits' of time embedded into it from the Biblical story. David is working with the big motifs that run through the history of art. He both commentates on things and does them his own way.

**MG:** Remarkable artists often do that. They continue the traditions of the past but also reconfigure them so that we become aware of the tradition from a fresh angle.

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"David is working with the big motifs that run through the history of art."

Do you think Hockney is consciously observing the tradition, along the lines of Constable and Monet, of the artist working in a small space and focussing on small detail as a way of making a universal statement about the world and how we see it?

**MG:** I think he is aware of that but he is also following a temperamental imperative in the way that, for example, Lucian Freud or Frank Auerbach didn't like leaving their studios. For quite a while, David has liked the idea of having a patch of territory he can explore and not be disturbed too much while he is doing it. He is looking at his surroundings all the time and is immersed in his subject in a similar way to how Cézanne or Van Gogh would have been.

On a fundamental level, it seems as though Hockney just wants us to look more closely and with a greater intensity at the world around us – to simply take the time to see and engage.



Utagawa Hiroshige, *Sudden Shower of Shin-Ohashi Bridge and Atake, 1857*

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

**MG:** And in that sense, a picture is a device for encouraging people to pay attention. Painting that picture requires Hockney himself to pay an enormous amount of attention. In order to appreciate it, you have to do the same.

**MK:** David is continually refreshing his own way of looking and his own way of translating into paint those things we may have overlooked or that haven't previously been seen depicted in that way.

The title of the upcoming exhibition is *In Perspective*. We are clearly not just talking about vanishing points and colour diffusion, here. This is about how we look, what we perceive personally and emotionally, and what the viewer brings to the interactive experience.

**MK:** Yes, it is perspective as an optical system in painting but it is also the perspective on the artist's life and the totality of their activity.

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"Remarkable artists often do that. They continue the traditions of the past but also reconfigure them so that we become aware of the tradition from a fresh angle."

**MG:** David believes that, despite what was first established in the art of fifteenth-century Florence, there is no such thing as 'correct' perspective. There are probably infinite ways of projecting a vision of the world.

We also have Monet's haystacks and Rouen Cathedral paintings to show us it's not just about whoever is making the picture and where they've chosen to stand. They're proof that if we stay in one place for more than a few minutes, what we're looking at will have changed, anyway.

**MG:** I think that is part of it – that everything is changing all the time...

...not least, Hockney's approach to physical frames and the limitations of a traditional rectangle delineating where a picture might begin and end.

**MK:** For the Fitzwilliam Museum, we are borrowing Meindert Hobbema's famous, *The Avenue of Middelharnis* from The National Gallery. It is a picture of a row of trees which appear to go back in a meticulous, calculated perspective and we are showing – alongside it – Hockney's own version of it on shaped canvases. The Hobbema picture has centres

of visual interest but by looking at the space when it isn't dominated by that plunging distance (as in the Hockney version), you start to see areas of the original picture in a very different way. The Hobbema, in a sense, responds to the Hockney.

There is also the idea of the frame that just keeps on going, as with another of the artist's favourites, *The Bayeux Tapestry*.

**MG:** Yes, he does like that. And he has just finished an enormously long work – 80 metres – that is due to be shown at The Orangerie, in Paris, in October. It comprises a whole year's series of iPad drawings, edited together to make a continuous sequence – bare winter trees, then on through spring, summer, and autumn, and back to snow and bare trees again. It's quite a spectacular undertaking.

**MK:** Also on the theme of perspective, we are talking about projecting one of David's views of his studio, with all the works and chairs set at different angles, tailor-made to fit exactly onto the big wall at the far end of The Heong Gallery. That way you would have this remarkable manipulation of the space.

**MG:** It's that thing he does of taking you for a walk around the interior space of the picture. It's an idea he has been playing with for a long time – part of that internal process of taking in the whole by splicing together lots of different 'glimpses'.

**MK:** Absolutely. A very rapid 'collaging', if you like. The brain processes these multiple images with astonishing speed and fluency. It's what gives us enough of a coherence so as not to drive into the car in front! That perception – the human act of seeing – is



David Hockney "No. 599", 1 November 2020 iPad painting

© David Hockney

something we often overlook and one of David's career motifs has been his reverence for that very act.

**MG:** That and disturbing the routine aspect of how we look at things. He's trying to interrupt the ritual process to say, 'Pay more attention to this bit.'

**MK:** People will be coming to the Heong Gallery to see one of the most extraordinarily creative visual intelligences of our time, working in incredibly varied, dynamic ways. We really need to be in the space, interacting with the pictures and bringing our own perspectives on what we're seeing.

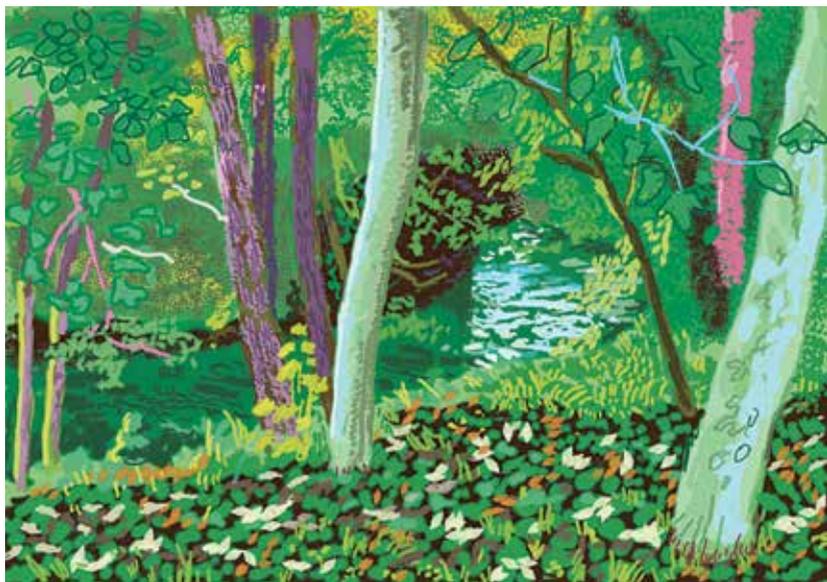
One also gets the impression that Hockney just loves looking at pictures – other people's pictures – and needs to communicate that love to the people looking at his own.

**MG:** He says, quite directly, that stress comes from worrying about what might happen in the future whereas art is 'now'. That applies both to drawing and to looking at a picture – the notion that concentration is happiness and that by looking, we're taken out of those temporal anxieties.

And there couldn't be a better time for that to happen than right now. As our conversation draws to a close, it's still raining in Cambridge. Besides a few farmers, David Hockney would probably be the only one happy about it. He loves drawing the rain. Probably because, like him, it's never still.

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*David Hockney: In Perspective* will open at the Heong Gallery and Fitzwilliam Museum in Summer 2022. Visit [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/cultural-life/heong-gallery](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/cultural-life/heong-gallery)



David Hockney "No. 556", 19 October 2020 iPad painting

© David Hockney

WOMEN AT DOWNING

HIDDEN HISTORIES



AS PART OF the recent 40 Years of Women project, the College Archivist also explored the lesser-known women associated with the College from its early history. There have always been women living and working at Downing College: Lady Elizabeth Harwood moved into the East Lodge with her husband Sir Busick, Professor of Medicine, in 1812, closely followed by Mary Frere, wife of the second Master, William Frere,<sup>1</sup> in the Master's Lodge. In addition to Masters' wives and their children, the families of Professors, Fellows and staff lived around the Domus throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and this research rediscovered some of these interesting personalities in the College's history.

← **Portrait of Mary Frere**  
Courtesy of Michael Mackenzie

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“...this research rediscovered some of these interesting personalities in the College's history.”

Much has been written in recent years about Mary Downing, estranged wife of the College's Founder, and Lady Margaret Downing, widow of the 4th Baronet who delayed the College's foundation. Lady Elizabeth Harwood and Mary Frere continued this tradition of strong Downing women. Following the death of Francis Annesley, first Master of Downing College, in 1812, letters in the Archive show that Lady Harwood tried to influence the electors of his successor, initially in favour of her husband. Mary Frere was the first resident Lady in the Master's Lodge and was an unconventional Master's wife at the time. She was a recognised socialite who presided over a lively social scene at Downing including musical parties and theatricals. The inclusion of the College's tenants and tradespeople at these events raised eyebrows at a time when Masters and their wives socialised separately. Mary Frere was also closely involved in the planning and planting of trees around the Domus and the establishment of a working farm in its south-west corner.

The first female staff member, Mrs Susan Barton, was appointed as the College Laundress in May 1815. By the time of the 1851 Census, female residents in College outnumbered their male counterparts. Downing was unusual in allowing its

“In the mid-nineteenth century... there were often more young children running around the Domus than undergraduates!”

Professors of Law and Medicine to marry and so they often raised families in the West and East Lodges respectively, with female domestic and catering staff, governesses or nursemaids all living in College at a time when student numbers were low due to the scarcity of rooms. In the mid-nineteenth century, therefore, there were often more young children running around the Domus than undergraduates! Women have been important figures in the day-to-day running of the College throughout its history. Female bedmakers and cooks worked alongside male ‘servants’ and gyps, often staying at Downing for decades. The first College Nurse, Sister Brady, was appointed in 1945 and remained at Downing for 23 years.

Although much is known – and celebrated – about recent female Fellows and Master’s wives, comparatively little was known about the significant women who lived in Downing before the 1970s. As in more recent years, they were often interesting and significant women in their own right who supported the College and were much loved by students and staff. Margaret Saunders, wife of Reverend Saunders (Tutor, 1877–1902, Chaplain and President of the Boat Club), lived in the East Lodge for 25 years. She is believed to have planted the wisteria which still grows in front of the building more than 100 years later and her *Griffin* obituary recorded that she jointly agreed with her husband to gift the land on which the Boathouse is now built in



**Mrs Violet Marsh at the Scout Rally hosted at Downing College in 1913**

Courtesy of the Cambridgeshire Collection, Cambridge Central Library

1895, making her possibly the earliest female benefactor of the College.

Across the College, Florence Maitland (later Lady Darwin) lived in the West Lodge from 1888 to 1906 with her husband, Professor of Law Frederic Maitland, raising their two daughters Ermengard and Fredegond. Florence was a first cousin of Virginia Woolf, the playwright and musician, and delighted the composer Tchaikovsky when he stayed with the family in West Lodge in 1893.

In the Master’s Lodge, Violet Marsh joined her husband Professor Howard Marsh (Master, 1907–15) in attending and hosting local meetings in support of the election of women to local governing bodies and became Patron of the 1st Cambridge Sea Scouts in 1913, becoming a ‘real mother’ to many during the war. Lady Ethel Whitby, wife of Sir Lionel Whitby (Master 1947–56), studied Medicine at Newnham from 1917. She assisted her husband during the Second World War when



**Ethel Whitby (far right) with Queen Mary on her visit to an Army Blood Transfusion Service, Bristol, 1940**

Courtesy of the Whitby family

he commanded the Army Blood Transfusion Service and may have been the first woman ever to gain a commission in the RAMC, rising to the rank of Major. Her successor in the Master’s Lodge, Adele Guthrie (wife of Professor Keith Guthrie, Master 1957–72), won one of four free passages to the UK in 1927 after gaining a double First in Classics in Melbourne, repeating this achievement in the Classical Tripos while at Newnham and gaining a starred First in Part II (matching her later husband’s own academic achievements).

Muriel and Agnes Kenny, daughters of Downing Professor of Law Courtney Stanhope Kenny, became the College’s first major female benefactors in the late 1950s. They had already funded the Kenny

Gate following the death of their father in 1930, but their generosity enabled the building of Kenny A and B in his memory in the early 1960s, when additional student accommodation was desperately needed.

**JENNY ULPH**  
College Archivist

Follow the Archive:

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The ‘40 Years of Women’ virtual archive exhibition is available to view on the College website at <http://bit.ly/40YOW-AE>.

<sup>1</sup> A new biography of the second Master of the College will be published soon: Mackenzie, Michael, *William Frere, Master of Downing College at Cambridge* (Birchquest), 223pp, £14. Please contact the author, Michael Mackenzie (michmack67@yahoo.co.uk, 01732 446167) to order a copy.



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## Senior Tutor's review

**THIS ACADEMIC YEAR** has been the strangest in living memory, even odder than the end of last year. Last Easter term we all knew that we must acutely adapt to the changed circumstances. This year has been much more about living with the Covid-19 and making sure that we do more than just get through the week, month or term. Rarely has anything been planned without an alternative scenario being considered and certainty in any aspect of College activity has been in short supply: not an easy transition in an institution for which the most reliable indicator of how things will be done is as they were the previous year. It has been challenging for students, staff, Fellows, parents, Directors of Studies, supervisors. It has been especially difficult for those juggling with different competing responsibilities, which in this context is almost everyone. The strain is apparent on every face now. At the same time, the network of micro-interactions, of bumping into people, of little chats that lift a mood or sort a problem, has been disrupted or – in the case of our new students – had difficulties in forming.

And yet, and yet. That is not the narrative that I will remember from the last 12 months. I will remember it more as being about what we have been able to do than what we could not and the memories that have been created as a result. The adaptations in systems and processes to enable College life to function have been notable and, in this, Downing has often been different from many other

Colleges. We have not predetermined that the year would be about denial. Of course, there has been a path to tread between necessary restrictions and we have had to find semantic routes through the differences between guidance, legislation and advice to encourage safe living and opening where possible, without prompting concern for those with less risk appetite. We have experimented with different ways of doing things, even where a poor autumn's weather did not help us: the Taverna (the outdoor replacement for the bar in place of the Fellows' carpark), the Amphitheatre (acting as our temporary theatre on the Paddock), matriculation (complete with drone group photograph), virtual Formal Halls as meal boxes (with Downing mints included in the packs), MCR seminars via Zoom and the socially distanced graduation events in July (with big screens showing the ceremony live) to name but a few. The Downing College Alumni Association sponsored a series of picnics on the Paddock in exam term, a gesture which was hugely appreciated by the student body.

Enforced though they were, some innovations may even survive our return to normal. One of our success metrics has been to hear comments that we should retain an activity even in normal times. For much of the year, the voice of the College that the students have heard has been that of the Assistant Bursar, Rob Beardwell, who has consistently set a tone of solidarity and clarity in his weekly bulletins, even where news has been



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“We all hope that next year will look more typical, but also that we take away some of the best from this period.”

unwelcome. Rob has the thankless task of bridging student and staff needs and concerns and that he and the other staff involved in the Covid-19 support team have managed to do this with humour and empathy, has added colour to what might otherwise have been officious. It has also been quite an induction for our new Senior Bursar, Gavin Flynn, whose good sense has been needed and appreciated throughout the year.

In January our new Head of Student Wellbeing, Dr Kate Daniels, joined the College. She has greatly enhanced our pastoral care offering in the College, co-ordinating and supporting the Nurses and Tutors and I know that many individual students have benefitted directly from her advice too. She is already proving an invaluable colleague. Tragically, within a few days of her arrival, her support was needed in the most difficult of circumstances as an undergraduate student, Bomin Choi, died in College. In Bomin's memory a tree has been planted opposite the Library and I hope this will be a place for her many friends to visit and remember her for years to come.

As last year, the format of exams was significantly affected by the pandemic with most students sitting them in their own rooms

and often as “open book” assessments. Despite some technical challenges, this process has mostly gone well for the students. Certainly, the exam results have been very strong. We have had 118 First Class results, which is a higher proportion than for many years, including some outstanding results. Rachel Caul came top of the Architecture Tripos across the University; 15 special prizes were awarded across the College for those with superlative Firsts in comparison with their cohort. In recognition of contribution to Music and the Arts, the Governing Body also awarded two Judy C Petty awards to Chris Hamilton and Kieran Agg. The Pilley Scholarship was awarded to Julian Torres-H-Bonilla.

We all hope that next year will look more typical, but also that we take away some of the best from this period. There certainly have been many positives, among the many negatives, to look to and forward from.

**GUY WILLIAMS**

## Senior Bursar's report

**IT'S BEEN QUITE** a start. Any preconceptions I may have had that the role of Senior Bursar at a Cambridge College was a little slow paced have been well and truly shattered.

The College has been through almost every permutation of lockdown during the last 12 months. We've operated in circumstances ranging from almost empty with a skeleton staff and less than 50 resident students, as described so eloquently in last year's report by the Assistant Bursar, through to almost normal occupancy and staffing with many activities starting to re-emerge while restrictions loosen as I write this today.

This constant change has been most unusual for an institution that is more used to a very stable environment. Many aspects of College life have been adversely affected. Most directly, our staff team has had to live with the uncertainty of furlough, the pressure of working through lockdown on site or working from home in difficult circumstances. Many have reduced hours or regrettably lost their jobs. Morale is starting to improve, but remains fragile. We have much to do to rebuild the sense of mission and engagement that once existed. The student experience has suffered extensively and, of course, you wouldn't expect the Bursar to summarise the list of concerns without reference to our finances. These have been hard hit and we have just submitted our 3rd year of a deficit income and expenditure statement for the 21/22 budget. Notwithstanding some enormously generous support from alumni, we have needed to spend some of our reserves to see us through. We anticipate



normal performance resuming from the start of next year as students return to residence more predictably and external income becomes more robust.

There have, though, been some positives. We have learned a lot about improving communications and linkages across teams and between students and staff. We have strengthened inter-Collegiate links and connections to the wider University with regular calls and updates. And, by necessity, I've learned a lot much more quickly than I might otherwise.

Attention is now turning to recovery and reigniting the energy and creativity that makes Downing thrive. Aside from the logistics and buzz of reopening, exciting challenges are ahead. Coming out of the pandemic, we have a chance to define what we stand for, rebuild our finances and invest where it matters most. I'm looking forward to spending my time answering these key questions. I look forward to sharing more positive news in my next update and meeting many of you in the coming months.

**GAVIN FLYNN**

## Development Director's report

**LAST YEAR WAS** one of many firsts. It was the first time many of us worked entirely from home, attempted home schooling and conducted our social lives entirely online. We learned how to Zoom, but still struggled with technology at times ("You're on mute!"). The College's first entirely virtual Alumni Day and Alumni Association AGM welcomed members from Singapore, the USA, Europe and the UK for a series of online events on topics ranging from climate change to art, to a virtual cheese and wine tasting. Members of the MCR showcased their research throughout the academic year in a series of webinars open to students and alumni. From these firsts, there is no doubt that we are now more comfortable in the virtual space and will continue to offer online and in-person events to the Downing community.

The Centre for Climate Repair at Cambridge, Downing, is rapidly extending its research to combat the threat of climate change.



It received a major boost this year of a £2.1 million commitment from Jamie Arnell (Law 1988) to establish a new Fellowship in Climate Repair, the holder of which will also teach Geography at Downing, and three fully funded PhD studentships.

The launch of the new Campaign for Downing will take place later this year when life will, we hope, be a little more certain. I would like to thank alumni and friends who responded to our Covid appeal and the Harding Challenge during the pandemic which helped to provide remote teaching, safe living and working spaces in College and student support for those in need. The Senior Tutor was able to invest in additional counselling hours and to employ a new Head of Student Wellbeing, Dr Kate Daniels, who joined us in January. Many of you responded to the Classics Appeal in honour of Dr Paul Millett, which will help teaching in this under-resourced area. We simply could not have provided the same experience for students over the last year without your help. Thank you.

We are looking forward to welcoming alumni back to College again for events, including the annual Alumni Association dinner in September. Our annual Advent Carol Service, led by the Chaplain with the Master and Chapel Choir, will take place in London on Thursday 2 December and will be followed by a reception. As ever, we enjoy hearing from you, so please keep in touch with us at [development@dow.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@dow.cam.ac.uk).

**JO FINNIE JONES**

# The Heong Gallery at 5

**THIS FEBRUARY**, in the midst of a global pandemic, the Gallery turned five. This milestone was the perfect time to recall everything that we have achieved over the last five years and to reinforce our commitment to the Downing community, Cambridge and beyond. It was also the perfect time to ask our friends – alumni, Fellows, patrons, and students – what the Gallery has meant to them. Their responses were compiled into a moving film by alumnus Alexander Lass. The film affirmed the important role that the Gallery plays in fostering creativity, wellbeing and a sense of community, all while striving for excellence in the quality of exhibitions and curation. On the Gallery pages of the College website, you can not only watch the film, but also read testimonials from alumni and staff and articles contributed by alumni to our exhibition catalogue.



Prerona Prasad

The pandemic closed our doors but opened up other avenues of connecting with audiences through a successful online programme. Student societies organised music and poetry performances, drawing and poetry workshops and a very special event with recent graduates exploring pathways to careers in the arts. On 15 March 2021, we collaborated with Kettle's Yard, The Fitzwilliam Museum, and Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam to livestream a performance by Syrian-born artist Issam Kourbaj. Performed in and streamed from The Howard Theatre, *Imploded, Burned, Turned to Ash* was the artist's personal commemoration of ten years of the conflict in Syria and has been viewed over 1200 times. In April 2021, we reconnected with artist Stuart Pearson Wright, two years after his ground-breaking exhibition *Halfboy* ended at the Gallery. The exhibition had been triggered by the artist's sense of loss at not knowing who his father was, but, two years on, Wright has not only found his father, but has developed a

"This milestone in the life of the Gallery was the perfect time to recall everything that we have achieved over the last five years and to reinforce our commitment to the Downing community, Cambridge and beyond."



Issam Kourbaj

"Performed in and streamed from The Howard Theatre, *Imploded, Burned, Turned to Ash* was the artist's personal commemoration of ten years of the conflict in Syria and has been viewed over 1200 times."

relationship with him. The conversation also covered major recent commissions and the making of art in a pandemic. A selection of videos of our online events is available on the Gallery YouTube channel.

2020 has been a year of pivoting, planning, and strategising. We look forward to seeing the results of our efforts starting this summer, when we open our exhibition of contemporary ceramics and glass from The Fitzwilliam Museum. *Of The Earth* celebrates the natural materials and forms that inspire Britain's leading makers. In addition to ceramics and

glass, the exhibition includes British abstract paintings inspired by landscapes – all from the collection of Downing alumnus Sir Alan Bowness (Modern Languages, 1950) given to The Fitzwilliam Museum in 2007. Sir Alan died in March 2021 and we are honoured to be able to showcase his generosity to the University and to Downing in our reopening exhibition.

With exhibitions in the pipeline until 2024, we have never been better placed to develop a programme of depth, variety, and academic interest. It is also a programme full of collaborations with museums, artists, academics, students, and alumni. We cannot wait to see you back at Downing and in the Gallery.

**PRERONA PRASAD**  
Exhibitions and Programming Manager

When permitted the Heong Gallery is open  
Wednesday to Sunday 10am–5pm



## John Gelhaar

The College was very saddened by the death earlier this year of John Gelhaar, Deputy Head Porter 1980–93 and Head Porter 1993–99. The former Vice Master, Paul Millett, writes:

**MOST CAMBRIDGE UNDERGRADUATES** would probably claim that their Porters are the best in the University. In the case of Downing, that may well be the case. Regularly, visitors to the College – including interviewees for places, supervisees and colleagues from other colleges, and conference attendees – comment spontaneously on the helpfulness and friendliness of those in the Porters’ Lodge. This culture of welcome and assistance is in large measure the creation of John Gelhaar, the legendary Deputy, then Head Porter of Downing for almost twenty years, who has died aged eighty-two.

↑ **John Gelhaar leads a graduation parade**

John’s philosophy of portering was positive and clear: how the Porters’ Lodge was effectively the frontline of the College, the crucial interface between Downing and the wider world, where first impressions much mattered. As he said, he wanted visitors to be greeted not with ‘What do you want?’, but ‘How can I help you?’ Through example and encouragement, he was able to establish this ethos as NFDP (Normal for Downing Porters), which has continued through to the present.

A big man in every way, John had an imposing presence, only enhanced by the traditional porter’s bowler. His natural demeanour and expression were of genial benevolence. That made the rare occasions when sternness was called for all the more effective. Here was one of John’s great qualities. Students inevitably come with all types of attitudes and behaviours on different occasions. John knew, seemingly instinctively, when some minor misdemeanour merited a few firm words rather than referral to the Dean. In doing so, he won the affection and respect of generations of students, while enjoying the complete confidence of the Fellowship, who were thankful that the everyday supervision of life in Downing was in such dependable hands.

John’s time in the Lodge coincided with the arrival of female students as members of the College. It is fair to say that he and his team (in those days, all male) adjusted superbly and were overall more involved than Senior Members in meeting and resolving the day-to-day consequences of this momentous change.

Here are a couple of personal reminiscences... John behind the desk in the Lodge, explaining to a somewhat haughty conference delegate, with great patience and commendable courtesy, that, in spite of their title, porters in Cambridge colleges did not have the function of carrying luggage to rooms... John playing in the Staff *versus* Fellows Cricket Match in the summer of 1984, smiting fifty-plus runs to gain the victory for his side, then enjoying afterwards a much deserved pint in the College Bar. Never did a man seem more contented, and rightly so.

Sadly, John’s last years were affected by Huntington’s disease. Those who knew him in his prime will not be surprised to learn that he confronted this challenge with great courage and humour, retaining to the end keen affection for, and sharp memories, of his time at Downing.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following information should be treated as provisional and is subject to the government's Covid-19 roadmap. Full details and booking will be posted online at [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/alumni-development](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/alumni-development) as they become available. All events are in College unless otherwise stated.

### 2021

Friday 24 September  
Year Reps' Meeting & Dinner

Saturday 25 September  
Alumni Day & Association Dinner

Saturday 23 October  
Memorial Service for Alan Howard

Thursday 2 December  
Advent Carol Service, followed by  
reception – The Church of St Andrew,  
Holborn, London

TBC Friday 20 May or Saturday 21 May  
MA Day & Dinner

Saturday 18 June  
Donors' Garden Party

Saturday 18 June  
DCBC May Bumps Marquee – Fen Ditton

Friday 2 September  
1970, 1971 and 1972 Reunion Dinner

Friday 23 September  
Year Reps' Meeting & Dinner

Saturday 24 September  
Alumni Day & Association Centenary Dinner

### 2022

Saturday 26 February  
Griffins' Dinner

Saturday 2 April  
Varsity Matches (150th anniversary of first  
Men's Varsity Match) – Venue TBC

Saturday 9 April  
Annual Reunion Dinner  
(pre-1958/1962/1972/1982/1992/2002/2012)

Friday 22 April  
Cranworth Centenary Dinner

Saturday 23 April  
Segreants' Regatta & Dinner



## VISITING CAMBRIDGE

### Visiting Downing

Former undergraduates or graduates at Downing are most welcome to visit the College. However, until all restrictions on access to the College have been lifted, it is advisable to contact the Porters' Lodge on 01223 334800. Limited parking is available.

### Alumni benefits

For details of alumni benefits, including dining and staying in College, and the benefits of holding a CAMCard, including free access to other Colleges, please visit [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development/benefits](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/alumni-and-development/benefits)

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

### Accessibility

While many of the older College rooms are not easy to access, those with mobility issues 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.





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## President's review

I TOOK ON the Presidency of the Alumni Association in September 2020, which marked the 40th year since women were first admitted to Downing in 1980. Putting this into historical context and rather more extraordinarily, it was only 33 years after women were first awarded a degree at the University of Cambridge (the first woman to receive a degree was the late Queen Mother who was awarded an honorary degree in 1948), although Girton, the first women's college at the University, had been founded 80 years earlier. Check out the online exhibition [www.cam.ac.uk/TheRisingTide](http://www.cam.ac.uk/TheRisingTide) for more background on the struggle to secure equal academic treatment for women at Cambridge.

When I matriculated, studied and rowed at the University, I reflect how little I was aware of the proximity of the battle that had gone before to make this possible and how happily and seemingly naturally we appeared to be integrated into Downing. This year has seen the amalgamation of the men's and women's University Boat Clubs into one club; for the current students, this is the most natural thing in the world, but there too were huge hurdles to overcome, even in the 21st century.

Due to Covid, I have largely been a virtual President; there have been benefits of this, such as not having to hit the M11 on a Saturday morning to get to Cambridge for Association meetings in person and Zoom very thoughtfully providing everyone's name

which was of great assistance when chairing Association meetings. This was tempered by none of us being able to meet in person and College having to cancel its face-to-face alumni events. One additional benefit was that by conducting last year's Association AGM by Zoom and having Zoom events on Alumni Weekend, more of us were able to attend than is usually the case and we plan to continue to facilitate remote access to the AGM even when we are permitted to meet in person. The disruption to our interaction with Downing, however, pales into insignificance when compared to the disruption to student and academic life at the University, with the vast majority of students not having been resident in College for much of the last year and when resident not experiencing full College life as we experienced it. In response to this we have made available increased funding from the Association to the student hardship fund and sponsored "Picnics on the Paddock" as outdoor socially distanced social events this term.

The landscape in which the Alumni Association now operates has changed enormously. This results from the growth and funding of the Downing Development Office by the College alongside the revolution of electronic mail and social media. The Development Office will take over production of the Downing College Magazine from September 2021. Apart from this, though, it would appear to me that the



objectives of the Downing College Alumni Association remain as valid and relevant as ever. We have a working group discussing the relationship and roles of the Association, the College and the Development Office with the Master and Director of Development; the aim is to produce a Memorandum of Understanding between the College and the Association to reflect our distinct roles. The outcome of these discussions will be shared with alumni.

Simon Walker, current Association Secretary, steps down in September, having completed his four-year term. His role includes editing the Downing College Magazine and we are all very grateful to Simon for his enormous contribution to the Association. He will be proposed at the 2021 AGM as Life Vice President and as President of the Association in 2023–24. Charles Harpum (1972), is now President Elect, due to be elected President for 2021–22 at the 2021 AGM. I am delighted that Barry Everitt has agreed to be President of the Association for the year 2022–23, when the Association will celebrate its centenary. Kate Dyer (1982) is standing down as Chair of the Merchandising Working Group after 7 years to be replaced by Sharon Gimson (1998). Gareth Davies (1971), Harriet Groom

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"My personal hope is that the Association facilitates our interaction as alumni with each other and with current students, that it evolves to remain relevant and beneficial and that it reflects the entirety of the Downing alumni both old and young."

(2001) and Georgina Erangey (2009), have completed their terms as members of the Executive Committee. We are grateful to them for all they have done for the Association.

My personal hope is that the Association facilitates our interaction as alumni with each other and with current students, that it evolves to remain relevant and beneficial and that it reflects the entirety of Downing alumni both old and young. If the current Association modus operandi is not working for you and your cohort at Downing, then let us know how we can better engage with you – such as by linking up remotely or in person, with a focus on geography or shared interests as well as within year groups. Feel free to suggest ways in which the Association could connect alumni better and do attend the next annual meeting and dinner on 25 September either in person or virtually.

KATE PANTER (1981)

## President-elect's introduction



**WHEN I CAME** up to Downing College in 1972 to read Law, it was the beginning of an adventure that would lead me into three distinct legal careers. Those were heady times for Law at Downing. Thanks to John Hopkins, Downing attracted some remarkably able Law students who subsequently went on to achieve the highest distinction in the legal profession and elsewhere.

In October 1977, with two Law degrees and the Bar Exams behind me, I commenced my first legal career, as a Law Fellow of Downing College. I taught Property Law and was soon a University Lecturer in the Law Faculty as well. In addition to John Hopkins, my colleagues were initially David Lloyd Jones and then Graham Virgo. In the years that followed, I taught hundreds of Law students and was taught a great deal myself by them. Many of my closest friends were once students who had the dubious privilege of studying Law with me.

A career change came on 1 January 1994. The Lord Chancellor appointed me to be one of the five Law Commissioners for England and Wales, a post I held until June 2001. The Law Commission is the Government's London-based law reform agency. I was head of the Property and Trust Law Team. Those years were immensely stimulating. Projects were subject to the cut and thrust

of criticism by my fellow Commissioners. I learned how legislation was crafted: working with Parliamentary Counsel was a humbling experience. Almost all of the projects which my Team undertook were subsequently enacted by Parliament. I remained a Fellow of Downing during my time at the Commission, teaching for the College on Saturday mornings. In June 2001, I left Downing, but was made an Emeritus Fellow of the College.

I then practiced at the Bar in the leading land law set in London, Falcon Chambers, where I remained until I retired in 2018. I built up a practice involving complex and arcane points of land law, often with a large historical element. I was lucky enough to appear in the Supreme Court once in a case concerning shifting sandbanks and ancient fishing rights. To my great surprise, I was made an Honorary QC in 2018, just before I retired.

It is a great privilege to be asked to be President of the Association, particularly as Downing and its alumni have been such a significant part of my life.

CHARLES HARPUM (1972)

Downing College Alumni Association

## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

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**THE COMPETITION** theme was "Forty Years On". The chosen theme reflected the fact that 2020 was the 40th anniversary of women undergraduates being admitted to Downing, but due to Covid-19 the theme has been recycled to 2021. It was up to the entrants to use their skill and creativity in interpreting the theme. It was suggested that the topics entrants might like to consider were, for example: – "How women have integrated into the College"; "Downing – an inclusive community"; "How the Domus has changed". This was quite a challenging theme that required the entrants to think outside the box.

The judges were Professor Chris Haniff (Fellow in Physics), Vicki Ambery-Smith (designer and wife of the Master) and Neville Tait (Associate Fellow Emeritus and competition organiser). Keeping score and ensuring fair play was the Association Secretary, Simon Walker. 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.

Unfortunately, there was only one entrant this year, Caitlin Bones, who submitted five images. The disappointing number of entries is perhaps understandable in view of the restrictions imposed on College life by Covid-19 combined with a particularly challenging theme. Caitlin's images matched the brief in every respect, but two images in particular caught the judges' eye.

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"This was quite a challenging theme that required the entrants to think outside the box."

## PRIZE WINNERS



### 1st Prize

#### “Virtual Christmas Formal 2020”

This image is a stark reminder of how the Christmas formal for 2020 adapted in the Covid-19 era to being a ‘formal in a box’ that students had to prepare at home. Pictured are the raw ingredients supplied by the College after unboxing. An undergraduate 40 years ago would have been puzzled by the presence of lists of ingredients including such things as ‘gluten’, ‘soya’ and ‘sulphites’ in the menu, while the reference to ‘Zoom’ would have been totally incomprehensible.



### Highly Commended

#### “Looking across the Domus to “S” Staircase”

This image taken across the Domus looking towards S staircase says a lot about changes over the past 40 years. First of all, hidden behind the door, is the MCR which has been closed to students for most of the pandemic. Secondly, rising above and behind the East Lodge, is Battcock Lodge which did not exist 40 years ago. Thirdly, sticking up between the buildings you can just see the final remains of the magnificent Blue Atlas cedar tree which has had to be felled very recently due to disease.

# ALUMNI STUDENT FUND

SET UP IN 2005, the Alumni Student Fund provides grants to help students facing hardship meet some of their day-to-day financial pressures. As such, it is a real and immediate way in which alumni can, through the Alumni Association, make a significant difference to the lives of current students. That need has never been greater than during this last year. The Fund is supported primarily by profits from sales of merchandise generated both at events and online, thanks to the efforts of volunteers from the Association. Downing-related items for sale range from ties and socks to artwork and engraved glassware.

The Association is also fortunate to have benefitted from the generosity of two renowned artists – alumnus Sir Quentin Blake and internationally known silversmith, Vicki Ambery-Smith, who have both created exclusive designs for sale in support of the Fund. Recent additions include Sir Quentin's signed limited edition Griffin print, Vicki's hand-finished silver cufflinks and her silk scarf commemorating the 40th anniversary of the admission of women (see above). We

All these items and more are available via the Downing Gifts website at [www.downing-gifts.com](http://www.downing-gifts.com)



have also made a selection of photographs from the annual Photographic Competition available as electronic files for download.

Income from sales this year has been badly affected by our inability to continue with most normal sales activities, especially at College events, but nevertheless the Fund has provided grants to 71 students totaling £6,847. All grants are approved by Tutors who regard the support the Fund gives to students as extremely important. The Association has also sponsored picnics during May for both undergraduates and postgraduates in an attempt to boost morale during the coronavirus restrictions.

In addition to sales, donations to the Fund 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 who will be able to advise you of similar funds that have been established to which donations might be made on a tax efficient basis.

## The Association

THE ASSOCIATION'S ROLE is to facilitate contact between alumni and to disseminate information about the College and its members. The Editor is always pleased to receive information or articles for publication, either in the form of a short biographical note or a fuller, reflective article on your career. Details of awards, honours, appointments, publications, performances, marriages and births can be found in Magenta News. Please do come to events organised by the Development Office and if you are thinking about organising a reunion – the Development Office will be pleased to advise.



You can contact the Association 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)

The members of the Association's Executive Committee, the Rules of the Association, the Draft Minutes of the 2020 AGM and back copies of the *Newsletter and Magazine* (excluding *Magenta News*) can be found by going to the Association website (above) and choosing 'About us'. *Magenta News* may be accessed by logging in and using the Development Office link [www.downingcambridge.com/magenta-news](http://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)

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"The Editor is always pleased to receive information or articles for publication, either in the form of a short biographical note or a fuller, reflective article on your career."



# FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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## THE FELLOWSHIP

Details of members of the Fellowship, College Lecturers and College Teaching Associates can be found at [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/fellows-directory](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/people/fellows-directory)

Details of Directors of Studies can be found at [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate-study/study-downing/directors-studies](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate-study/study-downing/directors-studies)

## New Fellows

**MICHAEL ASHBY** has joined the College as the Williams-Downing Fellow in Economics. His research area is in empirical finance and portfolio construction. Current projects look at the usefulness of publicly available short sale information for portfolio construction and the gain to accounting for data uncertainty when using predictive information to construct portfolios. He has been working temporarily as a Research Associate at the Centre for Healthcare Leadership and Enterprise at the Judge Business School, helping to build data-driven models to forecast the short-term evolution of the coronavirus pandemic. This work has been feeding in directly to Public Health England, NHS East of England and local authorities.



Michael joined Downing immediately on completing his PhD at Peterhouse, but was not entirely new to the College, having been a College Teaching Associate before starting as a full Fellow, and (unusually for a PhD student) having been directing studies in Economics since the sad passing of Dr Alex Morris in October 2019.

“His research area is in empirical finance and portfolio construction.”



**JUSTIN DAVIES** became Director of Studies for Clinical Medicine at Downing in 2016 and has, more recently, been elected a Fellow in Clinical Medicine. Following undergraduate and postgraduate medical training at Downing, and winning a Blue in rugby union in 1994, he completed his surgical training in Cambridge, Bristol and Toronto. He was appointed as a consultant surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital in 2007, where he now also serves as Deputy Medical Director. This role has meant that he is actively involved in managing the hospital's response to the challenge of Covid-19.

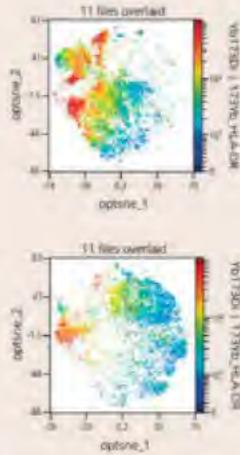
Justin's main clinical interests include the surgical treatment of colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel disease and his Master of Surgery higher degree from the University of Cambridge was awarded in relation to his research on molecular advances in bowel cancer screening. He won the Patey Prize and John of Arderne Medal for this work. He maintains an ongoing clinical research programme, publishing over 150 papers on these and other topics, and he is an Associate Lecturer at the University of Cambridge. He has introduced a teaching programme on professionalism to the first-year medical students at Downing, in collaboration with several other Directors of Studies and this educational work has recently been published. He has held several national leadership roles, including with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland.

Justin lives in Cambridge with his wife and two sons.

**WILLIAM DAY** returned to College as a Fellow in October 2020, having graduated from undergraduate study in law in 2012 and become a Bye-Fellow in 2018. He combines his Fellowship with practice at the bar, specialising in commercial law. His teaching and research interests are also in commercial law, broadly conceived. In November 2020, William edited a collection of essays, with Sarah Worthington, to mark the retirement of Lord Sumption from the Supreme Court (*Challenging Private Law*), which itself has already been cited by the Supreme Court in a subsequent judgment on piercing the corporate veil. William himself wrote chapters on contract variation and, with Sarah Worthington, proprietary restitution. He is currently writing papers on undisclosed agency, for a conference on commercial intermediaries, and contractual interpretation, for a research handbook on the philosophy of contract law. He is also organising (with Louise Merrett) a conference on landmark cases in private international law, to be held in 2022.



**NEDA FARAHİ** was appointed as a Fellow in Biological Sciences in October 2020. She is a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Medicine and her research focuses on the role of innate immune cells in respiratory diseases. Last year, she published several articles in the following journals: *Thorax*, *Haematologica*, *The Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The Journal of Leukocyte Biology*. During the national lockdowns she spent her time researching the immune response in patients with Covid-19 and also helping the international REMAP-CAP trial to evaluate the use of blood plasma as a treatment in critically ill Covid-19 patients. Neda is also Director of Studies for Part IB and Part II Natural Sciences (Biological) students at Downing. She supervised her students remotely this year, but looks forward, hopefully, to returning to in-person teaching in October.

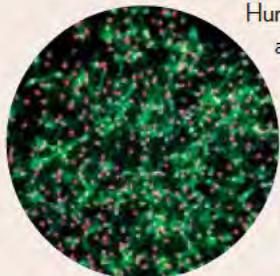


**High-dimensional single-cell immune profiling in patients with Covid-19**

**BJOERN NEUMANN** joined Downing in October as the new Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellow. Bjoern is fascinated by the ability of animals like axolotls and planarian flatworms to regenerate injured and even entirely lost body parts. It was the pursuit of understanding this phenomenon that brought him to Cambridge for his PhD. Since then, his work has centred around the detrimental effects of ageing on adult brain stem cells and their consequences for regeneration in chronic diseases, such as multiple sclerosis. Motivated to understand the mechanisms behind ageing, his current research focuses on why different species age at different rates. Using brain stem cells, he tries to shed light on the molecular underpinnings of why mice develop and age faster than humans.



Hunting for a molecular (ageing) clock, he uses genetic engineering to artificially speed up the development of human cells and slow that of mouse cells. He hopes that findings from his research will one day translate into means to efficiently interfere with the ageing process and speed up the generation of human cells for transplantation therapies. He is also very much enjoying contributing and participating in College life.



**Fluorescent microscope image of Oligodendrocyte Progenitor Cells (Brain Stem Cells), labelled in green and red**



**DEE SCADDEN** gained her 1st degree in Biochemistry at the University of Otago, New Zealand, and a PhD in the Biochemistry Department here in Cambridge, where she is now a Senior Lecturer and Director of Teaching. In her role as Director of Technology Enabled Learning in the School of Biological Sciences, she has contributed a huge amount to the development of digital teaching and learning over recent years. This experience has, of course, been of enormous value over the past months, and Dee has been in great demand. She was awarded the inaugural Biochemical Society Teaching Excellence Award in 2018; the inaugural Technology Enabled Learning Prize in STEM, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Centre for Teaching and Learning in 2019; and a Pilkington Prize for Teaching Excellence this year. Her research interests have largely focused on RNA editing in mammalian cells; a process which has far reaching implications in both gene expression and stress responses.

“...she has contributed a huge amount to the development of digital teaching and learning over recent years.”

**LUCY WHELAN** has joined the College as the Graham Robertson Research Fellow. Her work centres on twentieth-century art in France and Germany and she is interested in finding new perspectives on artistic modernism – particularly as they connect to questions of visual perception, time, the process of making and the relationship between nature and culture. Her recent work focuses on the French painter Pierre Bonnard and this year she has been finalising her book on the artist that is forthcoming in spring 2022. Her publications over the last year include an essay on Bonnard and his wife Marthe, published in the Burlington Magazine. She is looking forward to beginning new projects while at Downing and is currently researching artists who worked during and after the Second World War, beginning with the sculptor Germaine Richier.



## Reports from Fellows

**ZOE BARBER** took on the role of Vice Master at the start of the academic year and is enjoying a greater involvement with College administration and interactions. It's been a difficult year for many students (Zoe has been acting as Director of Studies for all of the 1st year Natural Scientists) and she has learned a great deal about just how much student support is available through the College. It is hoped that next year will bring face-to-face meetings, in-person teaching and the opportunity to meet with and get to know the wider College community.

**MONICA MORENO FIGUEROA** will end a 4-year role as University Race Equality and Inclusion Champion at the end of the Easter Term 2021. She is currently competing for a USD\$20m grant in the *RacialEquity2030* call of the W K Kellogg Foundation. The project aims to support the leadership of Black and Indigenous women in four countries in Latin America, via anti-racist laboratories in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico. This work will develop and strengthen women's thinking and interventions to tackle everyday, institutional and structural forms of racism. The process of putting this application together has been very productive in itself, so that it is a win already, whatever the outcome. Here is the team's application website and video: <https://www.collectiveracialhealing.org>

With colleague, Prof. Peter Wade, Monica presented the paper *Inflections of Anti-Racism in Latin America* with some key results of their project: *Latin American Anti-racism in a 'Post-Racial' Age* (LAPORA;

<https://www.lapora.sociology.cam.ac.uk>). They discussed this work in three different seminar series:

- *Race and Racism in the Global South* event series at Kings College London: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/events/series/race-and-racism-in-the-global-south>
- CEDLA: *Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation* seminar series at the University of Amsterdam: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfP\\_d1TGMP0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfP_d1TGMP0)
- Department of Sociology research seminar series at the London School of Economics: <https://www.lse.ac.uk/sociology/events/research-seminar-series/inflections-of-anti-racism-in-latin-america>

Invitations this year have included that from the Embassy of Mexico in the United Kingdom to commemorate International Women's Day, in an event with two other prominent Mexican academics, speaking about *Women, Sexism and Racism: Thinking of Intersectionality in Society and Academia*. <https://www.facebook.com/Embamexru/videos/2128598990615840>. She was also invited by New York University Abu Dhabi to speak at a panel / webinar event entitled *Race in Global Perspective* as part of their *Race, Diversity and the Learning Community* series. This panel brought together four scholars of race as it plays out in Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa for a conversation moderated by Prof. Ann Morning, on the global reach of the Black Lives Matter movement which has spurred reflection on race, racism and anti-Blackness around the world. Other guests were Yasuko Takezawa, Professor, Institute for Research

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“This work will develop and strengthen women's thinking and interventions to tackle everyday, institutional and structural forms of racism.”

in Humanities, Kyoto University; Mathias Möschel, Head of Department and Associate Professor, Department of Legal Studies, and Chair of the Human Rights Program, Central European University; and Faisal Abualhassan, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of History, Johns Hopkins University: <https://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/events/2021/march/race-in-global-perspective.html>

Together with Dr Jose Espericueta, and with the moderation of Dr Pedro Gonzalez, Monica led the Annual Race Workshop, entitled *Conversations on Mestizaje, Transculturation and Anti-Black Racism in Latin America*, hosted by the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas (March 2021).

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**IAN JAMES** was invited to participate in two online public discussions relating to the Covid pandemic: “*The Scattered Community of the Eclipsed Paradigms of Belonging in the Wake of the 2020 Pandemic*”, Birkbeck Research in Aesthetics of Kinship and Community (BRAKC), June 2020; and “Jean-Luc Nancy at BRAKC”, in a discussion with Jean-Luc Nancy, on Community and the Coronavirus, Birkbeck College, December 2020.

He has also published one book chapter: “On Open Community” in *Continental Perspectives on Community: Human*

*Coexistence from Unity to Plurality*; Chantal Bax and Gert-Jan van der Heiden (eds.), New York: Routledge, pp. 15–28. Ian's book, *The Technique of Thought* (previously featured in this Magazine), was one of six books shortlisted for the 2020 Society for French Studies Gapper Book Prize.

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**EWAN JONES** has been awarded a Leverhulme Fellowship for 2021/22, on the topic of *Close Reading as Attentional Practice*. He has published a reflection on teaching during the pandemic: *How to Learn, Together, Alone*; *Critical Inquiry*, 47.S2 (Winter 2021), 123–126.

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**SARAH KENNEDY** has a new chapter forthcoming in *Elizabeth Bishop in Context* (Cambridge University Press, July 2021), edited by Angus Clegghorn and Jonathan Ellis. This chapter, *Florida*, explores the poet's relationship with the fluid geography of the Florida Keys: “With imagination and precision, this first-rate collection of essays explores the varied contexts – geographical, familial, historical, artistic, intellectual, social, cultural and political – that influenced Elizabeth Bishop's literary career. ... This book is a must-read for readers new to Bishop and for those that thought they knew her.” —Susan Rosenbaum, University of Georgia.

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“This chapter, *Florida*, explores the poet's relationship with the fluid geography of the Florida Keys...”

**AMY MILTON** has been using her sabbatical to continue her research into memory reconsolidation and has recently been working collaboratively with Professor Trevor Robbins on a new rodent model of checking behaviour in obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). She has published several articles in journals such as *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, *Current Opinion in Pharmacology* and *Nature Neuroscience*. She has also spoken at a number of (virtual) international meetings, including the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies biennial meeting and moderated a session on epigenetics and memory at the Society for Neuroscience's Global Connectome. She has recently taken up a Section Editor position for the journal *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior* and has been appointed as the General Secretary to the European Behavioural Pharmacology Society from July 2021.

**NICK RAWLINSON**, BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences, was elected Vice President (Geophysics) of the Royal Astronomical Society for 2021–2023. The last year has proven to be immensely challenging for international fieldwork, which is a core part of his research. Experiments in Australia and Indonesia have been delayed due to travel restrictions, and local collaborators have had to step in and undertake the deployment of seismometers and the collection of data. One exception was Iceland, where fieldwork turned out to be feasible. Together with his team of PhD students and Postdocs, Nick was able to travel into the Highlands in August 2020 and download crucial data from around volcanoes such as Askja and Bárðarbunga. His team also deployed seismic stations near the recent eruption site on the Reykjanes Peninsula.

**IAN ROBERTS** gave online courses 'in' Beijing and Verona, as well as conference papers 'in' Bled (Croatia), Siena and, interestingly, as keynote speaker at the 10th International Conference on Ancient Chinese Grammar. He also gave an invited talk 'at' the University of Arizona in Tucson. And all from the comfort of his own home!

**FRISBEE SHEFFIELD** was recently awarded a CRASSH\* Crausaz Wordsworth Interdisciplinary Fellowship in Philosophy which she will be taking up in January 2022. She will be working on a project exploring how Plato is a source of inspiration for some of Hannah Arendt's central ideas, particularly on the relationship between dialogue, thinking, and ethics, which is central to Arendt's analysis of political evil.

(\*The University's Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities.)

the old ways of examining and will be adopting different modes of assessment.

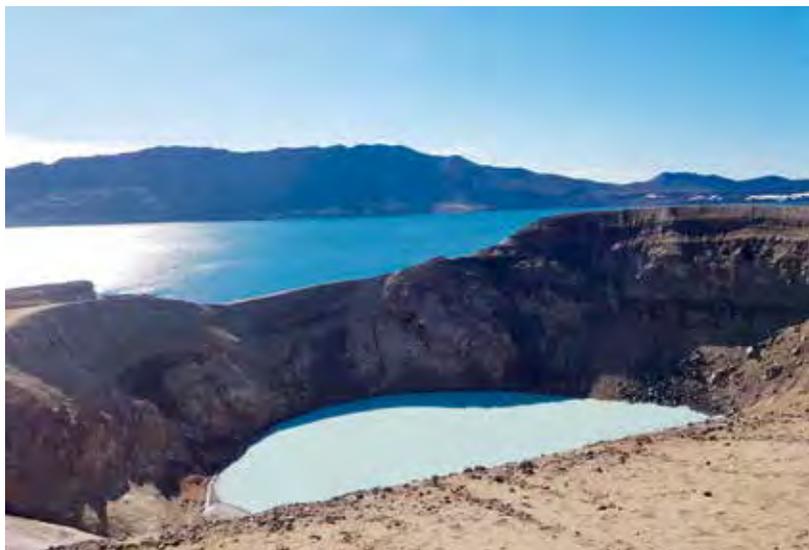
Graham has also been leading on the launch of Cambridge Advance Online, a partnership between Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Assessment and the academic university, to deliver a range of online courses. In addition, mental health and wellbeing provision throughout the Collegiate University is being reviewed and the Foundation Year has been launched: Graham is delighted that Downing will be admitting Foundation Year students from October 2022.

He has had some time for academic work and publications include: *The Principles of Equity and Trusts* (4th ed., 2020, OUP); 'Unjust Enrichment' in *Challenging Private Law: Lord Sumption on the Supreme Court* (eds. Worthington and Day, Ch. 10, 2020, Hart); 'A Taxonomy of Defences in Restitution' in *Research Handbook on Unjust Enrichment and Restitution* (eds. Bant, Barker and Degeling, Ch. 20, 2020, Edward Elgar Publishing).

Over the last year **GRAHAM VIRGO** has been fully involved in the University's response to the pandemic and its recovery programme as Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education). He has been leading on the University's shift to remote examination and assessment and teaching and learning, whilst also considering what teaching and examination will look like in the future. What the pandemic has shown, is the vital importance of a residential education in Cambridge and all that this involves, as well as the desire for students to have in-person teaching. However, there are plans for greater use of digital education to support that teaching. Many parts of the University will not be returning to

**DAVID WALES** received the 2020 Humboldt Research Prize, awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

“What the pandemic has shown, is the vital importance of a residential education in Cambridge and all that this involves, as well as the desire for students to have in-person teaching.”

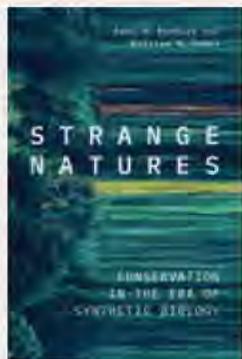


Askja caldera, featuring Öskjuvatn lake in the background and Víti geothermal lake in the foreground. Askja is located in the Northern Volcanic Zone of Iceland

Courtesy of Nick Rawlinson

## Reports from Emeritus Fellows

**BILL ADAMS's** book *Strange Natures: Conservation in the Era of Synthetic Biology*, co-written with Kent Redford, was published by Yale University Press in June 2021.



**MARGERY BARRAND** has had a number of articles published recently. Having been a lab-based scientist, on retirement she gradually gave up experimental work, but has continued to explore her research field by writing reviews together with her colleague, co-worker and co-author of long standing, Stephen Hladky. Three of their most recent papers are:

Hladky, S. B. and Barrand, M. A. (2019). Metabolite clearance during wakefulness and sleep. *Sleep-Wake Neurobiology and Pharmacology*. Eds H.-P. Landolt and D.-J. Dijk. Cham, Switzerland, Springer Nature Switzerland. Handbook of Experimental Pharmacology 253: 385-423.

Hladky, S. B. and Barrand, M. A. (2019). Is solute movement within the extracellular spaces of brain gray matter brought about primarily by diffusion or flow? A commentary

on "Analysis of convective and diffusive transport in the brain interstitium" *Fluids and Barriers of the CNS* (2019) 16:6 by L. Ray, J.J. Illiff and J.J. Heys. *Fluids and Barriers of the CNS* 16 (1): 24.

Hladky, S. B. and Barrand, M. A. (2021) (in press)). Cerebrospinal and interstitial fluids: production, outflow and circulation. *Intrathecal Drug Delivery: A Comprehensive Text*. Eds T. L. Yaksh and S. Hayek. Cham, Switzerland, Springer. [Submitted 2019].

**BILL CLYNE**, shortly after his official retirement from the University in October 2019, became a full-time employee of a start-up company based in Cambridge, Plastometrex Ltd (PLX). Its business model involves selling facilities (hardware and associated software) for a novel type of mechanical testing (of metals). This is largely based on research carried out in his research group over the past couple of decades. Most of this work is published – see, for example, the following recent papers:

<https://doi.org/10.1002/adem.202001478>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mtla.2021.101017>

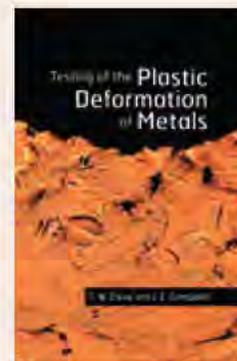
<https://doi.org/10.1002/adem.202001496>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actamat.2019.02.006>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actamat.2018.05.043>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mechmat.2018.06.004>

PLX has laboratories on the Science Park and, as Chief Scientific Officer of the firm, Bill supervises ongoing research and development related to its current and projected products. The firm has made significant recent progress. It currently has about 10 employees and has sold about



10 machines in the 6-month period since commercial sales began. PLX is supported by a strategic investor (Element Materials Technology Group), which has a strong position in the materials testing sector (6,000 employees in 200 laboratories).

Effectively part of this development has been the recent production and publication of a new book that was published in May 2021: *Testing of the Plastic Deformation of Metals*, by T.W. Clyne and J.E. Campbell and published by Cambridge University Press (ISBN: 9781108943369). The book covers both conventional testing techniques and novel procedures, including the one developed by PLX.

**DAVID FELDMAN** devoted the year principally to efforts not to get Covid-19, but that left time for a good deal of research (necessarily mainly on-line) and writing. He was Consultant Editor for a new (eighth) edition of *Bennion, Bailey and Norbury on Statutory Interpretation*, published by Lexis Nexis Butterworths in 2020. Also in 2020, he published two articles in the journal *Judicial Review*, 'Counter-infection methods and ECHR Article 5' on the right to liberty and the Covid regulations, and 'Prerogative powers,

constitutional principles and legal wrongs: constitutional implications of the prorogation judgment', trying to work out where the Supreme Court's judgment in the second *Miller* case has affected the constitution.

A tribute to the late Lord Justice Laws, who, among other roles, was the A. L. Goodhart Visiting Professor of Legal Science in the University in 2012–17, appeared in the journal *Public Law*. A largely historical paper, 'Changing boundaries: crime, punishment and public law' formed chapter 12 of Jason N. E. Varuhas and Shona Wilson Stark (eds), *The Frontiers of Public Law* (Bloomsbury/Hart), and 'Political practice and constitutional change' appeared as chapter 12 of *Routledge Handbook of Comparative Constitutional Change*, edited by Xonophon Contiades and Alkmene Fotiadou.

In the early months of 2021, David wrote a blog post on a technical aspect of the EU Withdrawal Agreement, 'Departing from retained EU case law', UK Constitutional Law Blog (11 January 2021), accessible at <https://ukconstitutionallaw.org/2021/01/11/david-feldman-departing-from-retained-eu-case-law>. Of perhaps wider interest, he provided (with Nigel Fleming QC) an extended Preface to Sir John Laws's posthumously published *The Constitutional Balance* (Hart Publishing). Finally, he published a paper exploring the persistently fraught subject of judges' treatment of statutory provisions seeking to exclude the jurisdiction of courts over executive or administrative acts and decisions: 'Anismic in retrospect', in TT Arvind *et al.* (eds), *Executive Decision-Making and the Courts: Revisiting the Origins of Modern Judicial Review* (Hart Publishing), pp. 115–137.

In between these activities, David has been helping to supervise two PhD students and responding (in a personal capacity and as a member of the Cambridge Centre for

Public Law) to consultations on reform of administrative law, reform of the Human Rights Act 1998 and departing from retained EU case law, as well as learning new life skills (using Zoom, Teams and other platforms for teaching and meetings) and catching up via the Internet with old friends and colleagues whom he had not seen for far too long. Meeting in two dimensions, while not as good as meeting in three, is better than not meeting at all.

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PAUL LINDEN has been pretty busy with Covid work. He co-led a group working on Environmental and Aerosol Transmission as part of the Royal Society's 'Rapid Assistance with Modelling the Pandemic' (RAMP). This was a pro bono activity involving over 50 scientists and engineers across the UK. Their work was fed into SAGE and a summary of findings were published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society see <https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/Health%20and%20wellbeing/ramp>.

He is also leading a project 'Tackling Air Pollution At School' (TAPAS) funded by NERC which is concerned with the relation between indoor and outdoor pollution in classrooms – see <https://tapasnetwork.co.uk> and also lead a project on Covid Transmission Risk Assessment case Studies – Education Establishments (CO-TRACE) funded by UKRI, again focused on schools. A website has been developed providing advice for teachers – see <https://www.coschools.org.uk>.

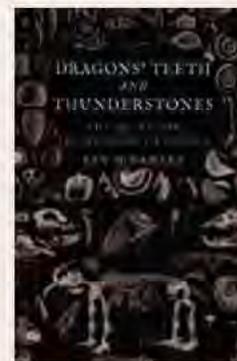
KEN MCNAMARA has been writing a book about rocks. With a tentative title of *Rocks: Unearthing the Underworld* it aims to promote the fascinating story that rocks have to tell about past environments. It deals with rather unfashionable sedimentary rocks, like limestone and sandstone, but shows that as well as providing insights into past climates, ecosystems and environments, the vast majority of these rocks owe their formation to the activity of many types of organisms: animals, plants, fungi, bacteria and viruses. The book was commissioned by Reaktion Books with whom he had a book published in October 2020 dealing with the half-a-million-year history of people's fossil-collecting habits. Titled *Dragons' Teeth and Thunderstones: the Quest for the Meaning of Fossils*, the book highlights how fossils were actively collected by four different species of *Homo* and how a fascination with their aesthetic attributes may have been the catalyst for human artistic expression.

Another significant publication in 2020, co-authored with his wife, Sue Radford, deals with one of the 'minor' 19th century geologists, James Tennant, who was Professor in Geology at King's College, London, Mineralogist to Queen Victoria and dealer in minerals and fossils. His personal collection of fossils ended

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"He is also leading a project 'Tackling Air Pollution At School' (TAPAS) funded by NERC which is concerned with the relation between indoor and outdoor pollution in classrooms."

up being sent to Western Australia in 1896. The paper is the first comprehensive account of Tennant and of his fossil collection, said to be one of the most important made in England during the 19th century. The paper was published in volume 35 of *Studies in Western Australian History*. For details see <https://search.informit.org/doi/abs/10.3316/informit.503276572310434>



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TREVOR ROBBINS had one of his busiest schedules in 2019, taking in major keynote lectures at the Chinese and Nordic Neuroscience Societies and at Cairns, Australia for the International Behavioural Neuroscience Society. However, despite lockdown in 2020 he did manage to give several major virtual lectures by Zoom, convened a large international debate at the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies, Biennial Meeting (on the topic of which types of brain are best studied by neuroscience) and gave a live lecture at the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society (just before lockdown) on our "Mysterious Frontal Lobes". He is also continuing his Wellcome Trust funded research into the neurocognitive basis of impulsive-compulsive

disorders (drug addiction and OCD) with his various virtual research teams – and somehow has still managed to write up research for publication in prestigious journals such as *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*, *Biological Psychiatry* and *Science Advances*.

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DICK TAPLIN, in retrospect, has concluded that careers advice in schools is sadly lacking. As he has observed: 'In the past 20 years, I have been Junior Bursar for Downing, a University Proctor for 5 years, latterly a town councillor and – until last week – town mayor for 2 years. None of these occupations were even suggested to me while at school, but all have given me great pleasure. That said, the Covid-19 pandemic made the last mayoral year very different, with one's focus turning from external representation to internal coordination and leadership. In order to support our 9,000+ community, I established a cellular reporting and support structure, with Street Coordinators each responsible for monitoring and assisting around 25 neighbours and an overarching group providing additional help. We obtained grants from the county council and directed specific requests for assistance or food to our local Foodbank and Timebank. Now, as the pandemic recedes, I am taking more of a back seat, spending time railway modelling, and Nan and I are looking forward to the reopening of international travel.'

# Obituary

The last year has seen the passing of five alumni who through their achievements or contributions to the College were elected to the Fellowship. Obituaries for Michael Apted CMG, Gary Blankenship, Sir Alan Bowness, Hugh Brammer OBE and George Pullman QC, together with alumnus Professor Roy Norman, a teaching fellow 1952–1962, can be found in the alumni obituaries section.

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**ROY ALBERT WISBEY**, Fellow from 1959 to 1971, died on 21 October 2020, aged 91. His friend and colleague, Professor Jeremy Adler, writes:

Roy revolutionised the study of modern languages by pioneering the field of digital humanities, which is now fundamental to research in the area. He founded the Literary and Linguistic Computing Centre at Cambridge University in 1964 and collaborated in the creation in 1973 of the Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing (now the European Association for Digital Humanities), of which he was the first chair and president (1980–83).

In the early days, computing was extremely laborious, being based on mainframe computers, punched cards and magnetic tape. It is all the more remarkable that Roy recognised the medium's potential and made Cambridge a world leader in digital humanities. Equally important was his transformation of the Modern Humanities Research Association (MHRA) into a financially well-endowed and high-powered force with national reach.

Roy taught 16th- and 20th-century German literature at Durham followed by medieval German literature at Cambridge. He was elected a Fellow of Downing College in 1959, appointed College Librarian in 1962, was President of the Cuppers winning football team in 1967 and rowed in the 1970 May Boat. In later life Roy was delighted to enjoy his dining rights at College where, I gather, he was always a most convivial companion.

In 1971 he was appointed head of the department of German at King's College London, a position he held until 1994. Under Roy's stewardship the department was modernised and became one of the leading places for teaching and research in the subject in the UK. During this period, he held other distinguished offices including a tenure as honorary director of the Institute of Germanic Studies of the University of London. His services to German studies were recognised by awards from the Federal German Republic in 1987 and the

Republic of Austria in 1988. Above all a brilliant medievalist, specialising in Gottfried von Strassburg's *Tristan*, Roy played a key role in the creation of the King's Centre for Late Antique and Medieval Studies, of which he was the first director. He was truly a universal man.

Born into a working-class family in Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, to Albert, who became chairman of the council in Bishop's Stortford, and Mary, Roy attended Bishop's Stortford College. He then did military service, serving as a warrant officer, second class and went on to study modern and medieval languages at Cambridge, graduating with a first in 1952, after which he earned a doctorate at the University of Frankfurt.

Everything Roy did was marked by his probity and his commitment, his passion and his kindness. At the end of every day he would go for an hour's swim in the students' union and then return to the office for a night shift.

In 1949, Roy met Ernestine (Erni) on an exchange visit to Vienna. They married in 1951. Erni was tireless in assisting Roy in his duties as honorary treasurer of the MHRA. She died earlier in 2020. He is survived by their son, John, and grandchildren, Jamie, Elizabeth, Arabella and Alexander.



The newly restored Rose Garden at Downing



# STUDENT NEWS

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## Sporting activity

### Badminton

**DOWNING BADMINTON** was off to a surprisingly excellent start at the beginning of Michaelmas term. Given the lockdown restrictions, we doubled the court bookings and staggered the trials over a full week for good measure. We were pleasantly surprised that even these extra bookings proved to be insufficient to match the overwhelming attendance of players, spanning from casual to competent. Sessions were extended and recruitment began: we doubled the main mixed squad, had a surplus of players in the 2nd team and many showed interest in the women's team; in particular, Madeline Curl, a keen Fresher, took on the role to captain the women's team.

Following the main team's stunning performance last year, we entered our first match against Queens', fuelled with high expectations. With restrictions in place, the rules were altered slightly: each team of six was split in half, such that each set of three played all possible doubles pairs against the corresponding opposing team's half. Our first half, consisting of Vatsal Raina, Zhengyan Ni and Patrick Nickols, started with a well fought 2 – 1 lead. We prepared for the next half... but reality struck; lockdown was announced. Our match was cancelled. But don't fret – we're still undefeated in Division 1! Over Easter

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“Our match was cancelled. But don't fret – we're still undefeated in Division 1!”

break, at the suggestion of Joshua Obichere, we bought two outdoor nets along with outdoor shuttles and continued the game.

This year Downing Badminton has tackled many challenges. Despite not having matches, everyone's morale is still high and our Club continues to flourish. We are all excited to train together and play competitively as soon as possible!

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**AKASH GUPTA**  
Captain

### Climbing

**THE CLIMBING CLUB** took full advantage of gyms being open in Michaelmas term, with members heading to Kelsey Kerridge at least once a week to train, often as a group. Unfortunately, the closure of gyms has left little to do; although we expect to get straight back to it when gyms reopen.

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**OLLIE TODD**  
Captain

### Cricket

**A MIDDLING YEAR** for the cricket team – on paper we had one of the best sides of the competition with our best possible team having over half the side as players for the University teams. Unfortunately, the

scheduling of University games meant that most of these players were unavailable for our Cuppers fixtures (bad choice of priorities if you ask me). Despite this and the usual drop-off in popularity during Easter term, DCCC were able to raise a competitive team for every game, in part helped by the new kit which meant that none were deterred due to a lack of equipment.

We started the season with the inaugural JCR vs MCR game, which ended up being our only warm-up before Cuppers due to the restrictions in place at the time. The game was played in a good spirit with both sides appreciating the chance to play sport after months stuck inside. The standout performers for the JCR team were Baldwin with the ball (2 wickets) and Nickols with the bat (retired after hitting 40 not-out). However, the moment of the match has to be Gupta taking a blistering catch at long-on off one of the Blues players from the MCR, although sadly the bruising on his hand left him unable to bat.

Only one Cuppers game was able to be played in full, with rain getting in the way (along with Selwyn conceding to give us our first victory of the season) and we suffered an undeserved thrashing from Emmanuel with only Geetala, Lewns and Patel showing any appetite for the game (it's never a pretty viewing when their opening batsmen hits more runs than the rest of your team). It is safe to say that this was not how I expected my tenure of captaincy to end, but like much of this year, it was cut inappropriately short. Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to Will, the Downing Groundsman, as he worked tirelessly to prepare good-quality cricket pitches and ensured everything was done to play the games.

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**RAHUL GEETALA**  
Captain

### Cycling

**AFTER BEING FOUNDED** this year, the Club has accrued 25 members already, despite the ongoing restrictions. Although group rides have not been possible, members have continued to ride regularly throughout the year. Notable achievements include a 205km ride to Kings Lynn completed by three members in Michaelmas term – a PB for all three! A College road bike has recently been purchased by the Club, allowing members who cannot bring their own bike to College to ride. We hope it will receive a lot of use, especially as the weather continues to improve.

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**OLLIE TODD**  
Captain

### Downing Joggers

**AFTER WAITING FOR** two lockdowns to pass us by, the vision to create a welcoming and social running club for all students has finally materialized! Downing Joggers is a beginner running club that aims to be as inclusive and welcoming as possible, with sessions happening up to twice a week with a variety of options for different ability students. Over the Easter term, it has been an absolute pleasure to welcome new Freshers and old friends alike to enjoy some evening sun (although torrential rain has been known!), run, jog or walk laps of local green spaces together and see people become more confident in their running. It is a sport well-known for helping with stress-relief and boosting positive emotions and there has been some lovely feedback

received about people using the Club to motivate them throughout the day! The Club will continue to run throughout the Easter term, hopes to have a couple of social events and may even get some stash designed!

**IZZY TAYLOR**

Captain

## Football – Men's



**DCAFC HAVE HAD** a strong season despite the current circumstances. The 1's have played one League game, drawing 2-2 vs Corpus. In Cuppers we played a tough game against Jesus where we went to extra time to lose on penalties with a full-time score of 2-2. The 1's then proceeded to play in the plate knocking Trinity Hall and St Catherine's out of the competition and then losing 3-0 in the final against Caius. A strong season despite an unfortunate set back in Cuppers and with quite an array of injuries. The 2's have not had much competitive football given the lockdowns and slow restart to College football. However, they have had some noteworthy results as well as a strong intake of Freshers. We are planning on hosting our annual dinner at the end of Easter term as per tradition.

**NICK GRANADOS**

Captain

“DCAFC have had a strong season despite the current circumstances.”

## Football – Women's



**IN WOMEN'S FOOTBALL**, though we only managed to play one match, which we unfortunately lost, the enthusiasm of the players from both Downing and Trinity Hall, who make up a joint team, more than made up for the result. In our training sessions we saw a good turnout from the Downing players (as mixed training was harder to organise as lockdown restrictions increased) and more first years are hoping to play in training sessions in Easter term as well as in matches next year. As the Cuppers tournament is also hopefully going ahead this term, we will hopefully be able to play more and hold some training sessions and are looking forward to next year when we might be able to play all year.

**ISHBEL HOWARD**

Captain

## Hockey



**DESPITE THE REDUCED** matches this year Downing Hockey has had its biggest turn out, with several great Freshers joining the team. Our Michaelmas term started out strong with both a Mixed and a Men's team entering the League. The Men's team had some standout games – beating Selwyn 7-0 and the infamous John's 2-1. Top goal scorer Dom Atherton didn't fail to disappoint, as well as our current longest standing player, Ally, holding strong in defence. In addition to our solid outfield squad, we have gone from none to two goalies this year. A big shout goes to Maddie McHaffie and Callum Farrow for stepping up and making some exceptional saves despite the short season.

Easter term saw the resurrection of Cuppers and once again Downing put out a full team. The first match was a comfortable 4-2 win. Unfortunately, we faced a strong side early on, this time failing to defeat John's and as a result placing 6th (better than Downing football – just saying). Looking forward to seeing the team thrive next year, hopefully with no restrictions!

**RACHEL CAUL and TOM CAREY**

Captains

## Lacrosse



**DOWNING LACROSSE HAS** thrived this year, in spite of – or perhaps because of – Covid-19 that has so afflicted the university experience. Clearly lacrosse has struck a chord as a low commitment, mixed skill opportunity to enjoy time with a broad variety of people across College in a legal, outdoor setting, all while trying out a fun new sport and improving fitness. Indeed, it is probably no exaggeration to say that Downing Lacrosse Club (save perhaps DCBC) is now the College's largest sports club by participation – an impressive accolade for what is certainly an ostensibly niche sport. It has been an absolute pleasure to captain this year as the Club expands and it has been rewarding to watch our collective skill level steadily increase after the introduction of regular training sessions on top of weekly matches in Michaelmas term.

“Expect big things next year...”

While unfortunately Lent term's lockdown brought activities to a temporary halt, I look forward to resuming activities in Easter term. Expect big things next year when we (hopefully) get the chance to compete in Cuppers once again, Covid-19 permitting.

**FINN BELL**

Captain

## Netball



**WE HAD AN INTERESTING** Michaelmas term, but luckily managed to get a few League matches in and some fun training sessions. The mixed team has really taken off this year and we finished Michaelmas term with a boys versus girls match which everyone really enjoyed. We are looking to get back into playing some friendly matches in Easter term and having some fun, safe socials.

**LOTTIE BUTTLE**

Captain

“The mixed team has really taken off this year and we finished Michaelmas term with a boys versus girls match which everyone really enjoyed.”

## Rowing



IT HAS NOT been an easy year for DCBC, with most of the year spent in lockdown and the most important events, including Lent and May Bumps, not happening. However, the Club managed to attract a great number of novices who give hope for next year. In fact, we have a number of beginners who have already made their way into senior crews both on the Men's and Women's side, despite a very limited amount of experience. The remaining novice boats continue to achieve great results in novice races.

Michaelmas term had us trying to make the Boathouse as Covid-19 safe as possible, enabling our members to go on the water even though most of the rowing happened in small boats. Over the lockdown we were proud to be able to provide rowing machines, not only to our rowers, but the whole Downing College community by placing them on the Paddock for public access. A great sign how the individual Clubs of Downing can support the students in trying times.

Returning to Easter Term, after a missed Lent term, sees DCBC taking on the regular training and participation in racing events. With both Men and Women scoring great results, like a double win for the M1 IV+ at the big City Racing Weekend, we are looking forward to ending the year on a high at the Small Boat Regatta and June Eights Regatta at the end of Easter term. However, in general,

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“Here's to keeping our fingers crossed that Downing stays on top of the game.”

this year is all about the enjoyment of rowing, giving everyone the chance to try it out, do as best as we can, and, finally, enjoy a Boat Club Dinner and Pimms and Punting. We are very much looking forward to a, hopefully, normal 2021/22 season with more rowing, more rowers and a return of Bumps!

### ANDREAS BEDORF

Captain

## Rugby



CONTACT SPORTS HAVE been particularly affected by Covid-19. Michaelmas term saw the only rugby played all year. There were no official League games this year and Cuppers was postponed.

Two events of note stand out when discussing DCRUFC this past year. There was one “ready4rugby” tournament held in week 2 of Michaelmas term, which saw the Magentleman go undefeated and win the day. Note this was a touch tournament following a slightly altered set of touch rugby rules. Secondly, when every match is postponed the team that has the trophy keeps the trophy. Thus, Downing College Rugby Club are the proud holders of the Cuppers Cup for a 3rd year running and you can be sure it will be engraved as such!

We're looking forward to the next year, where no doubt, after two cohorts joining and leaving the League in Michaelmas term, we will see a rapid shifting of promotions and demotions. Here's to keeping our fingers crossed that Downing stays on top of the game.

### DANIEL OWEN

Captain

### LUKE ADAMS

Vice-Captain

## Ultimate Frisbee

ULTIMATE FRISBEE STARTED with yet another solid round of recruitment at the beginning of Michaelmas term. Being an outdoor sport and quick to pick up, both veterans and eager Freshers trying out a new sport joined the ranks. Immediately, we were faced with the dread of exercise after a lengthy summer lockdown. But our commitment didn't stop there – everyone picked up the different formations surprisingly quickly, including vert-stack, man-marking and our most formidable: dice. Alas, our preparation for matches was halted by the impending Michaelmas lockdown; but not before we squeezed in an amazing frenzy of frisbee pickups for three days straight!

We prepared to ride the silent storm of lockdown. But wait – frisbee's an outdoor sport, requires a minimum of two people and is even playable in UK weather! With free time being the name of the game, pairs were

formed and throwings were made. And to top it off, frisbee in the snow was superb!

Lent term passed us by and Easter break was graced with great UK weather. We played our hearts out in pickup for yet another three days straight, setting the scene for Easter term. At the time of writing, Easter lockdown is easing up, potentially allowing for some exciting matches.

Looking back at the year, we've been impressed with the team's mental fortitude, attention to safety and eagerness to continue throwing. No matter the weather nor the heart-wrenching lockdowns, frisbee has been our ultimate saviour throughout this dramatic rollercoaster of a year.

### RAGAVI VIJAYAKUMAR and

AKASH GUPTA

Captains

## 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 or one-off donations please visit [www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online](http://www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online). Alternatively, 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)).

## Blues, Half-blues, Colours and Non-Blues 2020–21

STUDENT	SPORT	BLUE	HALF-BLUE	COLOUR	NON-BLUES
██████	Rowing (coxed Goldie)		X		
██████████	Women's Lacrosse *				
██████	Women's Hockey	X			
██████████	Women's Basketball		X		
██████	Golf	X			
██████	Athletics	X			
██████████	Eton Fives			X	
██████	Tennis	X			
██████████	Women's Basketball		X		
██████████	Croquet				X
██████	Rowing (Goldie)		X		
██████████	Women's Lacrosse *				
██████████	Men's Football	X			

## Reports on Societies

### Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Society

**FOLLOWING THE KILLING** of George Floyd and the subsequent protests of Summer 2020, BAMESoc has prioritised advocating for institutional change within Downing. This academic year, we collaborated with the Diversity Committee to launch the Downing Racial Justice Forum. Starting as a space exclusively for students of colour, the forum is led by Dr Valerie Watson, a psychotherapist with over 28 years of experience as a counsellor, who also served as the Chair of the BAME Staff Network at The University of Nottingham for 12 years. With Dr Watson's guidance, the virtual sessions have gradually expanded to include wider portions of the Downing community, with a view to addressing the everyday experiences of individual and structural racism faced by students and staff of colour. This initiative would not have come to fruition without the generosity of our donor, or the proactivity of undergraduate Rihab El-Hussain, whose open letter ignited the actions being taken.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 limited our ability to plan social events. However, we successfully hosted a virtual BAMESoc Bar Night, which provided an opportunity for students across the College to become familiar with each other in a more relaxed space. We are excited to see how BAMESoc will develop in the next academic year, led by Adama Sise and Fazal Syed.

LATI GUTTA and SAVANNA PATEL

### The Blake Society

As I have just come to an end of my year as President, it seems the right time to reflect on some of the highlights. Although not filled with the usual annual dinners and garden parties, with challenge comes creativity and the year has still proved fruitful and thought-provoking. In Michaelmas term we welcomed the Freshers with our only in-person event of the year, Painting on the Paddock. By utilising the "Amphitheatre" space (the 2m distanced circles marked on the lawn), we were able to set up equipment in each "bubble" before attendees arrived and therefore adhere to the proper social distancing requirements. There was a tangible feeling of solace in being able to be creative together.

Whilst the practical arts sessions have been more difficult this year, we haven't let that stop us from continuing our involvement with the Heong Gallery's *Arts After Dark* series of events. The first of our online workshops on portrait illustration

was themed around the Sir Quentin Blake *40 Women for Downing* show and encouraged attendees to transform an image of a person's face into something fantastical. Anyone with a pencil and paper could join in from home! The second session in Lent term was spearheaded by Vidya Divakaran in collaboration with Cambridge University Hip-Hop Society (and, of course, the Heong Gallery), and took the form of a Spoken Word night. It was extremely powerful to hear poets of such eloquence from our own student community and the atmosphere was not dampened by the online format – a testimony to those involved.

But the times which I will look back on with pride for years to come have to be our series of speaker events themed around sound. The first guest was Stuart Fowlkes, creator of the global sound map website *Cities and Memory*, where one can listen to anything from recordings of protests to the sound of a Belgian rainstorm. The conversation was just as wide-ranging, moving easily between questions of what noise means for the climate crisis, to how sound can transcend traditional border politics. The second, and my personal favourite event of the year, was a screening and Q&A with Turner Prize-winning artist, Lawrence Abu Hamdan. We viewed his latest video work *Once Removed*, which explored the intersection between reincarnation and research in the work of the historian Bassel Abi Chahine. Interviewing a guest of such prestige was nerve-wracking, but certainly confidence-building, and I feel extremely privileged to have had such transformative opportunities despite the restrictions. I wish the same and more for my successors on the Committee!

## CERYS WHILES



## Brammer Geographical Society

**THIS YEAR THE** Brammer Geographical Society was saddened to hear of the passing of our eponymous supporter and founding Fellow, Hugh Brammer, in January. Hugh played a huge role in supporting the Society for many years. After graduating from Downing with a Geography degree in the 1950s, Hugh's life was filled with success in the field of agroecology in Bangladesh. He was only too keen to share stories of his life with current Brammer Society members whenever he made his frequent visits to the College and Brammer Society events and will be sorely missed by the Geography community at Downing College and beyond. The Society plans to commemorate his life and passing by instating a 'memorial lecture' to be held in his name as part of the Society's annual calendar.

While working from home this year, the Committee of the Brammer Society continued to strive to create an academic and pastoral community amongst Downing geographers, holding events online where possible. The highlight was our Lent term Speakers Event where we invited Dr Jesse Reynolds, who gave an insightful lecture on the potential of geoengineering as a way to mitigate the intensity of the climate crisis. This was well attended by Geography students and by members of the wider student population. We have also held smaller social events online, ranging from the now infamous Zoom quizzes to informal 'study socials', where we aimed to foster a sense of support between years on academic issues within our community.

Unfortunately, due to ongoing restrictions, our plans to hold a Centenary Dinner for the current and past Geography students of the College are still on hold. I hope that this event will be able to take place soon, celebrating the increasing links and community between the past, present and the future of Downing's Geography students.

## MERRYN TREVITT

## Chapel Choir

**THE YEAR STARTED** with renewed hope for a return to our normal schedule of services, tours and Cathedral visits before too long and a plan for online services and weekly recorded videos from the Chapel Choir. While we hugely missed singing for services live, we managed to maintain our rigorous rehearsal schedule with social distancing in the Chapel and had fantastic feedback and response from people all around the world to our weekly offerings on social media and via the Chaplain's live services. The strange circumstances gave many more people the opportunity to hear our work far beyond the boundaries of the College and University and it made all the other sacrifices that little bit easier! The highlight

of Michaelmas term, as every year, was preparing for our hugely popular Advent Carol Service, which this year was entirely pre-recorded and released online. It was a shorter format than usual and we missed the experience of the Chapel suitably bursting at the seams with festive congregants, but we were so pleased that we were able to share something similar virtually to the over 2,000 people who tuned in. Sadly, tightened restrictions in the New Year halted our progress and we weren't able to sing in Lent term, but we have started singing in the Chapel again with reduced numbers for short services of Evensong on Sunday evenings and are greatly looking forward to more singing as restrictions relax further.

Our original plan was to delay last year's cancelled tour to Scandinavia, with performances in Gothenburg, Strysö, Oslo and Bergen, to this year, but this unfortunately hasn't been possible. We hope that this might finally happen next year, in a return to our usual schedule culminating in our annual international tour, but in the meantime we are planning a residential for incoming (and leaving) Choir members in College at the end of the summer to prepare us for the new academic year.

Thanks are due to my colleague, Louisa Denby (assisting organist); to Downing's 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, for their enthusiasm and dedication in providing music for the College and Chapel in such difficult circumstances.

**CHRIS HAMILTON**  
Organ Scholar

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## Cranworth Law Society



**2021 MARKS THE** centenary of Cranworth Law Society! We have been extremely fortunate with a busy schedule of events this year, alongside new developments for the Society. This includes our new logo, after it came to our attention that our previous one was in breach of the Law of Arms.

Michaelmas term began with an informal Q&A panel with senior members of the judiciary including our very own Lord David Lloyd-Jones and Sir Richard McCombe as well as Lady Jill Black. We are incredibly grateful for the continued warmth and generosity our Law students receive from such esteemed alumni and we enjoyed getting to know them better and especially hearing about their aerial hobbies. We also had the pleasure of hosting joint events with City law firms such as Slaughter and May, Herbert Smith Freehills, Davis Polk, and Debevoise & Plimpton, which have allowed our members to explore the world of commercial

law. Special thanks go to the firms for providing food and drink for these events and our Secretaries, Callum Caldwell and Finn Bell, for their speedy pizza delivery skills across College accommodation.

Lent term was full of surprises for the Society. The Christmas lockdown caught most of our members away from Cambridge. Nonetheless, we were able to not only fuel the stereotypical caffeine addiction of Law students through Bould Brothers coffee socials, but also managed to organise two moots. Our 52nd annual Downing-Magdelene Moot went ahead, with strong performances from Saifullah Shah and Rose Wiener, both of whom received positive comments from Downing alumnus, Sir Colin Birss. We also held our very first Varsity moot with Lincoln College, Oxford on a problem about backwards tracing and the recent Privy Council decision in *Durant*. Congratulations to our own Julian Torres-H-Bonilla and Luke Adams for a very impressive win. The rest of Lent term also saw many members contribute articles to the Society's newest project: our own Law Journal in celebration of our centenary. We have interviewed numerous inspiring Downing alumni and received a varied selection of articles. Look out for the Cranworth Annual Law Journal this Summer! We are hoping that this will become an annual publication and look forward to inviting submissions from all the Downing legal community very soon!

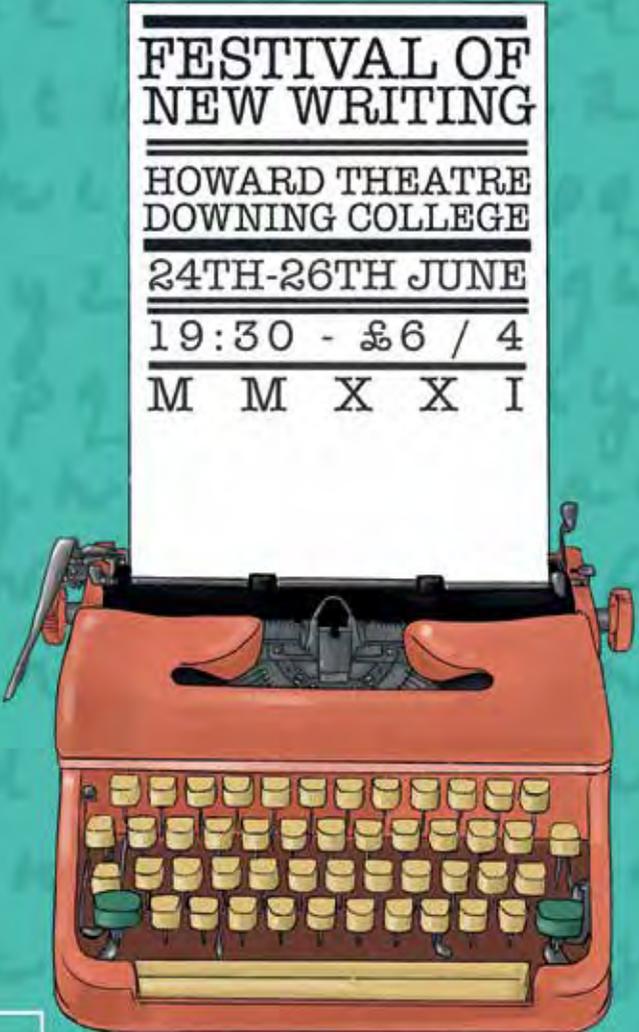
Perhaps the most exciting part of the Cranworth year is welcoming incoming Freshers. Despite not having had the chance to meet all Freshers in person yet, through our online socials and study-advice sessions we feel as if we know them just as well as any normal year and will be holding a small meal to celebrate the end of their exams. Finally, the four candidates that ran in the annual Cranworth election were very impressive and we are delighted to welcome Joe Sullivan and Michael Smith as our incoming Secretaries. They will join incoming Presidents Finn and Callum for the next academic year. We wish them the best of luck for an even more fruitful year of in-person events!

**QUINN LIANG and JULIAN TORRES-H-BONILLA**

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## Danby Society

**THE DANBY SOCIETY** is the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) society at Downing. We strive to provide our members and the wider College community with opportunities to hear about the most recent and exciting developments in the world of STEM. To keep the STEM community engaged and aware of society events this year, we started the Danby Society Instagram page which features future event descriptions and interesting STEM history tidbits. Although physical social gatherings were not permitted, we made the most of virtual gatherings with a successful online pub



# FESTIVAL OF NEW WRITING

HOWARD THEATRE  
DOWNING COLLEGE

24TH-26TH JUNE

19:30 - £6 / 4

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quiz in collaboration with the Whitby Society. In addition, we also started the STEM Buddy Programme to give Freshers the opportunity to meet other STEM students with the hope of fostering a greater sense of community.

A shift in our speaker events to an online format also allowed our members to hear from notable STEM personnel from across the globe. Our first speaker, MIT Professor Sara Seager, captured our imaginations with her presentation about the field of exoplanet research and her search for habitable worlds. Later in the year, the presentation by world-renowned immunologist and 2011 Nobel Prize winner Professor Bruce Beutler showed us the amazing progress in the field of immunologic gene identification and the very real contribution of modern technologies in our understanding of disease. Challenging though this year has been, the Danby Society has remained committed to providing members with engaging and enjoyable events and we look forward to continuing to do so into the future!

NATANYA CARTWRIGHT

## Dramatic Society

IT IS MY pleasure to report that the Downing Dramatic Society has enjoyed another highly successful year, continuing to represent and support the flourishing and extremely talented student theatre community in College, whilst simultaneously and rapidly growing into a major player on the University drama scene, in spite of the shadow cast by the pandemic over the world of performing arts. In Michaelmas term the Society put on a production in the prime-time slot at the ADC Theatre, for the first time in over a decade, with a sold-out run of performances of a post-apocalyptic rendition of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* directed by our very own outgoing Vice President, Seb Brindle and starring our outgoing President, Matthew Paul, as Macduff. The production was a huge success, receiving highly favourable reviews and proving what College drama societies are capable of achieving at the very highest levels of student theatre here in Cambridge, even in such times of great uncertainty. This year also saw the Society take over the successful *Monologue Clash* from Christ's Amateur Dramatic Society and the project has continued to go from strength to strength under DDS management, with the format of the event successfully adapted into a thoroughly enjoyable evening of monologues hosted online in response to government restrictions.

At the time of writing the Society is looking forward to presenting our annual *Festival of New Writing*, now in its seventh year and firmly established as both the crowning jewel of our annual programme and the premier new writing event of the year across the University. I would like to extend my gratitude to our outgoing New Writing Officers, Savanna Patel and Leila Lawrence, for their tireless work in ensuring that this project has been able to go ahead after its initial postponement.

The Society is also excited to present its annual Freshers' Show, which plays a crucial role in bringing through a new generation of Downing thespian talent, irrespective of prior theatrical experience. This year's production will play its part in continuing the proud Cambridge tradition of May Week Shakespeare, with a special outdoor performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* under the creative direction of first-year student, Mark Jones. Unfortunately, this had to be postponed to Michaelmas term due to three of the cast having to self-isolate on the eve of the performance.

I wish to express my personal thanks to the outgoing Committee for bringing the Society into its strongest position in recent years and in particular to finalists Matthew Paul (President), Seb Brindle (Vice President) and Samantha Creswick (Secretary) for their unwavering dedication. Special thanks must also go to our fantastic Director of Drama, Stephen Bennett, whose commitment to DDS has again been unparalleled over the past year in the most difficult of circumstances and who has once more proven to be indispensable to the continued success of the Society's activities.

**WILLIAM AUDIS**

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## Jazz Band

**LIKE MANY SOCIETIES**, the Jazz Band has suffered under the restraints of Covid-19 over the last year, with difficulty convening for rehearsals and cancellation of a number of events. This was particularly disappointing last summer, with the Band looking forward to its most impressive itinerary yet; including a wedding at Pembroke College, numerous garden parties, and the prestigious May Balls of Pembroke, Sidney Sussex and notably, St John's Colleges.

However, despite this, the easing of restrictions has allowed the band to remain hopeful for the coming summer. Rehearsals have begun again (albeit outside!) and the Band is already in very high demand for May Week, as garden parties and other events are organised. Thanks are owed to the current Committee, including Ollie Todd, Adrian Ramirez-Valdez and Dan Duffy, who have worked with College throughout Covid-19 to ensure that the Band can continue to thrive. This year we say goodbye to Adrian, who has been Co-President for two years and whose exceptional talent on the alto sax will be sorely missed; as well as to Cambridge University Jazz Orchestra's Jay Chiswick on the bass and our superb vocalist Eve Herzberg. We look forward to welcoming new members next year and hope to continue to expand our horizons further.

**OLLIE TODD**

## The Maitland Society

**FOR OBVIOUS REASONS**, this year has not been without its challenges for the Maitland Society. Nonetheless and perhaps unexpectedly for a society forever casting its eyes to the past, Maitland embraced the technological world of Zoom and hosted a variety of successful events over the academic year. We were privileged to hear from Professor Simon Szreter in Michaelmas term, who delivered a particularly topical talk on how Covid-19 has raised the importance of history as a resource for critically examining public policy choices and for proposing radical alternatives for the future. Following on from this, Dr Ruth Lawlor delivered a thought-provoking paper in Lent term on American sexual violence during the Second World War – illustrating the challenges of grappling with an archive which is often frustratingly opaque on matters of gendered violence, racial terror and the role of the law during this crucial moment in history. Therefore, though Covid-19 prevented the usual array of events and formals, the Maitland Society has continued to provide a platform for stimulating historical debate. Nevertheless, here's hoping next year doesn't 'go down in history' in quite the same way!

**FRASER ROSSER-SMYTH**

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## The Mathias Society

**THE MATHIAS SOCIETY** had been planning an event / dinner for current Downing Economics and Land Economy undergraduates in mid-late June (once coronavirus restrictions allowed). We look forward to hopefully resuming proceedings as normal next year with our flagship Mathias Dinner, including alumni and supervisors, to take place in February 2022.

**DILLAN PARMER**

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## The Music Society

**AS A SOCIETY** that would usually pride itself on presenting a diverse range of in-person events to an enthusiastic audience in College, this year has proven to be particularly challenging for the Downing College Music Society. The inability to hold our usual series of live concerts has required us to adapt the way we reach our audience. This has, however, given us the opportunity to

reach an even wider audience than would usually be possible, sharing Downing's wide-ranging talents further afield.

Our online events began last summer with our annual May Week concert, for which students from all around College sent in video performances from home; these videos were then collated and published online. Then, during Michaelmas term, we were fortunate to have online performances which were pre-recorded in College spaces and then shared via our YouTube channel. Our first event was a guitar recital given by former Downing music student and DCMS President, Declan Hickey. The event was recorded at the Heong Gallery, in collaboration with their *Arts After Dark* series. Michaelmas term closed with a varied programme of piano music recorded in the Master's Lodge, given by third-year student Michael Fletcher.

With the anticipated easing of restrictions, we hope to be able to hold a short series of in-person concerts throughout the latter half of Easter term. After such an extended period of time without any live events, these concerts will be a great opportunity for Downing members to take a break from exam stress. We hope to begin the series with a vocal recital given by Downing student, Laurens Macklon, involving a complete performance of Schumann's *Dichterliebe*. Other highlights include a flute and piano recital and a vocal recital from second-year Downing student, Ellie Ninham.

Though it hasn't been possible to mention all of the music-making that has been taking place in College, I am grateful to all those who have offered their support and expertise to DCMS over the past year, including the Master and Maggie Cherry, Keith Eyeons, our Chaplain, and Downing's Director of College and Chapel Music, David Lowe. I am greatly looking forward to working with our incoming committee and president, with the opportunity to hold a greater number of concerts in the coming year.

ELLIS THOMAS

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## The Whitby Society

**DUE TO A** certain virus keeping us indoors for most of the year, Whitby Society was severely restricted in terms of what was possible and what was not but, even in the less-than-ideal circumstances, there were a few events. We started the year off with an online social in collaboration with *Jesus College Medical Society*; the event was primarily aimed at Freshers and provided a good opportunity for the first years to meet other Medics. Our lovely welfare officers, Aiswarya and Shriya, were consistent throughout the year in making sure that the wellbeing of medical students at Downing was met; at the start of the year they provided Whitby members with a goody-bag and held several welfare drop-in sessions

throughout the year for members to talk about any issues that were affecting them. A *Whitby baking competition* was also held during the national lockdown to provide members with a welcome break from their laptop screens. A wide variety of entries displayed the culinary talent of Whitby members!

In Easter term we were lucky to welcome Downing alumna Sharon Gimson to hold an online talk on the *Medical Practitioners' Tribunal Service* and how it is decided whether doctors meet the standards required to practise medicine.

Given the pandemic, it was not possible to host any large in-person gatherings this year, but we look forward to the return of the annual Whitby dinner and talk next year as well as welcoming the new members of Whitby Society. We say farewell to the graduating class of 2021; many congratulations to you all and we wish you all the best!

FAZAL SYED

## GLYNN JONES SCHOLARSHIPS for Business and Management Education

Members of Downing College are eligible to apply for Glynn Jones Scholarships for those wishing to further their education for careers in the business and management fields. 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 course fees, travel costs and maintenance expenses. The financial resources of the applicant will also be taken into consideration. For further information about the awards and application process see [www.dow.cam.ac.uk/sites/default/files/glynn\\_jones\\_scholarship\\_information.pdf](http://www.dow.cam.ac.uk/sites/default/files/glynn_jones_scholarship_information.pdf)



## OBITUARIES

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## 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. The obituaries are grouped by decade by reference to matriculation year and within each decade in alphabetical order.

### 1940s

**DESMOND JEFFREY ANDREWS (1944)** died on 27 October 2018, aged 92. He read Geography.

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**ERNST RAEMON BARKER (1949)** died on 27 June 2020, aged 91. He read Mathematics followed by Law.

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**HERBERT BRAMMER (1943)** died on 13 January 2021, aged 95. He read Geography. **Bill Adams (1973)** writes:

Hugh Brammer was one of too many victims of Covid-19. He was a geographer and soil scientist and the leading authority on agriculture and flooding in Bangladesh.

Hugh was born in Kippax in West Yorkshire. He attended Hemsworth Grammar School and came up to Downing in 1943 to read Geography. His studies were interrupted by the War. He was conscripted into the RAF in 1945 and posted to North America to be trained as a navigator. Once demobbed in 1946, he returned to Downing to complete his degree in Geography, graduating in 1948.

In 1952, Hugh joined the Colonial Service and was posted to the newly formed Soil and Land Use Survey Department in the Gold Coast (which became Ghana in 1957). He worked under Cecil Charter, who had developed



**Hugh Brammer with the Master at the last Brammer Society dinner he attended**

an approach to soil survey based on ecological and environmental variables and designed to be of practical use to farmers, land managers and planners. Hugh never lost the vision of this approach, combining soil, land, landscape and farmer into one synthetic whole. Hugh joined the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in 1961 and worked for them for the next 26 years. In 1962 he was posted to East Pakistan to lead the soil survey of the country with local colleagues. During the liberation war in 1971 Hugh was evacuated. After a posting with the Soil Survey in Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), he returned to the newly independent Bangladesh in 1974 as senior adviser to the minister of agriculture. He stayed in Bangladesh until he retired from the FAO in 1987.

Hugh loved Bangladesh and devoted his life to the understanding of its physical, ecological and socio-economic geography. He travelled extensively and acquired an unparalleled knowledge of Bangladesh's soils and agriculture. Government planners and visiting aid teams drew deeply on Hugh's expertise. In the *The Daily Star*, Mohammed Asaduzzaman wrote that Hugh 'was one of those very few non-Bangladeshis who always wished the best for this country'. He received the Bangladesh President's gold medal for services to Agriculture, as well as an OBE and the Royal Geographical Society's Busk Medal.

When Hugh retired from the FAO, he came back to live in the UK. But in 'retirement', Hugh was as active in research and writing as any full-time academic. He wrote no less than 11 books on Bangladesh, putting on paper his knowledge of the ecology of smallholder agriculture, disaster risk and rural development. All were published by the University Press Ltd. of Dhaka, to be available to and affordable by Bangladeshi students and policy makers. Hugh also produced over a hundred academic papers and book chapters on climate, flooding, agriculture and ecology of Bangladesh. Hugh corresponded

generously with anyone interested in Bangladesh. Living through the explosion in digital publication, Hugh despaired of the accumulation of half-truth and supposition about the Lower Ganges and the Bay of Bengal, especially in the context of climate change. He engaged incautious authors and what he sometimes saw as sloppy editors, with vigour, challenging poorly-informed arguments about Bangladesh's highly complex environments.

Hugh maintained a close interest in Geography. Once retired, he renewed his contacts with Downing and began to engage with its Geography students. Funds from two research projects in the University Department of Geography (the first on arsenic contamination in shallow groundwater, the second on historical maps of Bengal – the latter with former geography fellow Graham Chapman) were managed by Downing. Savings were used to provide travel scholarships for Geography undergraduates to undertake fieldwork for their final year dissertations. When the Downing Geographers founded a Society in 2013, they named it after Hugh, the Brammer Society. Hugh gave the first annual lecture and came to subsequent annual dinners, offering encouragement and inspiration. Hugh continued to be an exceptionally generous supporter of the College. In November 2019 he endowed the Brammer Fellowship in Geography, securing the teaching of Geography at Downing in perpetuity. He was elected a Foundation Fellow in February 2020, although sadly, the first COVID lockdown prevented his admission in person. In his Will he left most of his estate to support research and teaching at Downing.

Hugh was, in his endless curiosity about land and people and his thirst for knowledge, a true Geographer. His belief in fieldwork, in seeing for yourself and in working with the knowledge of local people permeated his work. His enthusiasm for the role of fieldwork will hopefully continue to find outlet in the training of new generations of Geographers at Downing.

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**DAVID WOLFERSTAN CHANTER (1945)** died on 2 January 2021, aged 93. He read Mechanical Sciences.

Born in Bristol, David Chanter attended Allhallows and although the War was over in May 1945 in Europe, on his 18th birthday a few weeks later he enlisted in the Army. He went to Mons Officer Cadet School in Aldershot, was commissioned into the Royal Engineers and went to Downing, where his grandfather had been fifty years earlier. He left the Army after three years and proceeded to qualify as a Chartered Accountant following which he joined a Bristol-based firm of stockbrokers. He married in 1949. He was the last Chairman of the Bristol Stock Exchange until it was absorbed into the London Stock Exchange in 1989.

**NORMAN PETER HARWOOD DEWES (1948)** died on 3 May 2021, aged 94. He read Architecture. His daughter, Celia, writes:



Known as Peter, he attended Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield. Whilst there he enjoyed stamp collecting and classics. On leaving school his national service was as a Bevin Boy, although he didn't enjoy working at the colliery. At Downing he was a member of the University Hare and Hounds Club, Music Society and Union Debating Society. After Downing he qualified as an architect. He had a long successful career working with Wakefield

Council, J.G.L Poulson, Braithwaite and Jackman, amongst others. He worked all over England producing buildings such as Buxton Swimming Pool, Leeds Pool and North Shields Library and the interior of BHS in London for Conran. He spent time in Riyadh and Jeddah designing hospitals and undertaking private contracts for Arab clients.

Peter was both a Latin and a Greek scholar, loved gardens, literature and travel to visit classical buildings. Peter met and married his wife Jean Burnett, a doctor, in 1956 and had a daughter, Celia, in 1959. He leaves behind his daughter Celia and his sister Patricia.

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**DAVID EMERSON (1949)** died on 3 December 2020, aged 89. He read Natural Sciences. His son, Neil, writes:

Dr David Emerson was GP at the 281 Mill Road surgery in Cambridge for 30 years. David and his wife Shirley were both GPs. They set up the practice in the early 1960s and worked there together until retirement. David was a Cambridge man through and through and, whilst a traditional family doctor, he was always open to new ideas in family medicine: with Shirley they were among the first to use computers for their patient records. From the early 1960s David provided services to help people with drug and alcohol problems. He and Shirley were also instrumental in setting up the Cambridge Advisory Centre for Young People in Clarendon Street with an emphasis on birth control and sexual health in the early days of oral contraception.

Born in Birmingham in 1931, the family moved to Cambridge where David won a scholarship to The Perse School. From The Perse School, he went on to read Medicine, first at Downing and then at Lincoln College, Oxford. An excellent swimmer, he captained Cambridge University water polo team, gaining a half blue and election to the Hawks' Club, whose tie he proudly wore

whenever a tie was required. It was at Downing that he acquired a taste for Real Tennis, becoming a firm friend with the Real Tennis professional, Brian Church.

After qualifying, he spent time first as a ship's doctor and then as a doctor in The Falklands and Antarctic (where, as Base leader, he was for one Winter the British civil power in the Antarctic). In the Falklands he often did his rounds on a pony so small, he could almost touch the ground while riding along.

On his return, David worked at High Wycombe Hospital where he met his wife-to-be, Shirley. Soon after, they set up the Mill Road Surgery. They had four children and seven grandchildren, with six Dr Emerson's in total. For many years David was Medical Officer for the Cambridge based British Antarctic Survey, examining many scientists and divers before their journeys to the Antarctic. Always happy outdoors, for many years David was secretary of the University bathing sheds in Grantchester. He retained his adventurous spirit and he and Shirley volunteered as Medical Officers for the King's School, Ely expedition, taking the whole family to a remote valley in the Indian Himalayas in 1978.

After retirement, David and Shirley walked coast-to-coast across Scotland numerous times. They continued to use their medical expertise too as drug-testers for elite athletes.

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**DAVID MYRTON CUNYNGHAME FORSTER (1949)** died on 10 January 2021, aged 90. He read Natural Sciences. His daughter, Angela, writes:



David Forster was born in 1930 and grew up in Heswall near Liverpool. He was evacuated during the war to Shropshire and educated at Shrewsbury School. He warmly remembered his time at Downing and the exploits he shared with his fellow students. Downing gave David the foundation to pursue a career in medicine and he went on to train at The London Hospital, Whitechapel. David qualified in 1956 and two years later started his National Service as a medical

officer in the Royal Air Force. He spent five years with the RAF and most fondly recalled his two years in Aden, including a secondment for several months to the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces. After leaving the RAF he rejoined the NHS, pursuing a career in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. This included posts at the Redruth Miners' and General Hospital, St Albans City Hospital and Oldchurch Hospital in Essex. It was here that he met his wife, Hilary, also a doctor. They married in 1965 in Heswall.

They moved to Liverpool for several years when David took up the post of Senior Registrar at Mill Road Maternity Hospital, returning to Essex in 1969 where David was appointed as a Consultant at Harold Wood Hospital. Here he had

the responsibility of setting up the new maternity unit. He was dedicated and well-respected, rushing out to deal with emergency situations at the hospital in the middle of the night and indeed on some occasions during Christmas lunch! He also delivered numerous babies of friends and colleagues. He ran the unit at Harold Wood until his retirement in 1995, during which time he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

He and Hilary had five children, including two sets of twins, and 10 grandchildren, who gave them great pleasure. David was a very keen sailor and in 1988 he joined a friend, as navigator, to sail his 37-foot yacht across the Atlantic as part of the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers. The crossing took 23 days and was a personal highlight for David. He was also a passionate gardener and, over thirty years at the family home in Harold Wood, he created a truly beautiful garden. After retirement he and Hilary moved up to St Ives in Cambridgeshire to be closer to family, where David enjoyed re-designing another garden. David passed away after contracting coronavirus. He had sadly lost his wife Hilary to the same disease just two weeks earlier. He will be sadly missed by his family, many friends and colleagues and dearly remembered for his commitment to medicine and his love of gardening, sailing and the RAF.

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**GERALD LEOPOLD GOODWIN (1948)** died on 15 May 2021, aged 92. He read Natural Sciences. His son, Martin, writes:



Gerald was born in 1929 in Beuthen, Silesia, Germany, as Gerhardt Guttman. Fully cognisant of the dangers facing Jews under Hitler, his dentist father saved the family by fleeing Nazi Germany in 1938, ultimately settling in South Wales. Gerhardt attended Porth County Grammar School, later completing his medical studies at Downing and Cardiff University. The family changed their name from Guttman to Goodwin in 1947. Gerald completed his National Service in the

British Military Hospital in Hamburg, Germany. It was there that he met his wife, Ruth Benke, a nurse, who was also completing her British National Service, having herself been raised in Breslau, Silesia. Upon return to the UK, Gerald pursued dentistry at St. Andrews University.

He went on to expand his father's dental surgery in Porth, Rhondda and established a second practice in Cwmbran, Gwent. Both practices still carry the Goodwin family name despite no Goodwin descendants in dentistry. He also served on various family practice committees and was appointed Chairman of the Family Health Service Authority (FHSA) Gwent by the Secretary of State for Wales. As an employer and practitioner, he was kind, empathic and personable.

He knew everyone's struggles and always provided a compassionate shoulder. He was a mentor to many, devoted to his family, friends, and community.

He possessed an encyclopaedic knowledge of classical music, European culture, travel, and history. He will be deeply missed by his wife of 64 years, Ruth; his children, David and Susan; his grandchildren, Elias, Asher and Anaia; daughter-in-law, Jeannine, niece Victoria and family and a wider circle of family and friends. He will be remembered for his love, humour, generosity, knowledge, wisdom and his dedication to the NHS. He loved his time at Downing and would proudly wear his Downing tie whenever the occasion would allow.

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**DEREK GREEN (1945)** died on 1 July 2020, aged 92. He read Natural Sciences.

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**DAVID ANTHONY MATTHEWS (1948)** died on 19 April 2021, aged 95. He read English.

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**KENNETH ROY NORMAN (1947)** died on 5 November 2020, aged 95. He read Classics followed by Oriental Studies. Rupert Gethin, Professor of Buddhist Studies, University of Bristol writes:



Roy or Mr Norman, as he liked to be known, was one of the great scholars of Middle Indo-Aryan philology. His academic career was spent almost entirely in Cambridge. He completed an MA at Cambridge in 1954 and went on to become Lecturer in Indian Studies (1954–1978), then Reader in Indian Studies (1978–1990), before being appointed Professor of Indian Studies in 1990, shortly before his retirement in 1992.

His scholarly contribution to the field of Pali studies has been immense, but his output covered also Jaina studies and the Ashokan inscriptions. His publications include translations of the major verse texts of the Pali canon: *Elders' Verses I (Theragāthā)*, 1969; *Elders' Verses II (Theṅgāthā)*, 1971; *The Group of Discourses (Suttanipāta)*, 1992, 2nd ed. 2001; *The Word of the Doctrine (Dhammapadā)*, 1997; each of these translations includes meticulous philological annotations.

He also published two significant monographs, *Pāli Literature* (1983) and, based on his 1994 Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai Lectures at SOAS, *A Philological Approach to Buddhism* (1997; 2nd edition 2006). In addition, he leaves behind

eight volumes of his *Collected Papers* (1990–2007), comprising 147 articles and 31 book reviews (originally published between 1958 and 2006). From 1981 to 1990 he was editor of *A Critical Pāli Dictionary* (Copenhagen), overseeing the publication of seven fascicles (11–17) of vol. II.

As well as being a Fellow of the British Academy and a Foreign Member of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, he was a Fellow of Downing College, Cambridge (1952–1962) and the longest serving member of the Council of the Pali Text Society (1959–2010); he also served as its President (1981–1994).

It is safe to say that all those who work on ancient texts in middle Indian languages will remain deeply indebted to his work for a long time to come.

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**MICHAEL TREDE (1947)** died on 11 May 2019, aged 90. He read Natural Sciences.

Dr Trede was born 1928 in Hamburg. In 1939 he emigrated with his mother to Britain. After Downing he undertook National Service in the Army and from 1955–57 was stationed in West Berlin. While in Berlin he met the chamber musician and piano player Ursula Boettcher and Professor Fritz Linder, chairman of the Surgical Hospital of Free University of Berlin.

Dr Trede started his surgical career as a resident between 1957 and 1962 in Linder's Department of Surgery. During 1959/60 he went for one year as research fellow to the USA working with William P Longmire at the University of California in Los Angeles. In 1962, Professor Linder moved to Heidelberg to take up the surgical chair of the University Hospital, where he was joined by Dr Trede. The focus of Dr Trede's research interest was at that time cardiac surgery, especially the extracorporeal circulation. Upon returning to Germany he was promoted to a position as postdoctoral lecturer with animal research data, measuring functional effects of extracorporeal circulation under conditions of blood hemodilution.

In 1972, Dr Trede was promoted to professor of surgery and first chairman and head of the Surgical Department of the largest hospital of Mannheim, which was affiliated to the Medical Faculty of the University of Heidelberg. On retirement in 1998, Professor Trede's department was one of the leading national surgical departments, maintaining a world-wide reputation for surgery of the pancreas.

Dr Trede held the presidencies of the German Society of Surgery (1993–94), the Society of Thorax-, Heart-, and Vascular Surgery and the International Society of Surgery (1993–95). In 1998, Dr Trede was elected a member of the National Academy of Natural Science Leopoldina of Germany. He was the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, *Archives für Klinische Chirurgie* until 1992. Among many other surgical societies of Europe, the Royal College of Surgeons of England (1985), Edinburgh (1985), Ireland (1992), and Glasgow (1992) granted Dr Trede

an honorary fellowship. The University of Edinburgh awarded him the honorary degree of MD.

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**PATRICK ALFRED WEBSTER (1945)** died on 29 April 2021, aged 91. He read Law.

## 1950s

**DAVID WILLIAM BAINS (1956)** died on 1 June 2016, aged 81. He read Law.

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**ALEXANDER GUY BAGNALL (1956)** died on 20 February 2021, aged 85. He read Mechanical Sciences. His wife, Jenny, writes:

Guy was born in Dorchester on 14 April 1935 and spent a happy if somewhat restricted wartime childhood in and around Weymouth. Not allowed on the beach, he had to teach himself to swim aged 11 before he went off to King's School, Bruton. Music was his passion there and he became an accomplished pianist, enjoyed singing Buttercup in a production of G&S's HMS Pinafore and had a lucrative job as organist for the Countess of Suffolk. Having won a place at Downing to read Mechanical Sciences, Guy first did National Service with the Royal Signals in Germany and had his first experience of teaching – O Level maths for sergeants seeking promotion. The advanced electronics involved in



**Guy in Kazakhstan in 2014 during the International Physics Olympiad**

listening to the Russians was good preparation for going up to Cambridge in 1956 where he made many and lasting friendships. He played tennis and hockey for Downing, decided against a career in civil engineering and did a Dip Ed. Singing with the chapel choir for a Bach Cantata concert he met Jenny and they married in 1963 in Bruton where her father was Headmaster.

Whilst teaching Physics at Harrow School, Guy wanted to keep abreast of his subject and enjoyed a term as a Schoolmaster Fellow Commoner at Downing. In 1976 he completed a part time AstroPhysics Masters (MSc) at Queen Mary University of London. He was invited to join the

committee of the British Physics Olympiad, setting and marking challenging and interesting questions for the expanding organisation and running training courses. From 1984 he co-led the British team and in 1986 helped to run the International Physics Olympiad at Harrow School – a mammoth enterprise. This saw the beginning of a rapid expansion of the International Physics Olympiad competition, with ever increasing numbers of countries participating and Guy worked tirelessly on the international syllabus and constitution. Guy was passionate about attracting able, pre-university pupils from across Britain to have the opportunity to compete internationally and make lasting and important scientific friendships. He travelled with the team of five to a different country each year for twenty-six years until 2010 and was honoured in 2014 by the World Federation of Physics Competitions at the 45th IPhO in Kazakhstan (see photo).

After retiring to Dorset in 1997, Guy continued with Olympiad work and enjoyed sailing, skiing and walking with the family – all ten cross-country skiing in Finland to celebrate Jenny's 70th birthday. The Himalayas were another passion and Guy supported a Nepalese family over two generations, helping them with education and housing. His last trek aged 76 was to the remote Kingdom of Lo Manthang. Guy bore the restrictions of life after a stroke in 2018 with patience and good humour and was always interested in the lives of his four grandchildren. He died peacefully at home and his funeral service was in the village church where he played the organ.

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**ROGER ALAN BARRINGTON-STILES (1954)** died November 2020, aged 84. He read Agricultural Sciences.

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**GERALD BRIAN BINDING (1954)** died on 27 December 2020, aged 85. He read English. His friends, John and Jill Davies, write:

Brian, as he was usually latterly known (or even Gerry to his family), was born in Harrow, north west London, in 1935. He died of complications from Covid-19. He won a scholarship to Haberdashers' Aske's School, Elstree, Hertfordshire. He read English with Dr F R Leavis (and H A Mason) whose teaching of the common pursuit of true judgement helped to form Brian as a life-long student and teacher of literature.

His first post in 1958 was teaching English at Latymer Upper School in West London where he taught for more than a decade. He inspired and influenced generations of pupils, many to become well-known public figures, with his rigorous, informed and caring teaching, his incisive mind, his integrity and his good humour. He was known for his BMW motorbike, his cashmere overcoats

and his ever-present pipe. In 1969 he moved to Bilborough, to a mixed grammar school, in Nottingham and in 1972 returned to London as Head of English at The Latymer (mixed) School in Edmonton, North London, where he taught until 1988.

Brian was a bon viveur, sociable and a generous, attentive host. He could easily make you think of the Ben Jonson of the 'Inviting a Friend to Supper', whose poetry he admired. He could read aloud with resonance and act with panache, appearing in several school pantomimes and plays. His Guardian obituarist, Peter Peggall, a former pupil, wrote of Brian's 'gently sardonic approach as a rowing coach to the less than Olympian efforts of the crews he nurtured'. After retiring from teaching in 1988, Brian took further training in European languages and became a skilled freelance translator. (He had taken a year out from Downing to study in Paris.)

He always travelled adventurously, mainly in Europe (e.g. camping in the French Pyrenees), but in later years he made several visits to Thailand, having gained fluency in Thai. He was a welcome and companionable visitor to us in Sussex and in York, when he taught at the University, walking with us on the Moors and climbing Ingleborough and later in Gower, walking and swimming. Nevertheless, an inveterate Londoner, he was always glad to return to the City. Here he enjoyed exhibitions, the theatre and live concerts – he avoided all recorded music, had neither radio or television. A fine pianist, he also took up the viola, but above all he became a skilled harpsichordist, working with Maria Boxall. In 1998 he gave a memorable solo recital at Burgh House, Hampstead. Playing Couperin and Scarlatti, he called it: 'A Musical Offering and Supper for My Friends'. He had taken his harpsichord with him on a sabbatical term at Merton College, Oxford. In the last three years of his life Brian needed support, suffering from microvascular disease which affected his mobility, memory and joie de vivre. He is survived by his nephews, Nick and Philip.

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**ALAN BOWNESS (1950)** died on 1 March 2021, aged 93. He read Modern Languages. John Tancock (1960), who read English and History of Art, later studying at the Courtauld where Sir Alan supervised his PhD, writes:

Sir Alan Bowness, CBE, was an art historian, professor, public figure in the arts, and a museum director. He identified himself as an 'art historian' and temperamentally as a 'teacher, preacher ... more than an administrator'. It was his ability to combine different aspects of a life in the arts, very often simultaneously, that gave him such a distinctive profile in the British art world. Bowness came up to Downing four years older than most undergraduates as he was a conscientious objector and had served for four years with Quaker organisations. He read Modern Languages (French and German), but also



**Sir Alan Bowness at the first exhibition in the Heong Gallery featuring his collection of modern British paintings**

attended as many of F R Leavis's classes as he could and became President of the Doughty Society. One of the many advantages of Downing is its proximity to the Fitzwilliam Museum, where he discovered the pleasure of prolonged looking at works of art. He gained first-hand experience of an administrative role when he was chosen to run the Cambridge Contemporary Art Trust (a picture lending scheme for undergraduates), recognising that personal taste must be balanced by consideration of what an audience was likely to appreciate.

Carl Winter, Director of the Fitzwilliam, recommended that Bowness should continue his study of European art at the Courtauld Institute, under Anthony Blunt. He found Blunt to be a stimulating teacher and Blunt clearly recognised that his pupil had enormous potential for developing the teaching of twentieth-century art at the Institute. After a brief period writing art criticism and acting as an Arts Council Regional Art Officer, Bowness was invited back in 1957 and stayed until 1980, as successively Reader, Professor, and finally, Deputy Director.

Beyond his commitments at the Courtauld, he served on numerous panels and committees of the Arts Council, the British Council, and the Contemporary Art Society. It was through his Arts Council responsibilities that he came to know St Ives, an event that was to be important both professionally and personally. St Ives' thriving arts community was second only to London. He met Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson and in 1957 married Sarah Hepworth-Nicholson, a musician. There he developed a great admiration for the younger generation of

painters, including Peter Lanyon and Patrick Heron. In 1961, he produced the first volume of the Barbara Hepworth catalogue raisonné and a second volume in 1971 covering the period 1960–69. Following Barbara Hepworth's untimely death in 1975, he became principal executor of the estate, overseeing the conversion of her house and studio into the Barbara Hepworth Museum and Sculpture Garden. A final development in his careful stewardship, in association with his daughter, the art historian Sophie Bowness, of Hepworth's posthumous reputation was the opening of the Hepworth Wakefield in 2011.

Bowness had an important personal and professional relationship with the other great British sculptor of the twentieth century, Henry Moore. Taking over the preparation of the Henry Moore catalogue raisonné from David Sylvester, he published five volumes between 1965 and 1988 and, after the artist's death, became director of the Henry Moore Foundation. In 1993 he founded the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, as a Centre for the research and history of sculpture, which later formed part of the Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle, consisting of the Henry Moore Institute, The Hepworth Wakefield, Leeds Art Gallery, and Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

During his years at the Courtauld, Sir Alan curated a number of highly influential exhibitions that ranged from *54–64: Painting and Sculpture of the Decade*, a survey of avant-garde art from Britain, Europe and the USA, to *Post-Impressionism* at the Royal Academy of Arts in 1979, as well as numerous monographic exhibitions. When he became director of the Tate Gallery in 1980, he had a resumé that was hard to match and, as it turned out, the political skills required to run a national museum during a time of transition. The Tate, he felt, was 'rather insular', and he introduced innovations that laid the foundation for the Tate as we know it today. Recognizing the Booker Prize's remarkable success in drawing attention to modern fiction, he inaugurated the Turner Prize in 1984, an annual event that is still frequently controversial. During his tenure, many signature works such as *Weeping Woman* (1937) by Picasso and David Hockney's *A Bigger Splash* (1967) entered the collection. His establishment of the *Patrons of New Art* and *Patrons of British Art* facilitated the acquisition of works. With the opening of the Clore Wing, designed by James Stirling, he achieved his ambition of housing the national collection of works by J M W Turner. After complicated negotiations, the 35,000 works on paper held at the British Museum were united with the oil paintings already held at the Tate.

Obligated to retire from the Tate at the age of sixty in 1988, his involvement with the legacy of Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth occupied a significant amount of his time. With his wife, Sarah, he shared a love of classical and contemporary music. The trips from the house in Barnes where they had lived since 1962 to Wigmore Hall became a regular feature of their life together. His relationship with Downing was recognized in 1980 when he became an Honorary Fellow of the College. It was further strengthened when he agreed to exhibit his personal collection of modern British paintings as the first exhibition in the Heong Gallery at Downing College in 2016, an occasion that he described as "a wonderful last

act." By bequeathing a collection of works to the Fitzwilliam Museum and his personal library of books and catalogues to the University Library, he hoped that future generations of visitors and scholars will gain greater understanding of this important period in the development of modern British painting.

Bowness was made a CBE in 1976 and was knighted in 1988.

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**RICHARD MORLEY BROOK (1950)** died on 10 May 2020, aged 88. He read Mechanical Sciences. His son, Michael Brook (1982), writes:

Richard died peacefully in his sleep at Southfield Court Nursing Home, Huddersfield. He is survived by Heather, his loving supportive wife of 62 years, three children, seven grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. He spent five years at Bromsgrove School in the West Midlands then went up to Downing. Along with many of his generation at that time, he then endured a torrid National Service in the Middle East.

Richard spent ten years or so in the family firm of sheet metal workers then, after a few years working in a larger firm splitting time between their facilities in Manchester and Huddersfield, he founded AutoSystems Ltd in December 1969. He started alone in one tiny office in Huddersfield and it grew to become



**Procession in Cambridge 1952:** Lord Tedder, Chancellor (1st left), Richard Brook (2nd left), Duke of Edinburgh, on the occasion of him receiving his Honorary Doctorate of Law (3rd left), Sir Lionel Whitby, Vice-Chancellor and Master of Downing College (5th left)

a successful, internationally renowned automation business, the legacy of which, in terms of people and commercial activities thrives to this day.

Richard had many and varied interests ranging from climbing, playing the flute, singing with the renowned Huddersfield Choral Society, being a staunch lifelong supporter (and candidate for) the Liberal Party and probably most important of all to him, continued his love of hockey, being a significant part of the Huddersfield Hockey Club from late teens until he finally hung up his boots at the age of 69. He led a full and fulfilling life.

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**RICHARD FRANCIS BURTON (1957)** died on 18 October 2020, aged 84. He read Natural Sciences. His brother Robert (1960) and son, Francis, write:

Richard was educated at Oundle School and on leaving was called-up for his National Service in the Royal Artillery. He was quickly promoted to sergeant with responsibility for administering intelligence tests to each monthly intake of recruits. His officer believed in getting all tests completed within two weeks, thus releasing Richard for a fortnight's leave every month! He came up to Downing with a scholarship to read Natural Sciences, specialising in zoology. In his last year he met Janeen Burland who was training for nursing at Addenbrooke's Hospital. They married and had three children: Francis, Eva and Simon. After Cambridge, Richard did a PhD at London on the physiology of snails' blood.

His first job was as a junior lecturer in the Zoology Department at Toronto University. In 1965 the family moved to Glasgow, where Richard was appointed as a lecturer in the Department of Physiology. In addition to research papers, he wrote several textbooks, the most prominent of which is *Physiology by numbers*. His aim was to encourage numerically-challenged biologists to understand the importance of quantitative reasoning. Latterly, as an Honorary Research Fellow, affiliated with both the Institute of Cardiovascular & Medical Sciences and the School of Life Sciences he became interested in the appropriateness of body mass index (BMI) as a measure for categorising people as underweight, overweight or obese. Richard retained his scientific interest in quantitative physiology and was still publishing earlier this year.

Aside from his academic interests, Richard was a keen jazz saxophonist. He had started as a classical clarinetist at school, but later converted to jazz. He was still playing in a local band, whose repertoire included his own compositions.

He married for the second time in 1984, spending the rest of his life with Lin Po. Latterly, he became involved with Accountability Scotland, a democratic organisation which campaigns for transparent public accountability in Scottish Governance. He also translated Chinese poetry into English, culminating in a book entitled *Proteins, Ancient Greeks and Tang Poetry*.

Richard was admitted to hospital suffering from a long-term condition and there contracted Covid-19 from which he died.

**ALISTAIR ABERDEIN CONN (1957)** died on 26 March 2020, aged 82. He read History. His daughter, Lucy, writes:



Alistair was born in Twickenham and attended the Mall School and St Paul's. He was posted to Wuppertal for his National Service; it was during this time that he developed his lifetime love of reading. Alistair specialised in the medieval period of English and European history and in historiography at Downing. He obtained his boxing Blue as a featherweight. He then studied at Lincoln Theological College and was ordained as a priest in 1963. Alistair was a curate at St

Paul's in West Hartlepool. He then spent a year at Busoga College in Uganda as school chaplain and assistant housemaster, where he taught English, history and R.E.

Alistair was school chaplain at Shrewsbury School from 1966 to 1973 and also taught English and R.E. and helped to coach the under-14 football and cricket teams. He met his future wife, Bella, at Shrewsbury. They used to go to Shrewsbury Town matches together; Alistair remained an avid Town fan and continued to go to matches until his health declined. Alistair and Bella were married in 1968 and in the following years their first two daughters were born.

Alistair and his family then moved to Scotland, where he was rector at St Anne's, Coupar Angus, and the assistant editor of the Scottish Episcopal Church's newspaper. Alistair and Bella's third daughter was born in Scotland. Despite having three young children, Alistair still found time to watch the local football team and play cricket! In 1978, Alistair and the family returned to England. He became vicar of St Peter's, Ravenshead, and served as Rural Dean of Newstead. In 1993 he became rector at All Saints, Collingham, and St John the Baptist, Collingham (along with three other local churches in the Southwell Diocese) and served as Rural Dean of Newark. He played cricket for the Southwell Diocesan Clergy team and was its captain for some years. Alistair retired in 2002, serving with permission to officiate until 2017. He had an active retirement; he was a literacy volunteer at a local school, he was a charity trustee, he undertook several courses, and he spent many happy hours at Trent Bridge.

Alistair was exceptionally cultured. He was passionate about music, art, film and literature and was an avid reader. He loved playing and watching sport throughout his life. He enjoyed walking with family and friends and completed many of the National Trails. He loved learning and helping others to grow and learn. Alistair was described as being 'stimulating company', 'a man of very great integrity', 'a great support' and it was said that 'his judgements were always sound, humane and brave'.

Alistair's health deteriorated rapidly after Bella died in 2014 and he was diagnosed with dementia in 2016. He will be remembered for his kindness, his caring and gentle nature, his dry sense of humour, and his strong sense of fairness and social justice. He lived a deep and full life, but also lived a life in the service of others.

**RICHARD NOEL DOUBLEDAY (1951)** died on 1 March 2021, aged 90. He read Law. His wife, Kate, writes:



Born 27 May 1930 in Wimbledon, Noel attended Alleyn's School, Dulwich which was evacuated during the War to Rossall School, Fleetwood. After the War he went to King Edwards, Edgbaston. In 1950 he joined the Young Conservatives and became branch chairman. In 1951 he entered Downing College and read Law. Between 1954 and 1964 he worked for the Metal Box Company, eventually becoming a regional Commercial Manager in Northumberland.

During his time with Metal Box and living in London in the 60s he attended Westminster Chapel, an evangelical free church in Westminster, central London and also became a member of the Antioch Club, supporting young people attending Westminster Chapel. Under the teaching of Revd Martin Lloyd Jones and with the support of the Antioch Club, Noel became a committed Christian and this changed the course of his life. In 1967 he opened a Christian Bookshop in Reading and worked with Revd Canon Michael Harper for a time in the Fountain Trust. (The Fountain Trust was an ecumenical agency formed in the UK in 1964 to promote the charismatic renewal.) Following a trip to the Netherlands where he met Brother Andrew (author of *God's Smuggler*) he co-founded Open Doors, UK in the 70s with Brother Andrew, travelling and smuggling Bibles and Christian literature into communist countries. In 1983 he became financial campaigner for Keston College – The Keston Institute is an organisation dedicated to the study of religion and communist countries, now based in Oxford. It was founded in 1969 by the Revd Canon Michael Bourdeaux and as a fundraiser he arranged a reception at which Margaret Thatcher was guest speaker.

Following a visit to Russia with the International Bible Society in 1993 he founded Love Russia, a Christian charity striving to help disadvantaged orphans, orphanage leavers, mothers and their children in crisis. In 1999 he retired and we moved to Presteigne, Powys Wales in 2000.

**JOHN DUCKWORTH (1952)** died on 21 April 2020, aged 88. He read Law followed by Economics. His wife, Rosemary, writes:



Born in Winchester, John attended The Pilgrims School there and then Sedbergh School in Cumbria. Before Cambridge he served his National Service, which included active service with the Manchester Regiment in Malaya. This was an experience of which he talked fondly throughout his life. He also clearly enjoyed his time at Downing, but perhaps did not find it quite as exciting. After Cambridge he qualified as a solicitor and spent most of his professional

life as a partner in London firms, retiring in 2000. He was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable man of many interests and surrounded by many books, mostly non-fiction. The history of all countries and all times fascinated him. He was becoming increasingly concerned about climate change and in particular the risks to wildlife. He was in the midst of a project to eliminate the use of fossil fuels in our heating when he died. Sadly, he caught Covid-19 in hospital.

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**ALAN JAMES FORREST (1951)** died on 6 November 2020, aged 91. He read Modern Languages. His wife, Diana, writes:



Alan Forrest was born on 2 October 1931 and educated at Whitgift School before going to Downing where he focused on French and German, factors which inspired his lifelong interest in European affairs and the need to form a united Europe. He thoroughly enjoyed his time at Downing and was his Year Group's Representative for many years, up until recently.

After graduation, Alan studied European Affairs at the College of Europe in Bruges (Alcide de Gasperi promotion 1954–55). From there Alan joined the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) in Brussels where he began to use his professional skills in the labour field to help build democracy and European and international cooperation.

After many years' service at the ICFTU, Alan joined the European Commission where he specialised in labour issues. In 1976, he joined the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union where he worked for 20 years until his retirement in 1996, latterly as Head of Division, Youth, Education and Culture, where he helped establish the ERASMUS programme and create educational opportunities and cultural protections across the EU, among many initiatives.

Alan was a thoughtful and open-hearted man who enjoyed his family, social life and interests including birdwatching, opera and tennis. He also co-founded the Brussels Labour Party group and was an active member of Rotary International, the European Movement and more. His wisdom, energy and good humour are greatly missed by his family and friends.

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**MICHAEL WILLIAM FOSTER (1955)** died on 30 November 2020, aged 85. He read History. The following is a tribute prepared by Mr Foster's family for his funeral:



Dad was always very passionate about classical music, especially church music. At the age of six his parents realised he had perfect pitch, so gave him piano lessons and he would play duets with his father playing the violin. From a local grammar school Dad won a scholarship to Downing College to read History. Here Dad continued his love of music, singing in the Chapel Choir and had organ lessons with a very distinguished organist and teacher, Gordon Phillips. After achieving the ARCM diploma on the piano, he did a postgraduate teaching year at Cambridge in history and music.

In 1959 Dad was appointed an alto Lay Vicar in Salisbury Cathedral choir; he loved the next nineteen years singing daily with his cherished friends. As young children, not only do we have idyllic memories of living in the Cathedral Close, but also singing and skipping home with Dad after Sunday Evensongs. When Dad taught at the Cathedral School in Salisbury, he met Mum, Ruth Dearnley, who was a Matron at the school. In 1963 they were married in Salisbury Cathedral by her father and priest, Charles Dearnley, with her brother, Christopher Dearnley, playing the organ.

Dad conducted various choirs over the years including 'The Farrant Singers' (an adult chamber choir) whilst Assistant Director of Music at Bishop Wordsworth Grammar School. Dad loved learning and in addition to his full-time job, in 1971 he completed his B Mus degree at Christchurch, Oxford. In 1977 he started his PhD and completed it in the 1980s.

In 1978 he was appointed Director of Music at Wellington School, Somerset. Here he continued to radiate his love of music and inspired so many pupils. Alongside this seven-day-a-week job, Dad was the Conductor of the town Choral Society for thirteen years. They performed some thrilling performances and Dad loved every minute with this Society. He fulfilled his great ambition with Elgar's 'The Dream of Gerontius' with professional soloists and the School Chapel Choir as the semi-chorus – an unforgettable experience for us all.

In 2002 Mum and Dad retired to Ottery St Mary, Devon where they spent many happy years together making new friends and enjoyed worshipping in

its historic church. Although Dad stopped teaching, he continued to share his passion for music with the local villagers by playing the organ in Ottery St Mary, Talaton and Harpford churches. When Mum sadly died in 2010, Dad started to write a biography of the organist Henry Ley.

With his warm heart, Dad made many true friends over the years and inspired so many students with his love and talent for music. He encouraged his children and his seven grandchildren to sing and play musical instruments and we were able to surround him with this even in his last few days.

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**JOHN PATRICK KAYE GARTHWAITE (1955)** died on 15 November 2020, aged 83. He read Natural Sciences.

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**JOHN CLIFFORD GOWER (1950)** died on 6 May 2019, aged 89. He read Mathematics. His daughter, Sally, writes:

Educated at Emanuel School, London, after national service in the army and Downing, Professor Gower took a 2-year postgraduate diploma in statistics at Manchester. He joined the statistics department at Rothamsted Experimental Station in 1955.

In 1964 he was a founder member and later President of the British Classification Society, bringing together both statistical programmers and users of multivariate software. He served as Associate Editor of the *Journal of Classification*. In 1982 he joined in the discussions leading to the formation of the International Federation of Classification Societies in 1985, of which he was President in 1990.

Professor Gower was appointed Head of the Statistics Department at Rothamsted in 1984 and was one of the leading authorities on multi variate analysis. On his retirement in 1990 he moved to Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. He spent time in Leiden before he was appointed Professor of Statistics at the Open University.

He travelled widely, spending sabbatical years in the Bell Laboratories (1967), Chapel Hill, North Carolina (1970), and Adelaide (1974 and 1981), as well as shorter visits to Canada, France, Korea and South Africa, where he became aware of developments across the world, and involved many workers in joint projects and publications. Many of his overseas contacts spent time at Rothamsted.

Professor Gower served the Royal Statistical Society in many capacities, including as Honorary Secretary of Council from 1981–1986. He was also a fellow of the International Statistical Institute and supported the formation of the International Association for Statistical Computing. He was an active member of the Biometric Society, becoming President in 1988, the British Computer Society

and the British Classification Society. He was Visiting Professor at the City University and external examiner for several doctoral students. He was a founder member of the International Association of Mathematical Geology.

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**JOHN CROSBY HARRIS (1957)** died on 18 February 2021, aged 83. He read Architecture.

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**ROGER GRAHAME HOOD (1958)** died on 17 November 2020, aged 84. He took a PhD. The following is based upon an obituary by Professor Carolyn Hoyle, Director of the University of Oxford Centre for Criminology 2012–2017 and Professor Lucia Zedner, Professor of Criminal Justice, University of Oxford and is reproduced with their kind permission:



Courtesy of Matthew Hood

Professor Roger Hood had a long and successful career in criminology, first in Cambridge, but primarily in Oxford. Born in Bristol, he attended King Edward VI Five Ways School, Birmingham before winning a scholarship to read sociology at the London School of Economics. He completed his PhD at Downing on homeless borstal boys in 1963 upon which he became a lecturer at the University of Durham. In 1967 he joined the Institute of Criminology in Cambridge before moving to Oxford in 1973, where he founded the Centre for Criminology.

Roger was a long-standing member of the British Society of Criminology, serving as its President from 1987 to 1989. He was Director of the Oxford Centre for Criminology for thirty years and an active and prolific researcher for over sixty years. Roger was widely honoured for his contributions to criminology by his peers – he was made a Fellow of The British Academy and of the Academy of Social Sciences, he was presented with the Sellin-Glueck Award for Distinguished International Contributions to Criminology by the American Society of Criminology and he was later awarded a CBE for his services to criminology and made an honorary QC – much to his delight, in the same year as Nelson Mandela.

The depth and breadth of Roger Hood's contributions to criminology are exceptional, ranging from early work on sentencing (*Sentencing in the Magistrates' Courts* 1962 and *Sentencing the Motoring Offender* 1972); a rightly renowned, enduring book with Richard F Sparks on *Key Issues in Criminology* 1970; influential work on parole and release from custody (not least as a member of the *Carlisle Committee* on the parole system in the late 1980s); magisterial work on the history of criminal justice with Sir Leon Radzinowicz (*A History of*

*English Criminal Law and its Administration from 1750* 1986); and ground-breaking work on race for the Commission on Racial Equality (resulting in many significant publications, not least *Race and Sentencing* 1992).

From the late 1980s Roger became increasingly absorbed in his work on capital punishment after he was commissioned by the United Nations to report on its use in member states. The later part of his career was devoted to that work, which reached across Asia, the Caribbean and beyond. Some of his work was co-authored with his colleague Carolyn Hoyle, resulting in many articles and multiple successive editions of *The Death Penalty: A World-Wide Perspective* and much was done in collaboration with the leading NGO, The Death Penalty Project. In all his scholarship, Roger Hood not only undertook outstanding research, but made a sustained commitment to informing and influencing the reform of criminal justice policy. He was intellectually generous, the sponsor and inspiration of numerous professional careers. He was also a devoted family man, to his daughter Cathy, his stepchildren Zoe, Clare and David and his wider family.

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**ANTHONY GUY HOWARD (1956)** died on 30 October 2019, aged 97. He took a Certificate of Competence in Russian while in the Royal Navy. He retired with the rank of Commander.

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**DAVID JOHNSON LEWIS (1956)** died on 14 February 2021, aged 83. He read Geography. His wife, Dena, writes:



David was a West Riding man, with generations of teachers in his family, so that it is not surprising that, after graduating, he went to Oxford for his PGCE. There he was presented with an extra-large spanner by his fellow students as he could always be relied on to ask the awkward questions and to throw one in the works. His early teaching years were in grammar schools and then a move to Hertfordshire to Ashwell FE and Field Studies Centre, where he had free reign to pursue his own agenda and to try out some of the new ideas, current at the time in the 70s and 80s, in environmental and geographical education. Whilst there he applied for and was sworn in by the Queen in Counsel as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors in 1974. Again, this was not surprising as it was predicted by a head when he was on a very early teaching practice.

So followed 10 years in the North West Division, based in Manchester, covering all schools and Environmental Education from 'Crewe to Carlisle', succeeded by a

move to Eastern Division based in the Cambridge Office, where he moved nearer to the Continent but further from London! All based on comparative train times. David never forgot his years at the chalk face and was ever the diplomat in the classroom. The Inspectorate gave him many opportunities to meet and enjoy the company of so many colleagues. He went abroad helping with inspection systems in Bulgaria and Saudi Arabia, for example, but his most productive experience was with The Japanese Atomic Energy Relations Organisation both in Suffolk and Japan, making friends which still hold firm to this day.

Throughout his career, David was very concerned with the welfare of others, from being NUT representative in schools, to founding Nafso for leaders in field studies and progressing to be AHMI representative in the Eastern Division and then to Chairman of the Inspectorate branch of the First Division of Civil Servants. Even in retirement, he was concerned with the welfare of others through the Benevolent Fund. He was a man who commanded respect, was generous with his time and who will be sadly missed by his family and friends worldwide.

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**ROBERT BRIAN MCCREIGHT (1957)** died on 20 September 2020, aged 83. He read Mechanical Sciences. His wife, Charmian, writes:



Robert, known to many as 'Bob', followed his brother Patrick from Haileybury to Downing after doing his National Service in REME. He enjoyed rowing at Downing and made several lifelong friends there.

He worked for Tube Investments in Birmingham for two and a half years and spent the weekends walking in Snowdonia. He then had a long career with ICI, mainly working at Welwyn Garden City and on Teesside, as Project Engineer at the then cutting edge of polyethylene production. During that time he spent an interesting year seconded to Irish Fertilisers to move a nitric acid plant by sea from Leith Docks to Arklow across the top of Scotland. After consultation with the locals at Arklow, slightly modifying the harbour and cutting down a large tree, it was moved to the site at dead of night, with many locals turning out to watch. He also spent a year in New Jersey working with the contractors C F Braun on a plant for Botany Bay.

In 1997 we moved to Somerset and he spent his retirement years working for the Charity REMAP, which makes and modifies equipment for people with disabilities when no suitable commercial products are available. He was a keen sailor and also enjoyed walking, rough shooting and carpentry/wood turning. His friends appreciated his engineering and carpentry skills when holidaying abroad with dodgy old cars and his beloved co-owned boat Joline II. He is survived by his wife, two children Mary and Edward, and five grandchildren.

**JOHN TOFT MAINWARING (1950)** died on 6 October 2019, aged 88. He read Natural Sciences. His younger daughter, Clare Chilcott (1980), writes:

As a schoolboy, my father lived in Dorchester, Dorset, where he attended Dorchester Grammar School (now Hardy's School). He then went up to Downing to read Natural Sciences. After completing his preclinical medical studies at Cambridge, he went to St. Mary's Hospital, London for his clinical studies. Here he met my mother, Marian Rich, a fellow medical student. They married in 1957. The best man was Hugh Melville (1950), also a Downing medical student and a close friend of my father.

Shortly afterwards, my parents moved to Münster, Germany, as my father had been called up for National Service. My elder sister, Frances, was born there in 1959. At the end of my father's National Service, they returned to England, where my father took a job in a general practice in Portsmouth; he was a well-loved and well-respected GP. He stayed there for the rest of his life.

He leaves a widow, Marian, and two daughters, Frances and Clare. Both my father and I were very pleased that I became a student at Downing, too, when women were first admitted.

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**NORMAN NATHAN MORRIS (1951)** died on 17 April 2020 aged 88. He read Mathematics. Brian Forsdick (1961) writes:

Norman was born in Manchester on 2 April 1932 and attended North Manchester Grammar School before coming up to Downing to read Mathematics at the age of 19. His lifelong friend from Downing was Alastair Allan, with whom he later attended many Downing Association Dinners. National Service in North Africa followed Downing and he then spent a year doing a teacher training course at Lincoln College, Oxford. Norman loved teaching. His first teaching post was back at his old school, North Manchester Grammar School. In 1958, at the age of 26 he moved south to Mitcham County Grammar School, where he made lifelong friends with other young teaching staff. It was at Mitcham that Norman was at his happiest, professionally. In 1962 he moved to Bromley Grammar School and in 1968 he was recruited by his previous headmaster at Mitcham, GJP Courtney, to be Head of Maths at Isleworth Grammar School. Shortly after this, Norman gained an MSc in Statistics from Imperial College, London. In all his school teaching posts he was involved with music: choirs, accompaniments and performance productions. He wasn't sporty, but apparently took charge of Mitcham's school badminton team (to the amazement of the boys!) and he accompanied school trips, often abroad.

At the age of 39, Norman married Liz Courtney (the head's daughter!) in 1971 and they moved to Derbyshire where he specialised in teacher training firstly

at what is now Derby University and then at Nottingham University. He was chief examiner for Mathematics for the Cambridge Board (later OCR) for many years. After early retirement, he did private coaching, quite successfully with even the most reluctant pupils. Music was a great love: he played the piano until arthritis made it too difficult and listened to his collection of opera CDs. He sang tenor as a member of the Derby Bach Choir and attended summer courses at Dartington.

Norman loved teaching. It was what he had always wanted to do. He never regretted the choices he made in life and was proud that his children shared his values. (Apparently some of his wider family thought dismissively that he 'should have made something of his life!')

It is when he was a teacher at Mitcham when I was in the 6th form that I first met Norman. There he showed how good a mathematician he was and how well he could get it over to boys only a few years younger than himself. And I remember Norman taking a couple of us to the famous Soho restaurant The Gay Hussar to celebrate our exam and university entrance successes. He was dedicated and interested and many of us owe him a great deal.

Norman is survived by Liz, his daughter Sophia, who works for the NHS, and his twin sons Ted and Sam who are both music teachers. He was a doting father when he recovered from the shock arrival of all three within two years relatively late in his life. He also leaves five grandchildren who brought him great joy. He played a large part in their lives during his later years.

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**DEREK RICHARD MUMFORD (1959)** died on 26 December 2020, aged 79. He read Law.

He was born in Cairo and grew up in London. In 1969, he relocated to the United States to work for Sikorsky Aircraft in Stratford, Connecticut. In 1975, he joined Eaton Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio. He spent over 25 years at Eaton retiring as Vice President of Information Technologies and an appointed officer of the company. He served on several boards, including The Cleveland Opera and the YMCA. He played rugby competitively well into his thirties with the Old Blues of England and Yale University. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Linda J Mumford, his children, Derek (Hannah) Mumford and Courtney (Mike) Stylski and his grandchildren Caiden Mumford, Jake, Ty, Ryan and Addison Stylski.

**JOHN NOBLE-NESBITT (1955)** died on 20 October 2020, aged 86. He read Natural Sciences. His son Martin, together with his College contemporary, **John Hall (1955)**, write:



John attended Gateshead Grammar School and, after National Service as a radio operator in the RAF, came up to Downing which is where I met him. After gaining Firsts in Botany and Zoology he achieved his PhD in Insect Physiology. By this time he had also met his future wife Brenda and they were married in 1959. In 1961 a post-doctoral post followed in Toronto, then in 1963 John and Brenda returned to the UK and soon settled in Cringleford, near Norwich. There

John became one of the four founding lecturers at the School of Biological Sciences at the new University of East Anglia and he would stay at the UEA for the remainder of his career. However, during that time he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship, which resulted in a six-month sabbatical in the US. Back in the UK John served on committees for the East Anglia Institute of Biology, the Society of Experimental Biologists, the Company of Biologists and the Norfolk branch of the Cambridge Society. In 1969 he was promoted to Senior Lecturer, an achievement very rare for a 35 year old. He also served as the UEA representative on the Cambridge University Military Education Committee.

Both John and Brenda were highly active in the local community, with John taking executive and committee positions with the NSPCC, Rotary Club and local PTAs. His sons Duncan and Richard both having been diagnosed at birth with PKU (Phenylketonuria), John and Brenda joined the newly formed NSPKU in 1974. They took an active role in steering the society, with John acting as Chairman on several occasions. He founded the Medical Advisory Panel, with the NSPKU becoming the first patient-supporting charity to work in partnership with medical professionals. John was instrumental in advocating a diet for life for PKU patients at a time when medical opinion said otherwise, but the diet for life has since become the first and preferred method of lifelong therapy for patients throughout the world.

John loved to travel, and through his work he was able to spend time in Canada, the US and Portugal. Outside work he and Brenda travelled extensively, cruising most of the corners of the globe, though John's favourite region remained the Galapagos. At home, John was a sprinter, a beekeeper, a ballroom dancer and a trainee pilot. He also played the accordion and sang in a barbershop group. He was an assiduous attender at College occasions.

John endured illnesses and much time in hospital during his last few years, but happily battled through them in time to celebrate with Brenda their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 7 September 2019 in much better health. He is survived by Brenda, his sons Martin, Duncan, Paul and Richard, and two grandchildren.

**ERIC CRAWFORD PATERSON (1956)** died on 17 January 2021, aged 87. He took a postgraduate diploma in Agricultural Science.

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**FREDERICK BURNETT PENHALIGON (1954)** died on 24 July 2020, aged 86. He read History. John Hussey and John Gibson (both 1954) write as follows, having consulted his wife Janet:

Freddy came of pure Cornish stock, but his family had migrated to Devonshire and he went to school in Crediton and Exmouth. With good A levels in History, English and Latin he seemed bent on a career in architecture and had been accepted by two vocational schools before changing direction to read History at Downing. Clive Parry's letter confirming him a place ended with a pleasing touch: "I personally am glad", which must have counted for much.

Freddy came up, aged 21, following National Service during which he studied Russian in Bodmin camp. One of his colleagues there remembered his sheer determination, working at his Russian translations despite the noise of a barrack-room. This dedication was evident from his first term at Cambridge, for while many who were now quit of the Armed Forces plunged into the enticing hedonism of undergraduate socialising, he tended to prefer the Mill Lane lectures and the quiet of the Faculty Library. I shared a double set with him in our first year [then J 10, now J 16/17] and later we both had digs near Parker's Piece and it was noticeable how he gradually relaxed and opened out. A potent if quiet influence in this was our History director of studies, Reggie White, whose habit of introducing fascinating sidelines to a set topic educated us as a strict limitation to the syllabus might not have done.

Freddy responded. In his second year he took up rowing. His appreciation of university life grew. He cherished the beauty of our chapel, liking the reflective style of the chaplain George Woods. He spent vacations travelling with friends to Yugoslavia, Germany, Italy, returning with fresher and wider views. What he absorbed in those three years he retained and indeed – according to his later pupils – manifestly passed on for the rest of his life.

After a brief spell in industry, he became a teacher of History and related subjects. His sense of purpose resulted in headmasterships, the first in 1972 at Sunbury Grammar School that he later turned into a Sixth Form College while also creating an adjacent Comprehensive – and running both. Then he moved west to run another Comprehensive till 'retirement'. It was in fact no retirement, for he was called in by a Further Education College that sought a good historian for its A level classes. He stayed there for years teaching History and Politics; and many moving letters from those students were quoted at his funeral.

Freddy married Janet, a teacher of German, and they had two sons, Andrew and Robert, with grandchildren later. He was quietly, but intensely proud of them

all. "He was", said one daughter-in-law, "always there if I needed his help". He had a gift of listening with total and sympathetic attention even to the youngest of the family.

A keen gardener with green fingers, his later years were restricted by ill-health, but through self-discipline he continued to work at his Russian, to read and to concern himself with music and books and events. His illnesses increased, but his stoicism grew and to within weeks of his death his letters to friends remained full of interest and even optimism. Rest in Peace, old friend.

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**MICHAEL JOHN PRAGNELL (1959)** died on 15 July 2020, aged 80. He read Natural Sciences followed by a PhD in Chemistry.

His career included being Quality Control Manager for Guinness, Park Royal and Chief Executive of Zeneca Agrochemicals and Seeds. He was a member of the Society of Ordained Scientists.

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**RALPH JOSEPH QUARTON (1953)** died on 8 May 2020, aged 85. He read Mechanical Sciences. His wife, June, writes:

Ralph was born in Manchester on 7 April 1935. He attended Audenshaw Grammar School, from where he got a scholarship to Downing College, being the first member of his family to go to University. Whilst at Downing he played rugby and badminton for the College.

He went on to work at De Havilland Aircraft Company in Hertfordshire, where he met his wife June, marrying on 31 May 1958. He left the private sector to become a teacher at Langley School in Norfolk where he stayed for several years before going to Singapore to teach children of service personnel. Returning in 1968, he taught at Batley Grammar School, then moving to become head of Mathematics and Computing at Kettlethorpe High School, Wakefield. On taking early retirement, he moved with June to Burgundy in France where they lived for 22 years before returning to the UK in 2016. Whilst in France they became a big part of the community keeping active and joining many of the local groups. He leaves June, two children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

IAN CLIVE ROBINSON (1955) died on 30 October 2020, aged 83. He read English. The following is an abridged version of a tribute written by Elaine Mencher, wife of Barrie Mencher (1955), for the Powys Society newsletter:

Courtesy of James Rose



Ian Robinson was not only a great literary critic, but also a wonderful human being, the two things being closely intertwined. He was incorruptible in every way and his quiet modest demeanour covered a fearless, passionate and detailed response to what, in a host of essays and books, he showed to be the degeneration of the English language in our time, with its correspondingly demoralising effect on every aspect of our lives. In response to the news of Ian's death Bob Hayward wrote of the inaugural meeting of the committee of the Leavis Society, "I wasn't quite sure who he was, but his very unobtrusiveness dominated the meeting and there was no doubt who had most authority in the room." Ian was author of a number of remarkable books on Chaucer, criticism of literature, language, philosophy and politics, which, though of piercing perspicacity and seriousness, are at times almost hurtlingly funny. "*The Survival of English* (1973) is one of the most entertaining books on language ever written. Its demolition of *The New English Bible* is especially good," wrote B R Myers in the April 2008 issue of *The Atlantic*. Ian taught himself Hebrew and Greek the better to read the Bible.

I first met Ian in 1957, when he and my then future husband Barrie Mencher were reading English with F R Leavis. It was the beginning of a lifelong friendship which was fed by a mutual passion for literature and music and the sheer delight of critical freedom; a God-ordained friendship. Ian was a Graystone Scholar, but typically, was not impressed when he was awarded firsts in both parts of the English Tripos.

In 1970—from a conviction that there were books that deserved publishing that would never get published by commercial publishers or the universities—Ian, whilst serving as Senior Lecturer at Swansea University, co-founded The Brynmill Press with David Sims. They published works of criticism, poetry, philosophy and fiction, beginning with the quarterly review *The Human World* (1970–1974). From 1982 to 1986 Ian published and edited the *Gadfly*, another quarterly. In 1990 the Press started its *T. F. Powys Edition*, Ian having recognised the originality of Powys's genius in a wide range of works when the general public was aware of little but *Mr Weston's Good Wine*. Between 1990 and 2003 Brynmill published the finest of Powys's previously unpublished works. At the beginning of the series Ian wrote, "Theodore Francis Powys is widely recognised as one of the significant English authors of this century."

How Ian could teach and write his own masterly books at the same time, I'll never know. Eventually it did become too much and his writing took priority over

the running of the Press. As one result, by 2008 Ian had produced his late quartet of books under the title *Coming to Judgement*, in which an all-encompassing lack of judgement in our present culture is surveyed and held to account in his inimitable, at times piercingly funny, way. Ian is greatly missed by his wife, Hilary, their two children John (St John's 2002) and Christina (Christ's 2002), and his grandchildren Lila, Kiran and Ursula.

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CRISPIN MICHAEL ROPE (1954) died on 22 February 2021, aged 90. He read Natural Sciences.

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FRANCIS GARLAND RUSSELL (JR) (1951) died on 19 November 2020, aged 89. He read Law.

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ROBERT LEONARD SEKULIN (1959) died on 15 February 2020, aged 78. He read Natural Sciences. His daughter, Josie, writes:



Following his undergraduate studies at Downing, Robert undertook a PhD at Lincoln College, Oxford. This led to long career as a theoretical scientist in particle physics which took him to Baltimore in the US, CERN in Geneva and Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, near Oxford. He was well-respected in his field and colleagues remember him as "kind and gentle, an excellent physicist and reliable friend who leaves behind him a fine body of work."

However, life certainly was not all about physics for Robert. He was well-read across philosophy, art, literature, history, music and took great pleasure in discussing these topics with friends and family. He was a bon viveur who enjoyed travel, good food and lively company. At the heart of all he did was his family. He was a dear father to two children and a loving husband and then selfless carer to his beloved wife over many years of illness. Right until the end he lived his life as he had always done – each new day was a bonus, to be used as well as possible.

HENRY STERN (1950) died on 4 January 2021, aged 97. He read Russian.

Chris Lowe (1958) writes:



Henry, or Harry as he preferred to be called, was one of the last surviving Royal Navy officers who were in action on or under the waves throughout the Second World War.

Born into a naval family, at 13 he entered the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, at 17 he was serving as a Midshipman and at 18 he was in action at the Battle of Java in 1942, immediately after the fall of Singapore. Thereafter he served in submarines, fighting the

Germans in the North Sea and the Japanese in south east Asia. He was by then a First Lieutenant, Navigating Officer at a time when navigation was by the stars; it helped that he was a keen mathematician. The stories he told about his time in submarines are incorporated in a book titled *'No Bragging, No showing Off, Keep the Stiff-Upper Lip.'* In 1942 he was refitting a submarine in Troon when he met Helen Thom whom he married in 1946.

After the War he stayed in the Navy in surface ships. Based in Malta, he was Mountbatten's youngest Commander when he commanded HMS Sursay. After a spell of minesweeping in the Mediterranean, he was promoted and commanded the training of the new Royal Nigerian Navy, followed by command of the NATO Base in Eritrea. He was then chosen by the Admiralty to study Russian at Downing, where he earned his blue for squash. At the completion of the course, he was sent by the Admiralty to head their Russian Military Liaison at GCHQ. He retired from the Navy after being seconded to The Nigerian and Ethiopian Navy and turned to a career he had always fancied. He became a Maths teacher.

Teaching turned out to be his great love and one he thought of as a privilege. On gaining his teaching qualifications he taught Maths at St Anselm's prep school in Derbyshire. However, he decided he wanted to teach in the state sector.... and I was fortunate enough to appoint him to my school, Prince William School, Oundle. He quickly became one of those teachers revered as 'characters'... a singular band of men and women whose unique teaching styles remain the talk of reunions and reminiscences. He even won over one of Her Majesty's inspectors, despite the man's fearsome reputation.

Following retirement, he helped with SSAFA for a number of years, but missed teaching and so became a private tutor, teaching Maths to A level and beyond until age 84. In 1995 Harry's wife, Helen, died. He married Sheila in 1996 in the Crypt of St Pauls Cathedral. The marriage gave him a second lease of life. In addition to his devotion to his family, animals were an important part of his life. He had a variety of pets, but was passionate about dogs. In his 90's he regularly walked his dog twice a day. He is survived by his second wife, Sheila, daughters Gillian and Sonya, step-daughter Jennifer and grandchildren Katy, Sebastian, Toby and Nigel.

CHARLES WILLIAM WALMSLEY (1959) died on 21 February 2021, aged 81. He read Mechanical Sciences followed by Moral Sciences. His son, Robert, writes:



Charles was born in Penzance in August 1939 and remained proud of his status as being 'pre-war' throughout his life. He grew up on the outskirts of Bath, where his passions were trains (especially the Somerset & Dorset line) and cricket, cycling the 120 mile roundtrip to watch Somerset play at Taunton. He liked to tell the story of being invited on a picnic with the Mayor's daughter, one Mary Berry, who asked him to dress the salad – a phrase he did not comprehend in the slightest. On leaving school, Monkton Combe, he commenced an apprenticeship locally with Westinghouse before following in his father's footsteps by studying at Downing. He finished his studies early and then continued to study Greek, Ethics and Logic for his final year to achieve his degree.

After graduating in 1962, he returned to Westinghouse to complete his apprenticeship and a year later married his wife, Sue, a Homerton student who he had met at the Cambridge University Dancing Society. After a few years he was involved in an early project on the potential use of computers, which in turn led him to move Berkshire to work for ICI as an Operational Researcher. He remained with them for 26 years, with stints in Australia and Germany, before settling back in Cookham where his three children were brought up. His work led him to an interest in barcodes, where he became a leading member of the Article Number Association. Whilst in Germany he worked closely with the founders of a new IT company, called SAP – now a \$125bn organisation. This experience allowed him to break free from corporate life and to head out on his own as a freelance consultant after Sue unexpectedly and tragically died in 1989, aged 49, after contracting meningitis from one of her primary school pupils.

Charles remarried in 1991. His second wife, Barbara was also a teacher and had a passion for Oxfam. Charles enthusiastically adopted this cause, both supporting Barbara's efforts and also providing many of hours of unpaid work as a Shop Health & Safety Advisory alongside IT Project work. During this period his interest in religion and philosophy drove him to train as a Lay Minister in the Church of England, while simultaneously indulging his interest in St John's gospel. He lived with prostate cancer for 5 years until it resurfaced aggressively in the summer of 2020. He was initially treated at the Thames Hospice, where he took great pleasure in the fact that three of his doctors had trained at Cambridge and one was a Downing alumnus. He spent his last months back at the family home in Cookham, and is survived by his wife Barbara, three children, seven grandchildren as well as three step children and four step grandchildren.

**ROBERT WARRINGTON (1954)** died on 19 August 2020, aged 85. He read Natural Sciences. His daughter, Philippa, writes:



My fondest memory of my father is his delight upon opening his birthday present in May 2011, to find a framed MA certificate. We had secretly arranged for Robert's MA to be conferred and the College were incredibly helpful in enabling this wonderful surprise. In his words he was really 'chuffed' as he was immensely proud of his time at and his association with Downing.

After Downing, Robert continued his medical studies at Middlesex Hospital where he met his wife of almost 60 years, Bernadette. He proposed to her in a phone box in his hometown of Leicester – where he had just learnt that he had passed his final exams and was now officially a doctor.

Settling in Walton-on-Thames in Surrey, Robert had an instrumental role to play in establishing one of the very first health centres in the country in the early 1970s, enabling doctors to work together for the first time rather than individually or in small practices and so providing increased facilities for the benefit of the local community. Walton Heath Centre featured in a 1974 government film still held in the BFI National Archive and Robert contributed to a short book on the subject. Together with his wife, he was a much loved and respected GP in Walton for over 30 years.

In his retirement Robert was an enthusiastic aficionado of the theatre and classical music. Much time was also occupied in maintaining their beautiful garden which Robert loved, although he always said he hated gardening!

Robert sadly died following a short illness. He is very much missed by his wife, daughter, son-in-law and all that knew him.

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**DION WILSON (1957)** died on 19 March 2021, aged 84. He read Geography.

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**JEREMY PAUL WILSON (1951)** died on 25 July 2020, aged 88. He read Natural Sciences.

From the mid-70s to the early 90s, he was a consultant surgeon for South East Thames Regional Health Authority.

**BRUCE STRATTON YOUNG (1950)** died on 14 May 2021, aged 89. He read Geography.

Born in London to George and Winifred (Duberry), Mr Young spent most of his geographical university career in South Africa, the USA and Canada (Wilfrid Laurier, Waterloo).

## 1960s

**MICHAEL DAVID APTED (1960)** died on 7 January 2021, aged 79. He read History followed by Law.



Mr Apted was born in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire and raised in Ilford, Essex. He got into the City of London School on a scholarship before studying at Downing College. He was accepted on to a six-month Granada Television training course in 1963 and remained with the company for the rest of the decade, directing numerous plays and programmes, including episodes of *Coronation Street*. He made his film debut with *The Triple Echo* (1972), starring Glenda Jackson and Oliver Reed. He alternated this work with working on the TV series *Play for Today*. In 1979 he directed *Agatha*, a drama about the disappearance of Agatha Christie (Vanessa Redgrave) and a number of his other films had a focus on female achievement, such as *Coal Miner's Daughter* (1980), which received seven nominations for Academy Awards (including Best Picture) and for which Sissy Spacek won the best actress Oscar for playing the country and western singer Loretta Lynn, and *Gorillas in the Mist* (1988), starring Sigourney Weaver as the murdered conservationist Dian Fossey. He also enjoyed commercial success with the James Bond film *The World Is Not Enough* (1999) and the CS Lewis adaptation *The Chronicles of Narnia: the Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (2010).

The extent of his eclecticism can be shown by a small sample of his work: *Gorky Park* (1983), dealing with corruption in the Soviet Union; *Bring on the Night* (1985), a documentary about Sting; the Richard Pryor comedy *Critical Condition* (1987); *Thunderheart*, about the oppression of Native Americans that came out of his documentary *Incident at Oglala* (both 1992); *Nell* (1994), starring Jodie Foster as a woman raised in the wild which was nominated for three Golden Globes; *Class Action* (1991), starring Gene Hackman dealing with a corporate whistleblower and the code-breaking drama *Enigma* (2001). Recent work included episodes of the television series *Ray Donovan* (2013–16) and *Bloodline* (2017).

He will be known by many for the Up series of television documentaries chronicling the lives of 14 British people in seven-year increments starting when they were seven years old. Seven Up! went out as part of Granada Television's social and current affairs strand World In Action in 1964, when Mr Apted was still a researcher. Seven Up! was intended as a one-off, only later was it decided to follow the children into adulthood. After the initial programme, Mr Apted directed all subsequent instalments, which he also presented. His final contribution was 63 Up (2019). There were also several Up off-shoots (including foreign incarnations) on which he took a producing role. He received the Peabody Award in 2012 for the Up films.

He was elected President of the Directors' Guild of America from 2003 to 2009 and in 2008 he was appointed a CMG in the Queen's Birthday Honours. In 2017 he was admitted as an Honorary Fellow.

Lawrence Collins (1960) (Lord Collins of Mapesbury, former UK Supreme Court Justice) writes:

Michael and I were at the City of London School together and we both managed to get into Downing beginning in October 1960. In our first year we shared a room in N staircase. He read History in the first two years and Law in the third. He had acted at school – he was a memorable Claudius in Hamlet. It did not take him long to be part of the Cambridge theatrical scene. Trevor Nunn was already in his third year at Downing and Michael acted both in College plays (one of which I directed) and at the ADC. As noted above, he was a researcher on the original 7-Up programme, but it was his skill as a director and his empathy with the subjects of the series (with most of whom he developed a real bond) which turned it into the extraordinarily influential programme which it became. It raised fundamental issues of class and privilege to which Michael was always alive.

His Presidency of the Directors' Guild of America was not simply an honour bestowed on him for his achievements as a director. During his three terms he achieved substantial benefits for its members and received awards in recognition of his leadership and for extraordinary service to the Guild and its membership.

Michael remained loyal, both to West Ham United and to his old friends and several of us enjoyed his company on his visits to England until not long before his final illness, throughout which he had the tremendous support of his wife Paige Simpson. We will all miss him.

LESLIE RICHARD BILLIG (1967) died on 25 April 2021, aged 73. He read Mechanical Sciences. His wife Kate, son Alex, and Downing friends write:



Les was born in Teddington in 1948. He attended Tiffin School for boys in Kingston upon Thames where he excelled in Maths, Music and German. Encouraged by his scientist father to read Engineering, Les accepted a place at Downing College. There he took advantage of many extra-curricular opportunities, including joining the Downing Music Society where he was valued as a soloist. As a reliable baritone Les also sang with Cambridge University Musical Society. Les would be the first to say

that academia took a back seat as he was on a course that would not have been his first choice.

In his first year Les rowed in the Bumps for the Rugby Club and in 1968 won blades with Downing's 4th May Boat. He became a stalwart of the Boat Club, rowing latterly in the second VIII – although aspiring to the first! Rowing remained an important part of his life and after coming down he became an active member of Kingston Rowing Club, acquiring many tankards from regatta wins during the seventies and enjoying the associated social life.

By then Les was working in sales for a German company, which involved travel in the UK and a year spent in Germany. During this period he met and married Kate. Together they had two sons, Alexander and Edward. Friends and family were very important and good times were spent in Devon and around the world. In the nineties Les changed direction and completed a PGCE to teach maths. Living and teaching in Bedford and Devon before moving back to Surrey Les became an exam marker and team leader for the exam boards. He also applied his skills locally becoming treasurer of two village halls.

His wonderful singing voice enabled Les to join choirs wherever he lived and he was in demand as a soloist. More recently he sang in two choirs, now back in Surrey, and relished performing in regular concerts. His versatile piano playing was legendary wherever he lived and Les was able to accompany and enhance many performers and performances. He played regularly for groups of people with special needs and dementia and got huge pleasure from this.

Les was a very sociable, approachable and friendly individual with a perpetual smile and unique sense of humour. He was a lifelong Spurs fan and loved watching a variety of sport with his family and friends. He will be dearly missed, including by many from his Downing days who remained close friends.

**EDWARD GARY BLANKENSHIP (1968)** died on 15 October 2020, aged 77. He took a post graduate qualification in Architecture. His friend, **Keith Lerch (1970)**, writes:



The best days of Gary's childhood were spent in Nashville, to which he retired in 2016 after a long and distinguished career as one of the world's leading airport architects. Most of his life Gary worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week, fifty weeks a year. He earned a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in Architecture from Columbia University, which provided a Fellowship for Gary's studies at the American Academy in Rome. Gary later graduated from

Downing, where his dissertation formed the basis of his book *The Airport*. Gary planned airport facilities around the world, first for American Air Lines, then Trans World Airlines, and then with Landrum & Brown, where he became a member emeritus of the Board of Directors. Gary completed his illustrious career by moving to California and becoming the chief architect for the half-billion-dollar redevelopment of John Wayne Airport serving Los Angeles and Orange County.

Gary was a member of The Meadow Club in Southampton, New York and for more than 50 years, a member of the Oxford & Cambridge Club in London. Gary's spiritual home was the ancient Church of the Holy Trinity in the village of Hildersham, near Cambridge. Gary's most treasured membership was Downing College, which recognised Gary's generous gifts to the College by naming him a Wilkins Fellow in 2016.

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**PATRICK JOHN COGHLAN (1966)** died on 20 April 2020, aged 72. He read Economics.

**PHILIP JAMES DODWELL (1963)** died on 28 October 2020, aged 75. He read Natural Sciences. His wife, Eileen, writes:



Philip completed his medical training at King's College Hospital, London. He was a GP partner in Gloucester, a family man and a keen, talented chess player. In retirement, he achieved a First-Class Honours degree in Humanities from The Open University. He was happily married to me for thirty-seven years, a much loved father to Ruth and Tim and grandad to Joe, Otto, Emma, Rowan and Nathan.

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**NICHOLAS JAMES DRAKE-LEE (1961)** died on 22 January 2021, aged 78. He read History. His brother, **John Drake-Lee (1955)**, writes:



Nick died at home (just) after a long series of life-threatening illnesses, all very bravely borne and all with humour. Finally he contracted the coronavirus in hospital, but died at home a few days after discharge. His wife of 55 years, Joanna, caught the infection, but luckily has recovered. Nick was the youngest of four children. Their father was a GP in Kettering. He joined his two brothers at Stonyhurst where he seems to have excelled in everything especially rugby where he was

selected for the English Public Schools. He entered Downing in 1961 to read History. He promised Frank Wild, the Senior Tutor at the time, that he would get a degree and Rugby Blue. This he did. In fact he got three Blues, all wins in the Varsity Match. In the win over Oxford in 1962 there were four Downing men in the side. The three others were CJ Allan, Martin Bussey and Simon Clarke. In that year, with a first-class fixture list, Cambridge went unbeaten. In his last year he was selected for England and won seven caps. His rugby career ended when he was 23 and needed a huge back operation. The youngest English prop forward in history.

From Cambridge he taught at Stonyhurst for a few years with his fellow international and great friend Dick Greenwood. He then qualified as a Chartered Surveyor and set up a business in Northamptonshire. He dealt with the large brewery companies doing pub valuations. Until his injury, he played for Waterloo and his beloved Leicester Tigers. His son Will was also a Tiger. Nick was a member of the MCC and played regularly for them for many years. He moved to the Lake District next to Lake Windermere for his retirement. He called it Paradise. Nick and Joanna had three girls and a son followed by ten grandchildren. A lovely, united family. He was a larger-than-life character and

always fun to be with. In retirement he loved golf (and the Tigers) and joined a male voice choir and the Catenians. He will be much missed by many of us.

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**RICHARD ERNEST EMMERSON (1965)** died on 4 October 2020, aged 73. He read Mechanical Sciences followed by Electrical Sciences.

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**GEOFFREY HUGH FOSTER (1968)** died on 27 October 2020, aged 71. He read Engineering. **Bill Addis (1968)** writes:



After gaining a First, Geof went on to complete a PhD in soil mechanics in 1977 entitled 'The behaviour of clay in plane strain'. After that, he left engineering and qualified as an accountant while working in the Wolverhaston local authority. From there he moved back to Cambridge, working as an accountant in the City Council. From there he was headhunted to join Coopers and Lybrand as a management consultant and worked on projects in many countries, including several in Africa. He later joined IBM working on training and career development and retired in 2014.

At Downing, Geoff played some rugby and rowed a bit, but he excelled at croquet and gained a half blue. His other passion was for bell ringing which he had learned while at school in St Albans. He rang mainly at Great St Mary's and there he met Hilary, whom he later married. Geoff was highly knowledgeable about English folk music and, all too rarely, showed his musical talent by singing both clean and not-so-clean folk songs! He also enjoyed hill walking and, for a few years, hang gliding, mainly in Wales and the hills to the west of Dudley where he lived while working in Wolverhampton. Of the cars that he lovingly restored during this time, his favourite was his Sunbeam Talbot Mark III. Together with Hilary he became a proficient sailor and they spent many holidays on the water with friends Charlie and Julie.

After retirement, Geoff returned to bell ringing and joined the Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers where he was a regular member of the Sunday bands at St Martin in the Fields and St John's Waterloo and attended practices at many other churches. He is especially remembered for his enthusiasm and skill in training younger ringers. He died at home after a third stroke in a period of about a month. He is survived by Hilary and their children, Amy, Robin and Jack.

**ANTHONY JAMES HASSALL GILES (1966)** died on 15 July 2020, aged 71. He read Medical Sciences followed by Natural Sciences. His civil partner, Keith Mallinson, writes:

Tony retired in January 2020 as an Associate Specialist in HIV at the Kobler Clinic, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, after working there for 25 years. He was amongst the first clinicians to face the challenge of and work with patients with HIV. Tony was a devoted doctor and displayed his deep empathy compassion to everyone he came in contact with.

He leaves his life partner Keith.

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**TERRY RICHARD HARDAKER (1961)** died on 18 October 2019, aged 77. He read Geography. His wife, Sandie, writes:

After graduating he went to Oxford and ran the OUP Cartography Department, before starting Oxford Cartographers. Terry worked on many collaborations from the World History Timeline Poster for Schofield and Sims, the Victory at Blenheim map to working with planetary modeler, David Angus, on the Oxford Cartographers World Globe. He was also integral to the development of the English translation of the Peters Equal Area Map Projection.

In later years he became a prominent amateur archaeologist in association with Liverpool University, taking many students to Namibia to study Palaeolithic surface archaeology, writing a book on the study and producing many papers. During his life he was a keen numismatist and has published two definitive catalogues on Indian punch marked coins whilst being a Fellow of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society (FRNS). He was also a talented silversmith and woodcarver and an expert in dry-stone walling.

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**RODERICK KILGOUR (1963)** died on 27 June 2020, aged 76. He read Natural Sciences.

**DAVID ROGER LEES (1962)** died on 2 January 2021, aged 78. He read Natural Sciences with Part 2 in Zoology. **Richard Cowie, Jeffrey Duckett and Paul Racey (all 1962)** write:

David came up as an exhibitioner from King Edward's Grammar School, Camp-hill, Birmingham. He became a renowned ringer of swans, particularly during the freezing winter of 1962/3. After graduating, he moved to Oxford as research assistant to Bernard Kettlewell, who showed that darker forms of peppered moths were more prevalent in sooty industrial areas because they were better camouflaged against bird predators. This phenomenon became known as industrial melanism and, as an example of evolution in action, was included in many biological textbooks. In recent years however, the validity of Kettlewell's claims have been challenged, including by David, as they overlooked the behaviour of the moths. David's potential as a meticulous and imaginative researcher was recognised by Kettlewell and he was encouraged to register for a D Phil supervised by Robert Creed, a departmental colleague. David studied geographical factors affecting the incidence of melanism in moths in sites like Cape Wrath and Ilkley Moor. In Oxford, he met his wife of 45 years, Helen Cook, who also worked in the department.

In 1970, Robert Creed was appointed to the staff of University College, Cardiff where David joined him in 1974 as a postdoc, having completed his D Phil. He continued to work on industrial melanism in moths and extended it to ladybirds and spittlebugs. After two years he was appointed to a lectureship. Following Robert Creed's death in 1974 David became the departmental lecturer in genetics. He was a popular and engaging teacher, able to put over complex ideas clearly. He particularly excelled at teaching in the field and his annual field course on Skokholm island was the highlight of many students' degree programmes.

With his organisational and professional skills, it was natural that David became Director of Teaching in the School of Pure and Applied Biology, overseeing the delivery of seven degree programmes. Under his leadership, the department achieved a rare 'excellent' rating in the national Teaching Quality Assessment. David was also known for his conscientious pastoral care of his students. Towards the latter part of his career David made a significant contribution to the wider academic community as editor of the *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, one of the oldest biological journals in the world.

David retired from the university in 2004 and the following year he and Helen moved to a medieval manoir they had bought at Landivy in the Mayenne, Northern France. They spent the next 15 years restoring and improving the buildings, growing organic vegetables and turning their property into a verdant oasis of biodiversity. He maintained his natural history interests, recording birds and other wildlife around his home. He was very proud of the swift colony which established itself at the house.

In February 2020 David was diagnosed with motor neurone disease which progressed rapidly, so he and Helen decided to move back to South Wales. They found a bungalow which they had converted to accommodate him, as he became increasingly incapacitated, although he dealt with his illness with courage and determination. He and Helen moved in a few weeks before he died. He leaves his wife, two sons and three grandsons.

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**DAVID JOHN MATTHEWS (1963)** died on 5 March 2021, aged 79. He took a PhD.

He was born in London in 1942. After grammar school he went to University College, University of London and was awarded a First-Class Honours degree in Classics. In 1963 David was invited to Downing to carry out research for a PhD on relations between Mycenaean Greece and the civilizations of the Ancient Near East. For this it was necessary for him to study several ancient Semitic languages, including Babylonian, Assyrian and Hebrew. He also began to learn Arabic. In 1965, part-way through his research, he was appointed to a Lectureship in the Department of Phonetics and Linguistics at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. This led to his interest in Urdu and he transferred to the Department of South Asian Languages and Literatures and subsequently became Senior Lecturer in Urdu and Nepali. He retired from SOAS in the late 1990s.

In 1975 David was awarded a PhD for his thesis on the history of early Urdu literature of the Deccan. During his time at SOAS, he frequently went on study leave to visit the areas of his academic interests and maintained contact with the major universities and other institutions in India, Pakistan and Nepal. He spoke at international conferences in these areas and also lectured in Europe and other parts of the world. For six years he served as Chief Examiner in Oriental and African Languages for the International Baccalaureate. He frequently participated in the activities of the Urdu-speaking communities in the United Kingdom and Europe and had a special interest in the teaching and examining of Urdu in British schools. He also examined doctoral dissertations for a number of universities in Pakistan, as well as for the Sorbonne and the University of Oslo.

David's academic interests centred on classical Urdu verse and the works of Iqbal and he also maintained an interest in Indo-Persian and the Islamic civilizations of Central Asia. He constantly endeavoured to bring Urdu literature to the attention of western readers and his translations from Urdu into English include works by Rusva, Anis, Hali, Iqbal, Ibn-e Insha and Shaukat Siddiqi. His many publications include *An anthology of classical Urdu love lyrics: text and translation* (with C Shackle) and an *Historical Anthology of Kazan Tatar Verse: Voices of Eternity* (edited and translated with Ravil Bukharaev).

David was awarded the prestigious Sitara-I-Imtiaz Medal, one of the highest civil awards bestowed by the President of Pakistan. He contributed to the activities of the Pakistan Society in London and in 2006 he was presented with the Society's annual award, now the Jinnah Medal, for significant contributions to the advancement of public knowledge and understanding of Pakistan in the United Kingdom. He was a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, a member of the Britain-Nepal Society and also contributed to the BBC Urdu Service.

Among the many languages which David spoke, he was fluent in Russian, and was particularly interested in Russian literature and poetry. He contributed to the activities in London of the Great Britain-Russia Society and the Pushkin Club.

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**ROGER ERIC PONTEFRACT (1966)** died on 16 October 2020, aged 72. He read Economics and Politics. The following was part of the eulogy written by his daughters, Penny and Kate, and his wife, Jan:



Married to Jan for 32 years, Roger lived in Formby near Southport. He was the proud and loving father to three grown up daughters. Roger's time studying at Downing was a happy chapter in a rich, accomplished life and he recalled it with great pride and affection. Born in Stockport, Roger graduated from Downing in 1969. He became an economics lecturer, before realising that a career in Sports Development is where his heart truly lay. Roger fulfilled a diverse number of roles within the Sports Council, including Director of the five National Sports Centres and would go on to a national career in local government with multiple strategic directorships, latterly with Sefton MBC. After his retirement, Roger had his own successful local government consultancy business which ran for ten years, but, even then, a proper 'retirement' was never on his agenda! He worked locally with the Freshfield Foundation so that Formby could have a beautiful pool, was member of the board for the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens (SPOC). He was also Chair of the Village Surgery Participating Group.

A gifted sportsman very from a young age, Roger particularly excelled at swimming and running. We understand his record time for the 1500m intermediate steeplechase at the 1964 English Schools Athletic Association Championships in London still stands, and, whilst at Downing, he competed as a pentathlete in the World Student Olympic Games in Tokyo, Bratislava and Moscow. He won swimming trophies galore, achieving the prestigious heights of Cambridge Blue. Roger and Jan enjoyed travelling, spending many happy holidays with family and friends skiing in Austria and soaking up the

heady atmosphere of the Cote D'Azur in the South of France. They were also connoisseurs of Cunard cruises and would often disappear for weeks at a time, reporting back with tales of colourful parties, lectures and shows, sumptuous food, new friends and the occasional choppy sea!

Roger took enormous pleasure in his beautiful garden at home in Formby and latterly discovered the joys of the barbecue, purchasing what can only be described as a miniature steam train on which to produce various offerings of dubious standards. He also loved the music and the story of *Les Miserables*, and, having watched it dozens of times, could be classed as a true aficionado! An inspirational mentor and guide to his students, colleagues and friends, so many of the tributes we have received since his death show what a profound impact Roger had on others and how enduring his friendships were. This legacy is something of which we are very proud. Above all he was a kind and loving husband, and the best possible father. His loss is immeasurable.

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**GEORGE FREDERICK PULMAN (1967)** died on 15 January 2021, aged 71. He read Law. Michael Gibbons (1967), in collaboration with Alice Fountaine (1997, nee Pulman), writes:



George Pulman was a fine man, a very good friend to so many Downing people and a great supporter of the College, for which reason he was appointed an Associate Fellow. He was President of the Downing Association in 2002–2003 and was an effective, fundraising Chair, both of the Hopkins Parry Fellowship and College Development Committees.

He came up to Downing in 1967 from Marlborough, to read law under John Hopkins, with whom he enjoyed a strong friendship for over 50 years. At the instigation of Leo Judd (1965), he quickly joined the Boat Club, rowing in the engine room of various College boats for three years and being an 'old heavy' ever after. He was pleased to have heard one of his crew say that he knew more people on the riverbank than anyone else. His College record was a combination of the profound, the important, and a great sense of humour. Notwithstanding his usual appearance as a pillar of the establishment he was a founding member of the rebellious 'November Committee', set up to challenge the traditional 'May Committee' governance of DCBC and consequently attended a Bumps Supper somewhat underdressed in a Boat Club blazer (the clearly stated Dress Code) and not much else.

In preparing a resume for one reunion, he particularly wanted to include his 1970 title of 'Amal Club Kitchen Secretary'; whereas becoming a QC (at an

impressively early age) was an afterthought, being, as he put it, a rank and not an honour. At the last (50th) reunion dinner he wore a splendid pair of deep blue velvet bedroom slippers, on the basis, he claimed, that he had forgotten his shoes.

George earned an unrivalled reputation as a writer of good letters (and not so good Christmas poetry). Many Downing friends will attest that they found George's handwritten letters unfailingly supportive, considered, and considerate. One of my favourites, in 2010, was entitled "Our College has need of us", and in such respects he always led by example. His letters frequently gave good advice or support as needed and in a uniquely engaging way. His writing style was never exaggerated, but always expressed a clear point of view, and he was a good judge of character. He was also, as befits a good lawyer, a highly effective public speaker, as those who listened to his tribute to John Hopkins in Great St Mary's will attest.

After Downing, George was closely involved with the Haberdashers' Company, particularly their educational and charitable work and he was Master of the Haberdashers in 2009–2010. He became especially committed to helping pupils prepare for Oxbridge interviews. It is poignant and fitting that when he died he was writing a letter, and to a student he had been supporting with an Oxbridge application.

While at Downing he met Penny, to whom he remained devoted for their 48 years of marriage. They had four children, including Alice (1997) who read Natural Sciences at Downing and was a first May colour (unlike her father). His family was always hugely important to him. Alice and James Denniston (1967) spoke movingly and at times amusingly, as he assuredly would have wanted, at George's funeral (I strongly recommend a viewing in the 'Watch' section of the Wadhurst Parish Church website).

Paul Laband (1967) has mentioned his memory of a joint tutorial with John Hopkins when John asked George if he took the Times. George replied "No, Sir, I buy it".

He will be very much missed.

George, always a keen fundraiser for the College, was keen that any donations made in his memory should go to supporting the College and these can be made online at [www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online](http://www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online).

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**JOHN ARTHUR BARTON TOWNLEY (1961)** died on 22 October 2020, aged 78. He read Modern and Medieval Languages. **Robert Chaston (1961)** writes:

John came up to Downing from Sedbergh School, where he had, despite bouts of asthma, excelled at rugby, cricket and fives. At Downing, although a modern linguist, John quickly attached himself to our lawyers' set of Adrian Larby, John Maples, Roger Duncan and myself, under the tutelage of the brilliant John

Hopkins. John's acceptance was so complete that thirty years later he was probably the only non-lawyer present when he and I attended at The Inner Temple for a dinner to honour John Hopkins upon his retirement. John was a noted bon viveur, possibly from his time at Downing where we all became members of the Downing College Dining Club (The Perkins Club).

John came from an old Lancastrian family, in recent times prominent in the motor trade. His father, Sir Jack, also a Downing man, was a leader in the community and a local kingmaker for the Conservative Party. An invitation to the family seat of Bilsborough Hall in Lancashire would herald a diverting round of dinners, dances, picnics and rambles in the company of John's three lovely sisters. On one occasion John, Adrian and I were charged with driving a dormobile full of luggage to a villa in Villefranche, the family's headquarters that summer.

The halcyon days were numbered. Sir Jack became ill and soon died and his own father, Barton Townley, a widower remarried with a second family. Barton ordered John to leave Cambridge prematurely in order to prepare him to take over his own very successful business. However, John soon received a letter stating that there was no role for him in the business.

John, never one to dwell on life's misfortunes, left for Canada with £50 in his pocket and built a successful career in Toronto, New York and London, beginning with Harris & Partners, an elite Toronto investment firm, subsequently taken over by the Royal Bank of Canada. John completed his degree by distance at the University of Toronto and was sent by RBC to Northwestern University to take an MBA over a series of weekends. While in Toronto John met and married the lovely (in all senses of the word) Mary Leppard and they produced three charming and talented children: Johnny, Will and Chrissie.

As a father, John was encouraging, charismatic and the creator of gourmet delicacies. John's capacity for friendship was legendary, as attested by the deluge of concern and support triggered by the news of his illness and death due to pancreatic cancer. As one friend remarked, John had "that wonderful ability to make you feel you were the very person he wanted to see and chat to". He was great fun to be with, quick witted, loyal, big hearted and a good listener. A stalwart of Lords, the Carlton and the Hurlingham Club, John was happiest in the countryside, tramping the fells, cycling down a country lane or just observing nature. We greatly miss this kindest of men.

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**NICHOLAS JOHN DAVID WEBB (1968)** died in 2021, aged 71. He read Law. **Roger Hedgeland (1968)** writes:

Those of us who belonged to the 'class of '68' Downing lawyers have been shocked and saddened at the untimely death of our contemporary and friend Nick Webb. Our undergraduate years were spent under the benign tutelage of

the legendary John Hopkins and some left College in 1971 with a fine degree behind them and an illustrious career ahead. Nick was one of these. But the law had not been Nick's only, or indeed primary, interest at Cambridge. His all-consuming passion was politics. He progressed through the ranks of CUCA, eventually becoming the Association's chairman. In tandem with this went his rising status in the Union's governing body. He narrowly missed the Vice-Presidency in his last year. Nick always encouraged and facilitated his Downing friends' attendance – often with 'front row' tickets – at visits for speeches, dinners, debates and the like, by the political greats of the time. I was often the grateful beneficiary of Nick's influence in these things. Aside from politics, Nick was a keen follower of cricket (no mean bowler himself in his time) and of football. His blind devotion to Notts Forest was lifelong if sometimes difficult to fathom! In music, jazz was his first love; and for a late evening's entertainment, an old Marx Brothers film at the local flea-pit was a weakness he found hard to resist.

After Downing, Nick and I shared a flat in London while reading for the Bar. Aside from work, there might be a beer in Henecky's after an arduous afternoon's lecture, or a pint or three at the Nashville pub, a short walk from our flat, for a live music night of country and western or jazz in a heady atmosphere of noise, sleaze and smoke! After call to the Bar in 1972, our paths diverged. Nick went to practice from Birmingham chambers, I to Manchester. We met from time to time and Nick kept me abreast of the latest manoeuvrings in the law and politics. He stood for a Birmingham seat in the 1979 Election, but lost to a strong Labour incumbent ( Roy Hattersley). Meanwhile his legal career flourished and was justifiably crowned with appointment as a Recorder and then a full-time Circuit Judge on the Midland Circuit where he sat almost entirely in crime at Birmingham and Wolverhampton Crown Courts.

My recollections of Nick, as a pal at Downing and over the years thereafter, are first and foremost of someone who it was always fun to be with. He was a master with the witty one-liner or hilarious anecdote. His sharp mind and effervescent sense of humour never left him. To Jane and to their two boys Charlie and Will, I send my heart-felt sympathy and good wishes together, I hope, with personal memories of a good chap sadly missed.

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**JOHN ALFRED WHITE (1962)** died on 29 April 2021, aged 77. He read Law.

## 1970s

**DAVID COLIN CRAWFORD (1976)** died on 28 May 2020, aged 62. He read Modern Languages.

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**ANDREW MICHAEL HAJUCKI (1972)** died on 25 April 2021, aged 68. He read Law. The following has been written by **Charles Harpum** and **Andy Barbour**, with input from Andrew's family and **Jim Wallace – Lord Wallace of Tankerness** – and the **Reverend Jim Selby (all 1972)**:

Andy Hajducki came up to Downing in 1972 from Dulwich College to study Law. His father was a Polish refugee and his mother Scottish. Andy was sociable, forming close and long-lasting friendships, often with visits to The Panton Arms, and late-night discussions fuelled by College port. His eclectic interests and wonderfully subversive sense of humour made him entertaining company. Andy's enthusiasms included poetry, politics, railway history and a love of the countryside. He became involved with the Society of Friends at Cambridge and, on a weekend away with them, met Kate Dodd, who, many years later, became his second wife.

After graduating, Andy qualified at the English Bar, being called by Gray's Inn in 1976. He moved to Edinburgh, joining his architect brother, and qualified as a member of the Scottish Bar in 1979. He met his first wife Gayle, and her children, Catherine and Kenneth, became part of Andy's family; soon a further child, David, was born.

Andy divorced, and by luck he met Kate once again and they were happily married for the remaining 20 years of his life. Andy was always devoted to his three children; by the time they were 12, he had achieved his ambition of taking the two eldest to every single county in Great Britain. Throughout Andy's life, animals were part of the family; Christmas cards, painted by Kate, always featured their many pets. As David said in his Eulogy, "Dad was at his element out in nature with a dog by his side – and it's how I'll always remember him".

Taking Silk in 1994 at the Scottish Bar, he was a popular member and enjoyed a distinguished career, appearing regularly in appellate courts, including the House of Lords/Supreme Court. His practice was wide, including family law, personal injury, and property law. A colleague in The Faculty of Advocates describes him as a "very interesting and intelligent man, who made time for people and always had a smile", with another saying he was "a wonderful, personable and generous colleague, we will miss him".

Among his legal cases, his personal favourite was his success saving the West Highland Sleeper from being axed by British Rail. Railways were always one of Andy's passions. He published, either solely or jointly, eight books on the subject,

including *The Lauder Light Railway* and *The Railways of Beckenham*. He also wrote two much-cited legal textbooks, *Scottish Civic Government Licensing Law* and *Civil Jury Trials*.

Many of Andy's friends gathered to celebrate his retirement and his 65th birthday, with a trip around Edinburgh in an original London Routemaster bus – surprising him as they joined the tour at different stops. All would agree, he was a unique individual, funny and sometimes eccentric, always good company with a bright sparkle in his eyes; but perhaps most of all, Andy will always be remembered for his kindness.

Andy contracted cancer in 2013, he fought with quiet bravery, but sadly did not live to enjoy the lengthy retirement he deserved.

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**STEFAN REINHARD MELNIK (1971)** died on 25 September 2020, aged 68. He read History. His wife, Jutta Frasch, writes:

After his graduation from Cambridge in 1974, Stefan went to Germany, to Bochum, and studied mass communications and social psychology at Ruhr-University Bochum. He graduated as Doktor of Philosophie in 1980. We met at that University in 1975, married in 1981 and had two daughters, born in 1985 and 1986.

After graduation Stefan worked for the liberal Friedrich-Naumann-Foundation in Bonn and advanced fast in his career. In 1988 he gave up his position as deputy head of the political department of the Foundation to follow me, a German diplomat, to my first posting abroad to Belgrade, at that time still capital of Yugoslavia. He continued to work freelance for the Foundation.

After Belgrade we moved to Vienna, then to Brussels, back to Bonn and in 2000 to Berlin. In 2005 we moved to Warsaw, in 2012 to Hanoi and in 2015 to Nairobi, Kenya. Stefan accompanied me on all these postings and liked especially Hanoi and Nairobi.

After the events of 1989, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the opening up of middle and eastern Europe, Stefan's skills were in high demand. He designed and moderated numerous seminars which the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung offered to liberal politicians in those countries. When we were posted in Vienna he travelled extensively to the countries in middle and eastern Europe to hold seminars and advise politicians. He contributed to the International Academy for Leaders the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung started in 1995 in Portugal which is now located in Gummersbach near Cologne. Stefan remained in his position as developer and moderator of seminars until he died. When we posted the news of his death on his Facebook page we were overwhelmed by the response we had from former participants of his seminars who remembered him and wrote how much he influenced them in a very positive way.

**ALAN FRANCIS RAE SMITH (1979)** died on 14 October 2020, aged 60. He read Law.

A Memorial Service will be held to celebrate Al's life in the Chapel at Radley College, Abingdon, Oxfordshire on Saturday 26 March 2022. If you intend to attend please notify Charlie Hamshaw Thomas (c.hamshawthomas@outlook.com) or Vanessa Martin (nessmartin32@gmail.com).

## 1980s

**PHILIP JEFFREY GILLYONN (1984)** died on 30 October 2020, aged 54. He read Law. **Adrian Beltrami (1984)** writes:



Phil was born in Hull, a Yorkshireman then and forever. He was educated at Hymers College, in common with his father and his three brothers. It was at Hymers that Phil met Jill (then Hunter). The school was taking tentative steps towards co-education, admitting a handful of brave girls into the Sixth Form. As Jill describes it, the stage was set for the first English class. Phil was late, and the only available seat was next to one of the new girls. Reluctantly, he took it. Some things

are perhaps meant to be, and they were never thereafter apart. Phil was noted at school for his sense of humour, dry as a stone wall and quick as a whippet. He became something of a celebratory when he received, from Downing, a 'Hopkins' offer' of two Es at A level. The writer does not know how many such offers were ever made, but they were rare. They are probably illegal nowadays.

Phil arrived at Downing in 1984. Presciently, Jill had herself applied to Trinity. Whilst they thrived together, Phil was committed to College life. He played in the 1st XV. He was a member of the Patricians. He developed a wide circle of friends, who revelled in his company and his wit. Phil shone academically. It was a bittersweet pleasure to sit with him in supervisions, conscious that he would always know the right answer but aware that this did not mean he would help out. Although (every year) he claimed to be, no-one else was surprised when he took a 1st in each leg of the Tripos.

After Downing, Phil joined Middle Temple and was awarded the Lloyd Jacob Memorial Exhibition and a Harmsworth Scholarship. He obtained tenancy at Erskine Chambers. He built a successful practice in company law and insolvency. He was also called to the Bar of the BVI and became a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. His punishing work ethic, penetrating intellect and affable

nature meant that he remained much in demand. Phil was also committed to *pro bono* work. The case worker for Advocate wrote, “*We are terribly sorry to hear of Philip’s passing. He was a truly wonderful person and lawyer and we were incredibly grateful for his dedication to pro bono and helping our applicants have the access to justice that they deserve.*”

Meanwhile, Phil and Jill were married in 1993. Nick was born in 2001 and Amy in 2003. Phil delighted in watching Nick play rugby and Amy participate in drama productions. There is a suspicion that both want to follow their father to the Bar. Phil was introduced by Nick to the delights of football. Many weekends were spent travelling the country to watch Hull City. A highlight was when three generations went to Wembley in 2008, bedecked in kit, to witness promotion in the play-off final.

For a man of such talent and accomplishments, Phil remained disarmingly modest and self-effacing. Having done all the hard work, he had every right to look forward to many more happy years. It was a great shock when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Phil bore his illness with stoicism and his trademark good humour. He died at home with his family around him. At his funeral, Phil’s Head of Chambers read out numerous messages of condolence from professional colleagues. Mr Justice Snowden (1981) stopped the proceedings in his Court and ordered a minute’s silence in his memory.

## 1990s

**PAMELA ELIZABETH SPLETT (1990)** died in March 2021, aged 62. She took a PGCE in Modern and Medieval Languages.

**TIMOTHY MARK JOSEPH WALTON (1991)** died on 31 July 2020, aged 47. He read Natural Sciences. His sister, Louise, writes:



Born in East Sussex Tim was a remarkable man with many passions and talents. He lived his life at 150 miles per hour, accomplishing the impossible, often with a mischievous grin on his face. Tim excelled academically at Cambridge graduating with first-class honours. He was also a passionate player of both rugby union and league. The quintessential no 10, he was a key contributor in an almost unbeaten season for the Downing 1st team in his first year, who then went on to win Cuppers in his second. In his final year he played wing for the University in the Rugby League Varsity match. Both university friends and work colleagues have commented that their abiding memories of Tim are of his boundless energy and love of competition; if something could be turned into a contest Tim would find a way to do it.

Tim had an extensive and successful career in finance. He started at JP Morgan in 1995, direct from Cambridge, working in the Equity Derivatives Group in London, where he managed the Cross-Currency Cross-Assets & Exotics business. He then moved to Bank of America Corporation (BAC) in New York a few years later as a Managing Director to found and build the Equity Financials Products business as part of the management team for OTC and listed derivatives trading. Tim left BAC to co-found a multi-strategy hedge fund in 2002. In 2006, he returned to BAC where his most recent title was Global Equities Trading Chief Operating Officer. Tim leaves a legacy of 25 years of exceptional performance, helping to build and run large complex profitable businesses for both JP Morgan and Bank of America. Throughout his career, Tim was recognised for his technical and analytical brilliance in trading and risk management of complex derivatives and quantitative strategies. Tim was widely admired for his integrity, work ethic, and reliability. His charm and humour will be greatly missed, but mostly his compassion and commitment to his team and colleagues.

Tim was always a committed sportsman. He climbed and skied all over North America, often climbing over 10,000 vertical feet a day. Tim also spent many years competing in over 100 Triathlons across the US. He finished two full

Ironmans; achieving a time of 10:07 hours as his personal best. In 2019, Tim set most of his personal records; a time of 2:50 in the NYC marathon; placing 1st in his age group in both the Ironman 70.3 Muskoka and Connecticut races and 2nd at Lake Placid ranking him 3rd globally in his age group at Ironman 70.3.

Borrowing a quote from one of Tim's favourite movies, *Blade Runner* – 'The light that burns twice as bright burns half as long – and you have burned so very, very brightly'.

Tim is survived by his wife Yvonne and young son Blake.

The Timothy MJ Walton Remembrance Fund has been established for student support at the College. To make a contribution please visit [www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online](http://www.downingcambridge.com/make-a-donation-online)



1749 Society

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 [legacies@dow.cam.ac.uk](mailto:legacies@dow.cam.ac.uk)

## Editorial acknowledgements

**THIS PUBLICATION**, combining *The Association Newsletter*, *Dow@Cam*, *The College Record* and *Magenta News*, is created from contributions from students, past and present, Fellows and College staff. Zoe Barber (Vice Master), Assistant Editor, collects contributions from current students and the Fellowship. Ken McNamara collects contributions from Emeritus Fellows, Ella Young, JCR Sports Officer, collects reports on sports clubs. From the College departments Sarah Pickard, Academic Registrar, with her colleagues, gives us the lists of academic and sports awards. Catherine Middleton, Director of Engagement & Development Operations, Susan Esden and Claire Varley from the Development Office have provided some of the feature articles, kept us in touch with the alumni database and edited *Magenta News*. An Editorial Committee of Richard Bowring (1965), Kate Panter (1981), Charles Harpum (1972), Peter Thomson (1953), Norman Berger (1952), Martin Mays (1957), Barrie Hunt (1966) and Catherine Middleton advise on content. Peter Whittington (1962), Barrie Hunt (1966), Karen Storey (1982), Catherine Middleton and Zoe Barber have helped with proof reading. The College and the Association wish to acknowledge the significant assistance provided by Andy Harvey and all at H2 Associates.

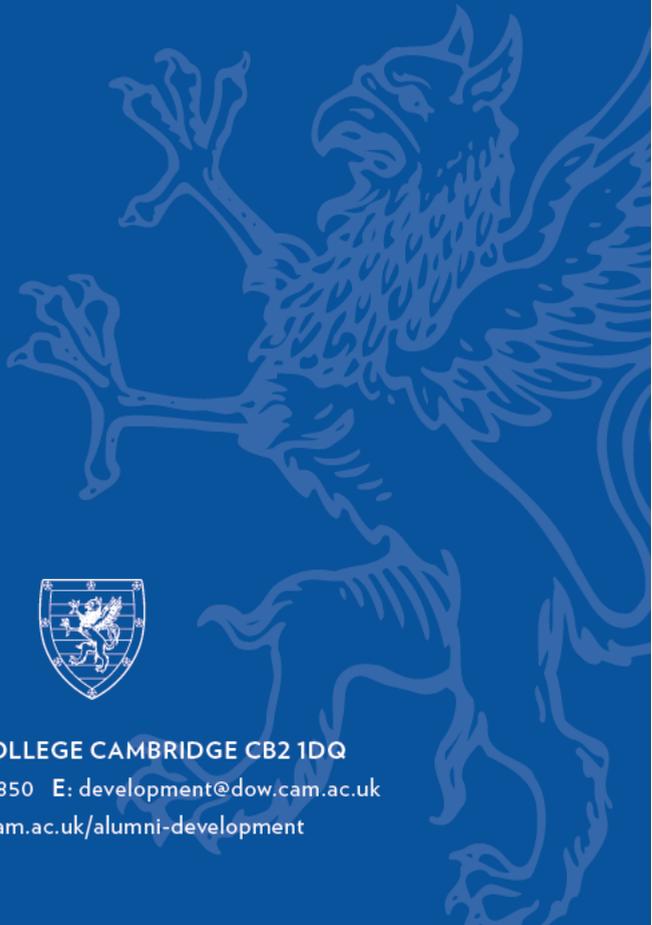
Sadly, this is Simon Walker's final year of editing the College Magazine. We will miss his infinite patience and his polite, but firm cajoling of contributors to meet deadlines. Simon has given years of voluntary service to the College Newsletter and Magazine to keep alumni informed so we would like to recognise and thank him for his commitment.

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