The Record is now distributed by email to those who have submitted an email address to the College and is also available to download and read on the College website. Paper copies have been sent to those without access to email and to those who have requested a copy.

The Hedgehog and the Fox designed by Theo Sundh
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Wolfson College
at 1 October 2016

President
Lee, Hermione, DBE, MA, MPhil, FBA, FRSL

Governing Body Fellows

Abramsky, Samson, MA (MA Cambridge, PhD London) Professorial Fellow, Christopher Strachey Professor of Computing

Andersson, Ruben, (BA SOAS, MA City Lond, MSc PhD LSE), Ordinary Fellow Associate Professor in Migration and Development

Austyn, Jonathan Mark, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Surgery: Transplantation Immunology, Professor of Immunobiology

Aveyard, Paul N, (BSc, MB, BS London, MPH, PhD Birmingham) Professorial Fellow, Clinical Reader in the Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, Professor of Behavioural Medicine

Bangha, Imre, MA (MA Budapest, PhD Santineketan) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Hindi

Banks, Marcus John, MA (BA, PhD Cambridge) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Social Anthropology, Professor of Visual Anthropology

Barrett, Jonathan, BA (MA, PhD Cambridge) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Computer Science

Benson, James William, MA (BA Macalester College, MA Minnesota, PhD Stanford) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Sanskrit

Boehmer, Elleke, MPhil, DPhil (BA Rhodes University, South Africa) Professorial Fellow, Professor of World Literatures in English

Brown, Harvey Robert, MA (BSc Canterbury, New Zealand, PhD London) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in the Philosophy of Physics, Professor of the Philosophy of Physics

Cannon, Catríona, MPhil (BA Dublin, MA UCL, MCLIP) Ordinary Fellow, Deputy Bodleian Librarian

Chappell, Michael A, MEng, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Engineering Science
Charters, Erica Michiko, MA, DPhil (BA Carleton, MA Toronto) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in the History of Medicine

Cluver, Lucie, DPhil (MA Cambridge) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Evidence-based Social Intervention

Coecke, Bob, MA (PhD Free University of Brussels) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Quantum Computer Science; Professor of Quantum Foundations, Logics and Structures

Conner, William James, MA (BA Grinnell) Ordinary Fellow, Development Director

Costa, Matthew, (MB BChir PhD East Ang, MA Camb) Professorial Fellow, Professor of Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery

Curtis, Julie Alexandra Evelyn, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, Professor of Russian Literature

Czaika, Mathias, (MA Konstanz, PhD Freiburg) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Migration and Development

Dahl, Jacob Lebovitch, MA (BAS Copenhagen, PhD California) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Assyriology; Secretary to the Governing Body

De Melo, Wolfgang David Cirilo, MPhil, DPhil (MA SOAS) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Classical Philology

DeLaine, Janet, MA (BA, PhD Adelaide) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Roman Archaeology

Fellerer, Jan Michael, MA (MA Vienna, Dr Phil Basel) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Non-Russian Slavonic Languages

Galligan, Denis James, MA, BCL (LLB Queensland), DCL, AcSS Professorial Fellow, Professor of Socio-Legal Studies

Gardner, Frances, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, Professor of Child and Family Psychology, Reader in Child and Family Psychology

Giustino, Feliciano, MA (MSc Torino, PhD Lausanne) Ordinary Fellow, Professor of Materials Modelling

Goodman, Martin David, MA, DPhil, DLitt, FBA Professorial Fellow, Professor of Jewish Studies

Hamnett, Gillian, (BA Newcastle) MSt Ordinary Fellow; Senior Tutor
Harrison, Paul Jeffrey, MA, BM, BCh, MRCPsych, DM Ordinary Fellow, Clinical Reader in Psychiatry, Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist, Professor of Psychiatry

Howgego, Christopher John, MA, DPhil Professorial Fellow, Keeper of the Heberden Coin Room, Professor of Greek and Roman Numismatics

Jarvis, R Paul, (BSc Durham, PhD Norwich) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Plant Sciences, Professor in Cell Biology

Johns, Jeremy, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Islamic Archaeology, Professor of the Art and Archaeology of the Islamic Mediterranean

Jones, Geraint, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Computation

Lange, Bettina MA (BA, PhD Warwick) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Law and Regulation

Lewis, James Bryant, MA (BA University of the South, MA, PhD Hawaii) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Korean Studies

McKenna, William Gillies, MA (BSc Edinburgh, PhD, MD Albert Einstein) Professorial Fellow, Professor of Radiation Biology

Morin, Richard Antony, (BA Lincs and Humbs, MA KCL, MBA Northampton) Ordinary Fellow, Bursar

Nissen-Meyer, Tarje, (Diplom Munich, MA PhD Princeton) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Geophysics

Payne, Richard E (BA Colorado, PhD Princeton) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor in Sasanian Studies

Pila, Jonathan MA (BSc Melbourne, PhD Stanford) Professorial Fellow, Reader in Mathematical Logic

Probert, Philomen, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, Professor of Classical Philology and Linguistics; Vicegerent

Rawlins, (John) Nicholas Pepys, MA, DPhil Senior Research Fellow, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Development and External Affairs

Redfield, Christina, MA (BA Wellesley, MA, PhD Harvard) Ordinary Fellow, Professor of Molecular Biophysics
Rice, Ellen Elizabeth, MA, DPhil (BA Mount Holyoke College, MA Cambridge) Senior Research Fellow, Ancient History and Archaeology; Fellow Librarian and Archivist

Rickaby, Rosalind, MA (MA, PhD Cambridge) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Biogeochemistry, Professor of Biogeochemistry

Riede, Moritz, (MSc Camb, PhD Konstanz) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Soft Functional Nanotechnology

Roberts, Paul Christopher, MA (BA Camb, MPhil Sheffield) Professorial Fellow, Sackler Keeper of Antiquities

Roesler, Ulrike, MA (MA, PhD Münster, Habilitation Munich) Ordinary Fellow, Professor of Tibetan and Himalayan Studies

Schulting, Rick J, MA (BA, MA Simon Fraser, PhD Reading, PGCE, Queen’s Belfast) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Scientific and Prehistoric Archaeology

Stewart, Peter Charles N, (MA, MPhil, PhD Cambridge) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Classical Art and Archaeology

Sud, Nikita, MA, MPhil, DPhil (BA Delhi, MA Mumbai) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Development Studies

Taylor, David Guy Kenneth, MA, DPhil Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Aramaic and Syriac

Vedral, Vlatko, MA (BSc, PhD Imperial) Ordinary Fellow, University Lecturer in Theoretical Quantum Optics

Ventresca, Marc J, MA (AM, PhD Stanford) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Strategy

Wells, Andrew James, (MA, PhD Cambridge) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Physical Climate Science

Wolff, Jonathan, BA, MPhil Professorial Fellow, Blavatnik Professor of Public Policy

Woodruff, Christopher Marshall, (BSc Chicago, MA Calif Los Angeles, PhD Texas) Professorial Fellow, Professor of Development Economics

Yürekli-Görkay, Zeynep, (BArch MArch Istanbul Technical University, PhD Harvard) Ordinary Fellow, Associate Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture
Honorary Fellows

Adams, John W, (BA Rutgers, JD Seton Hall, LLM New York)
Bradshaw, William Peter, Lord Bradshaw, (MA Reading), FCIT
Burgen, Sir Arnold (Stanley Vincent), (MB, MD London, MA Cambridge), FRCP, FRS
Chan, Gerlad Lokchung, (BS MS California, SM SCD Harvard)
Epstein, Sir Anthony, CBE, MA (MA, MD Cambridge, PhD, DSc London, Hon MD Edinburgh, Prague, Hon DSc Birm), Hon FRCP, FRCPath, Hon FRCPA, FRS, Hon FRSE, FMedSci
Goodenough, Frederick Roger, MA (MA Cambridge)
Hamilton, Andrew David, MA (BSc Exeter, MSc British Columbia, PhD Cambridge), FRS
Hardy, Henry Robert Dugdale, BPhil, MA, DPhil
Khalili, Nasser David, (BA Queens, New York; PhD SOAS, London)
Levett, Christian Clive, (BTEC Durham)
Macdonald, Michael Christopher Archibald, MA
Mack Smith, Denis, CBE, MA (MA Cambridge), FBA, FRSL
Mance, Jonathan, the Rt Hon Lord Mance, MA
Miller, Andrew, CBE, MA (BSc, PhD Edinburgh)
Rezek, Francisco, DipL (LLB, DES Minai Gerais, PhD Paris)
Screech, Michael Andrew, MA, DLitt (DLit London, DLitt Birmingham), FBA, FRSL
Smith, Sir David, MA, DPhil, FRS, FRSE
Sorabji, Sir Richard, CBE, MA, DPhil, FBA
Thyssen-Bornemisza, Baron Lorne
Wood, Sir Martin, OBE, MA (BA Cambridge, BSc London), FRSL

Emeritus Fellows

Abraham, Douglas Bruce, MA, DSc (BA, PhD Cambridge)
Allen, Nicholas Justin, BSc, BLitt, BM BCh, Dip SocAnthrop, MA, DPhil
Anderson, David Lessells Thomson, MA (MA Cambridge, BSc, PhD St Andrews)
Booker, Graham Roger, MA, DPhil (BSc London, PhD Cambridge)
Briggs, George Andrew Davidson, MA (PhD Cambridge)
Brock, Sebastian Paul, MA, DPhil, (MA Cambridge, Hon DLitt Birmingham), FBA
Bryant, Peter Elwood, MA (MA Cambridge, PhD London), FRS
Buck, Brian, DPhil
Bulmer, Michael George, MA, DPhil, DSc, FRS
Bunch, Christopher, MA (MB BCh Birmingham), FRCP, FRCP (Edinburgh)
Cerezo, Alfred, MA, DPhil
Cranstoun, George Kennedy Lyon, MA (BSc, PhD Glasgow), FRSC
Davis, Christopher Mark, MA, DPhil (BA Harvard, MSA George Washington, PhD Camb)
Deighton, Anne, MA, DipEd (MA, PhD Reading) Research Fellows’ Liaison Officer
Dercon, Stefan, BPhil, DPhil (BA Leuven)
Dudbridge, Glen, MA (MA, PhD Cambridge), FBA
Francis, Martin James Ogilvie, MA, DPhil
Garton, Geoffrey, MA, DPhil
Gombrich, Richard Francis, MA, DPhil (AM Harvard)
Gordon, Alan Fleetwood, CBE, MA, FCMI
Hall, Roger Lawrence, MA (BSc, PhD Nottingham)
Harriss-White, Barbara, MA (DipAgSc, MA Cambridge, PhD East Anglia)
Hoare, Sir Charles Antony Richard, MA, DFBCS, FRS
Isaacson, Daniel Rufus, (AB Harvard) MA, DPhil; Visiting Scholars’ Liaison Officer
Jarron, (Thomas) Edward Lawson (MA Cambridge)
Jones, George Arnold, MA, DPhil (MA, PhD Cambridge)
Kennedy, William James, MA, DSc (BSc, PhD London)
Kurtz, Donna Carol, MA, DPhil (BA Cincinnati, MA Yale), FSA
Langslow, David Richard, MA, DPhil
McDiarmid, Colin John Hunter, MA, MSc, DPhil (BSc Edinburgh)
Mann, Joel Ivor, CNZM, DM (MBChB, PhD Cape Town), FFPHM, FRACP, FRSNZ
Meisami, Julie Scott, MA (MA, PhD California Berkeley)
Metcalf, David Michael, MA, DPhil, DLitt, FSA
Mulvey, John Hugh, MA (BSc, PhD Bristol)

Neil, (Hugh) Andrew Wade, (MB BS DSc Lond, MA Camb,) MA, FFPHM, FRCP, RD

Penney, John Howard Wright, MA, DPhil (MA Pennsylvania)

Perrins, Christopher Miles, MA, DPhil (BSc London) FRS, LVO

Ramble, Charles Albert Edward, MA, DPhil (BA Durham)

Robey, David John Brett, MA

Robinson, Chase Frederick, MA (BA Brown, PhD Harvard)

Sanderson, Alexis Godfrey James

Slater, MA

Shotton, David Michael, MA, DPhil (MA, PhD Cambridge)

Sykes, Bryan Clifford, MA, DSc (BSc Liverpool, PhD Bristol); Dean of Degrees

Tomlin, Roger Simon Ouin, MA, DPhil, FSA

Walker, Susan Elizabeth Constance, MA (BA, PhD London), FSA

Walton, Christopher Henry, MA (MA Cambridge), MBE

Watson, Oliver, (BA Durh, PhD Lond)

Watts, Anthony Brian, MA (BSc London, PhD Durham)

Wilkie, Alex James, MA (MSc, PhD London), FRS

Wyatt, Derek Gerald, MA, DPhil

Supernumerary Fellows

Barber, Peter Jeffrey, BA, MPhil, DPhil

Casadei, Barbara, MA, DPhil (MD Pavia, MRCP, FRCP London)

Clemit, Pamela Anne, BA, MPhil, DPhil

Coleman, John Steven, MA (BA, DPhil York)

Collins, Paul Thomas, (MA, PhD UCL)

Crabbe, Michael James Cardwell, FRGS, MA (BSc Hull, MSc, PhD, DSc Manchester), FRSA, FRSC, CChem, CBiol, FIBiol, FLS

De Roure, David, (PhD Southampton)

Ehlers, Anke, (Hab. Marburg) MA (PhD Tübingen)

Hodges, Christopher, MA (PhD KCL)

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Kay, Philip Bruce, MA, MPhil, DPhil, FSA

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Mueller, Benito, MA, DPhil (Dip ETH Zurich)
Nuttall, Patricia Anne, OBE, MA (BSc Bristol, PhD Reading)
Pottle, Mark Christopher, MA, DPhil (BA Sheffield)
Quinn, Catherine Ward, EMBA (BA Birmingham, MA Ohio State)
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Seryi, Andrei, (PhD Institute of Nuclear Physics)
Seymour, Leonard William, (BSc Manchester, PhD Keele)
Sheldon, Benjamin Conrad, MA (MA Cambridge, PhD Sheffield)
Tucker, Margaret Elizabeth, MA, DPhil
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Zeitlyn, David, (MSc London) MA, DPhil (PhD Cambridge)

Research Fellows
Andersson, Daniel Christopher, BA (MA, PhD Warburg Institute)
Arancibia, Carolina, (BSc North London, MSc Royal Postgraduate College, PhD Imperial)
Balzat, Jean-Sebastian, (BA Louvain-la-Neuve, MA Notts, PhD Newcastle)
Benjamin, Simon Charles, BA, DPhil
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Bhaskaran, Harish, (BE Pune, MS, PhD Maryland)
Cantley, James, (BSc Soton, MSc Imp, PhD UCL)
Chen, Yi Samuel, (AM Harvard) DPhil
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Edinburgh)
Haslam, Michael Alan, (BA, PhD
Queensland)
Hesselberg, Thomas, (MSc Aarhus,
PhD Bath)
Jankowiak, Marek, (MA Warsaw, PhD
Paris)
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*Weinrebe Fellow in Life Writing*
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Landrus, Matthew, DPhil (MA
Louisville)
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BChir, PhD Cambridge), FRCP
Mahdi, Adam, (MSc Cracow, MSc, PhD
Barcelona)
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PhD Glasgow), CBE
Maroney, Owen Jack Ernest, (BA
Cambridge, MSc, PhD London)
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MA PhD Paris)

Outes Leon, Ingo, MSc, DPhil (MSc
Regensburg)
Pattenden, Miles Alexander Frederick,
DPhil (BA Camb, MA Toronto)
Pyrah, Robert Mark, MA, MSt, DPhil
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London)
Ramracheya, Reshma, BSc De
Montfort, PhD KCL
Robinson, Paul John Robert, DPhil
(BSc London)
Sabiron, Céline, (MA, PhD Sorbonne)
Slade, Eleanor Margaret, DPhil, (BSc
Leeds, MSc Aberdeen)
Smith, Olivia Freunlich, (BA UEA,
MA, PhD London)
Stansfeld, Philip James, (BSc
Edinburgh, PhD Leicester)
Still, Clarinda Lucy Marion, (MA Edin,
MREs UCL, PhD LSE)
Sullivan, Kate Helen, (BA York, MA
Heidelberg, PhD ANU)
Toth, Ida, DPhil (BA, MPhil Belgrade)
Vicary, Jamie Oliver, (MA Cambridge,
PhD Imperial)
Vignal, Leila, (Diplom Fontenay St
Claud, MA, PhD Avignon)
Walton, Philippa Jane, PGDip (MA
Camb, PhD UCL)
Weisheimer, Antje, (Diplom Humboldt, PhD Potsdam)
Yasseri, Taha, (MSc Sharif Uni Tehran, PhD Göttingen)

Socio-Legal Research Fellows
Kurkchiyan, Marina, (MSc Yerevan, PhD Vilnius)

Jr Stipendiary Research Fellows
Stepien, Rafal, MA Oxf, (MA MPhil, PhD Columbia, MPhil Camb, BA West Australia) Berggruen Research Fellow in approaches in Indian Philosophy
Yu, Ying, (BA Chong Qing, LLM Dalian Maritime, PhD Wuhan) Law, Justice and Society, Consumer Rights and Protections in China, the European Union, and Internationally

Jr Stipendiary Research Fellows
Biggs, Alison, (BA SOAS, MPhil, PhD Cambridge) Linguistics

Erhard, Franz Xaver, (MA Freie/ Humboldt Berlin, PhD Leipzig) Tibetan and Himalayan Studies
Jan, Muhammad Ali, (BSc Lahore, MSc SOAS), DPhil Contemporary South Asia
Matin, Moujan, (BSc Tehran, MSc) DPhil Islamic Art and Architecture
Rodriguez Pérez, Diana, (MA PhD de León, MA Madrid) Mougins Museum, Classical Art and Material Culture

Stipendiary Research Fellows
Alonso, David, (MSc, PhD Madrid)
Al-Rashid, Moudhy, MPhil, DPhil (BA Columbia)
Antoine, Sophie, (MA Univ Libre de Bruxelles)
Blanke, Louise, (MA, PhD Copenhagen)
Bonnita Osorio, Ruy Sebastian, BS Los Andes, MPhil Camb, DPhil
Broggi, Joshua, (MA Wheaton, PhD Edin)
Calabrese, Katherine, BA MSt, (PhD UCL)
Cartlidge, Benjamin John BA (MA, Cologne)
Caruso, Fabio, (MSc Milan, PhD Freie)
Chaudhary, Ali Razzak, (MA, Humboldt, MA, PhD California Davis)
Chisari, Elisa (Licenc Buenos Aires, MA, PhD Princeton)
Christoforo, Mark Greyson, BA Notre Dame, MA Georgia Inst of Tech, PhD Stanford
Clark, Michael Ben, (MSc Otago, PhD Queensland)
Cook, Christina Lillian, (BSc, PhD British Columbia, LLB Victoria)
Cross, Katherine, BA, MSt (PhD UCL)
Evans, Rhiannon Mari, (BSc, PhD Wales)
Filip, Marina Rucsandra, (BEng Bucharest), DPhil
Gillebert, Celine, (MSc, PhD Leuven)
Frantz, Laurent, BSc Monpellier II, MSc Manchester, PhD Wageningen
Girolami, Davide, (MSc Torino, PhD Notts)
Godin, Marie Veronique, (MSc Oxf, PhD East London)
Grimes, David Robert, (BSc, PhD Dublin)
Guerrero Omar, (BA, ITESM, MSc Essex, PhD George Mason)
Hedesan, Delia Georgiana, (BA Nevada, MSc Leeds, MA, PhD Exeter)
Hirschhorn, Sara Yael, (BA Yale, MA, PhD Chicago)
Hiruta, Kei, MSc, DPhil (BA Keio, MA Essex),
Infantino, Federica (MA Naples, PhD Inst des Études Pols de Paris, PhD Brussels)
Jabb, Lama, DPhil (BA, MSc, SOAS)
Jin, Xianmin, (PhD Sci and Tech Univ China)
Kannan, Pavitra, (BA Grinnell, PhD Karolinska Inst)
Kirchhelle, Claas, (MA Munich, MA Chicago), DPhil
Klein-Flugge, Miriam, MSc (BSc Osnabruch and McGill, PhD UCL)
Kunnath, George, (BA Ranchi, MA Poona, MPhil Mumbai, PhD SOAS)
Lachman, Jamie, (BA Yale), MSc, DPhil
Leijten, Patty Henrica Odilia (BA, MPhil Radboud, PhD Utrecht)
Levy, Matthew Chase, (BS UCLA, MS, PhD Rice)
Li, Xiannan, (BMaths Waterloo, PhD Stanford)
Lidova, Maria, (MA, PhD Moscow State)
Loopstra, Rachel, (BSc Guelph, MSc, PhD Toronto)
Ma, Yuge, BEng, BA Tsinghua, MSc DPhil
Mac Carron, Padraig, (MA PG.Dip Cork, PhD Coventry)
Mansfield, Shane Joseph, DPhil (BSc, MSc Cork, Cert Camb)
Marletto, Chiara, DPhil (BA, MSc Torrino)
Martinez Hardigree, Josue, (BS MIT, PhD Johns Hopkins)
Meinck, Franziska, MSc, DPhil (BA Free Univ Bolzano)
Neenan, James Michael, (BSc UCL, MSc Bristol, PhD Zurich)
Nimura, Courtney Reiko, (BA Santa Cruz, MFA Tufts, MA UCL, PhD Reading)
Nurse, Jason Ricardo Corey, (BA West Indies, MA Hull, PhD Warwick)
Poncé, Samuel, (MA PhD Catholique de Louvain)
Ringel, Zohar, (BSc Hebrew Univ Jerusalem, MSc, PhD Weizmann Inst)
Roy, Indrajit, DPhil (BA Delhi)
San Martin Arbide, Lola (MA, PhD Salamanca)
Soares Barbosa, Rui Miguel de Sousa Martinho, (BSc Univ di Minho), MSc DPhil
Swanson, Alexandra, (BA Virginia, PhD Minnesota)
Tolstoy, Anastasia, BA, MSt, DPhil

Vatri, Alessandro, (Laurea Specialistica La Sapienza), DPhil
Viltanioti, Eirini Foteini (BA Athens, MA, PhD Brussels)
Viney, Tim James, (MBiol Bath, PhD Basel)
Volonakis, George Mathieu, (MSc Thessaloniki)
Winkler, Andreas, (BA MA PhD Uppsala)
Wood, Rachel Katherine Lloyd, BA, MSt, DPhil
Yamaura, Chigusa, (BA Komazawa, MA Chicago, PhD Rutgers)
Zharkevich, Ina, (BA Belarus State), MPhil DPhil

Creative Arts Fellow
Pierpan, Nicholas Cole, MPhil, DPhil (BA Bowdoin)
College Officers

President
Professor Dame Hermione Lee

Vicegerent
Professor Marcus Banks
(Professor Philomen Probert from 1 Oct 2016)

Bursar
Mr Richard Morin

Senior Tutor
Ms Gillian Hamnett

Development Director
Mr William Conner

Fellow for Library and Archives
Dr Ellen Rice

Deans of Degrees
Professor B C Sykes/Dr J B Lewis/
Dr R S O Tomlin/Professor C Redfield

Secretary to the Governing Body
Professor Bettina Lange
(Professor Jacob Dahl from 1 Oct 2016)

Research Fellows’ Liaison Officer
Professor Anne Deighton

Visiting Scholars’ Liaison Officer
Dr Dan Isaacson

College Membership

Governing Body Fellows 59
Honorary Fellows 21
Emeritus Fellows 50
Supernumerary Fellows 26
Research Fellows 46
Socio-Legal Research Fellows 1
Junior Research Fellows (Stipendiary) 5
Junior Research Fellows (Non-Stipendiary) 62
Visiting Fellows 1
Graduate Students 611
Members of Common Room 816
Abbreviations

EF  Emeritus Fellow
GBF  Governing Body Fellow
GS  Graduate Student
HF  Honorary Fellow
JRF  Junior Research Fellow
MCR  Member of Common Room
RF  Research Fellow
SJRF  Stipendiary Junior Research Fellow
SF  Supernumerary Fellow
VF  Visiting Fellow
VS  Visiting Scholar

Print by Kassandra Isaacson
Editor’s Note

The Record keeps the College in touch with some 6,000 Wolfsonians throughout the world.

Please send by email, if possible, any changes of address, personal and professional news including books (but not articles) published to college.secretary@wolfson.ox.ac.uk

The Record welcomes photographs which illustrate College life and reminiscences of your time here and experiences since. They should reach the College Secretary, by email if possible, college.secretary@wolfson.ox.ac.uk by 1 June for publication that year. Please seek permission from the photographer beforehand and include the name of the photographer with your submission.

We gratefully acknowledge photographs in this year’s Record by Thomas Aarholt, Gareth Ardon, Estelle Beguin, John Cairns, Janyong Choephel, James Crabbe, Julia Diamantis, Kristine Homoki, Amy Kao, Emma McIntosh, Ria Mishaal, Megan Price, Anna Sarkissian, Gem Toes, Roger Tomlin, Chris Vaas, Rosemary Wise. Our thanks to Phil Nixon and Heather Kirk for the audio-visual displays (Old Wolves), and to Theo Sundh for the cover design.

This Record covers the academic year 2015 to 2016. The list of Degrees and Diplomas comprises those which were conferred from 1 July 2015 to 31 July 2016.

Please let the College Secretary know of any errors or omissions. She will also help Wolfsonians who have lost touch with former colleagues. You can contact the College:

e-mail: juliet.montgomery@wolfson.ox.ac.uk OR college.secretary@wolfson.ox.ac.uk
website: http://www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/
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The President’s Letter

During my Graduate Student progress reviews this year, I made a list of the subjects I had heard about in one single day of meetings. It read: Child Development, Assyrian Divination, Bulgakov on the nature of angels, book collecting and Latin poetry, modelling brain stroke, cancer research, newspaper publishing of the Victorian empire, Parthian and Armenian language contact in the fifth century AD, finding a cure for Gaucher’s Disease, the politics of counter-insurgency in modern India, and the 1930s Italian banking crisis.

As I contemplated this list, it struck me that eight years ago, when I took up the Presidency of the College, I had never had a discussion about any of those topics, and had not anticipated that being at Wolfson would give me – as it gives all of us – such chances to broaden the mind and to have new conversations.

The idea of ‘conversation’ was central to this year’s superb Berlin Lecture, delivered on 9 June 2016 by Kwame Anthony Appiah who talked – very significantly in these troubling times – about what it is to be a citizen of the world, with ‘openness to people and cultures beyond the ones you were raised in’. That openness is at the heart of Wolfson, where we are all citizens of the world, and where, in our glorious fiftieth anniversary year, our international and interdisciplinary conversation is simply buzzing.
Some voices have fallen silent or left us. We deeply lament the sudden death on 14 January 2016 of our colleague Glyn Humphreys, Watts Professor of Psychology, who is very sorely missed. It was a small consolation to be able to hold a memorial at Wolfson, and to see so many of his students and colleagues from all over the world in attendance. With the Department of Psychology, we are fund-raising for a scholarship in his name and in his subject.

We were saddened by the death of Serena Moore on 13 October 2015, long-time friend of the College, researcher on the Berlin papers for Henry Hardy, and Jane Austen scholar. There is a moving tribute to Serena in this Record by her brother and Henry Hardy.

We were very sad to hear of the death on 3 February 2016 of our long-term colleague, the distinguished New Testament scholar John Ashton, Emeritus Fellow of the College, who had been Senior Tutor during his time as a Governing Body Fellow, and who is much missed by all his friends. He left the College his library, for which we are very grateful.

The death of Nicola Francis on 16 June 2015, a loyal friend of the College, was a loss which was marked, a year later, with a fitting and beautiful tribute at the opening of the Nicola and Martin Francis Garden outside the Robin Gandy building on 9 May.
We are very grateful to Martin and to Nicky’s memory for this generous gift.

We have been sad to part last year with colleagues who moved to posts elsewhere, like Hein de Haas and Stefan Dercon, or who have embraced retirement, like Chris Davis, and like our magnificent and much-loved ex-Bursar, Ed Jarron, whose legacy is all around us everywhere in the College.

From 2009 to the end of 2015, Ed Jarron was the best adviser and friend, the most dedicated, professional and effective Bursar, the most good-hearted, clear-headed and strong-minded colleague, that any President and any College could ever hope for. He led the College team over these years to refurbishing almost the whole of the College, acquiring a cutting-edge new kitchen, overseeing every stage of the building of two major and much admired new buildings, redesigning the front quad, and giving us a new lodge. Ed Jarron’s guiding hand, firm steering, keen eye, attention to detail, drive and encouragement, enabled all these developments. He has been utterly professional, completely steady, and completely trusted. He has looked after the College’s finance and investments and property with impeccable good sense, foresight and integrity. He has an excellent and robust sense of humour, which has served us both well at challenging moments. And he was, of course, an excellent Burns Night speaker.
I know that all the members of the College, from the most veteran Officers of the Governing Body to the newest student, from the housekeeping team to the Development Office, across every department and every constituency in the College, joined me in valuing and benefiting from Ed Jarron’s superlative qualities, and join me in wishing him and Sue all thanks, all good wishes, and all good luck, in his retirement.

But, though we have made some farewells, other voices have joined the conversation. We are very happy to welcome Mathias Czaika, Associate Professor of Migration and Development, Catriona Cannon, Deputy Librarian of the Bodleian, and Richard Morin, our already indispensable and greatly respected new Bursar, who has made his mark very quickly.

We look forward next year to welcoming Ruben Andersson in Migration Studies, Christopher Woodruff, Professor of Economics, and Jonathan Wolff, the new Blavatnik Professor of Government and Public Policy.

Our current Fellows have, as ever, been distinguishing themselves in a wide array of activities. Among our Research Fellows, Matthew Levy has been awarded funding by the University Challenge Seed Fund for developing his research into high-power laser illumination of dense matter, Nicoletta Demetriou’s work in ethnomusicology on Cypriot traditional fiddle music has been made a British Academy case study, and Franziska Meink has been awarded an ESRC Future Research Leaders Early Career Fellowship.

Among our Governing Body Fellows, Elleke Boehmer received a major John Fell Fund Award. Erica Charters’ book Disease, War and the Imperial State won two major prizes. Julie Curtis was part of the team which won an AHRC £4 million research
grant to boost the learning of languages in Britain, the largest grant ever awarded to the Oxford Humanities Division. She has also, this year, been a Governing Body Fellow for 25 years. Jacob Dahl hosted a very successful 125th anniversary of Assyriology celebration, here at Wolfson in April. Janet Delaine has been awarded a Leverhulme Fellowship for this coming year. Bettina Lange published a new book on economic and social regulation in a global context. Philomen Probert, our next Vicegerent, has been elected to the Academia Europaea. Moritz Riede has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Global Young Academy, a platform for young scientists using their research to benefit society. Ros Rickaby was awarded an European Resarch Council Consolidator grant for research into ‘elements for Life in the Sea’. Our Supernumerary Fellow Keith Willett, Director of Acute Care, NHS England, was appointed CBE in the New Year Honours for services to the NHS. Our Emeritus Fellow Roger Tomlin has been all over the world news front pages for deciphering the wooden tablets excavated in London’s Walbrook, dating from the earliest years of the Roman conquest and described by Roger as ‘Roman emails’. As the Guardian leader observed, ‘his work is a job of reconstruction that requires superb linguistic skills, a vast knowledge of Roman written culture, and a generous historical empathy, not to mention highly developed skills in logic and cruciverbalism. Were it 1939, one feels he would be immediately recruited to Bletchley Park.’

Our colleagues have given themselves some space for personal events too. David Taylor (GBF) and Ulrike Roesler (GBF) were married on 9 April. Lucie Cluver (GBF) had a baby, Michael, on 2 May. Our Development Director Bill Conner marries his partner Manrico Magozzi on 23 July. Our Senior Tutor Gillian Hamnett marries her fiancé Bill Wood on 13 August. Felicitations all round.

The College’s conversations have been greatly enhanced this year by the opening of the Academic Wing on 10 March. The new library is much in use. Jon Stallworthy’s books are on the shelves. Isaiah Berlin’s bust, and his portrait, generously loaned to us by Peter Halban, look benignly down over the Berlin room – a portrait loan among several art-work loans this year which have excitingly transformed the look of the College.
The new lodge is settling in well, the café has become a centre of College life for all its inhabitants, and the new front quad, the Stallworthy Grove and the tree-lined walkway, are a joy to behold and a pleasure to be in.

We are proud and excited on behalf of our wonderful architects, Berman Guedes Stretton, and our faithful builders, Benfield and Loxley, that the buildings have won two RIBA South Prizes, and have been shortlisted for a National RIBA Award, the Concrete Society award, and a World Architecture award. It is marvellous that the new buildings have attracted such national admiration, as well as becoming part of the daily life of the College.
I thank all our generous donors to the new building, notably John Adams, the Wolfson Foundation, the Halbons, and Carol O’Brien, but also all colleagues and friends who gave so generously. The successful completion of the building was greatly due to the commitment and efforts of the Development Office, who have been extremely active on many fronts. They completed the campaign for the purchase of our new Steinway Model C grand piano in the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium, with the particular help of Karen Segal and of the Common Room Fund. Our College Trio, the Fournier, who have given us some fine concerts this year, are very enthusiastic about the new piano. The Development Office also organized a successful US spring tour for me to meet with alumni and Wolfson friends on the West and East Coasts. They set up the London Lecture in the House of Lords on 15 March, a fascinating talk on ‘Pain and the Brain’ given by Nick Rawlins, and generously arranged for us by Lord Bradshaw. They finalised the Investec sponsorship for the Boat Club. They have attracted a goodly number of alumni for our imminent Anniversary Weekend. And, most importantly, they have worked with the Senior Tutor’s office to reach our Anniversary target of 50 scholarships for Wolfson’s 50 years.

The success of the new building and its landscape, and all of our achievements this year, depends also, as ever, on the extraordinary team of hard-working and professionally committed people who work here in every department. All who work here know how much I thank them and how much their hard work means to me and to the whole College. I especially want to mention Barry Coote, the Home Bursar, who has masterminded every detail and every major challenge with unfailing optimism, Janice Tirda in the Lodge for overseeing a challenging transition so calmly, and Mike Pearson and his team who worked valiantly to bring the new gardens in on time. In every department, we are privileged and lucky to depend on such dedicated people. I should single out, in our work-force, for special mention this year, Heather Waring in Accounts who has been here for 25 years; our new colleague Heather Kirk, the first woman to work in the traditionally men-only IT Office (after the departure of the excellent Ryan Lynch); and our new communications officer Theo Sundh. New arrivals and old hands alike contribute to our exceptional working environment.
For myself and for the College, I also want to give warm and heartfelt thanks to Christina Redfield for stepping in as Acting President during my Michaelmas Term’s research leave, and steering the ship with such a firm and steady hand, to Bettina Lange for her valiant and scrupulous work as Secretary to the Governing Body, and to Marcus Banks for a tenure as Vicegerent marked by impeccable professionalism, a coherent and clear-headed vision of the College, and a sympathetic generosity of spirit.

What we do here, we do for our research fellows and graduate students: this is their college, and we serve their interests. Gillian Hamnett’s Academic Office goes from strength to strength, and she was recently described to me, enviously, by a member of another college, as the best Senior Tutor in Oxford. And it is no small job. Her office is managing 611 students from all over the world, 199 of whom arrived this year, and 467 of whom are DPhil students. We have 2 Rhodes scholars and a Wolfson Foundation Humanities scholar. We currently award 45 scholarships, with that number set to rise to the magic total of 50 in 2016–17, including 7 new Oxford Wolfson Marriott partnered scholarships. We gave out 145 travel and conference awards and 32 academic bursaries this year, and our total expenditure on scholarships, travel awards and academic bursaries was just over £372,000.

Our students, it goes without saying, are working all hours of the day. But they are also singing in our revitalised choir; celebrating the Tibetan New Year (the Year of the Male Fire Monkey), supporting our AMREF charity, and working to reduce the College’s environmental impact, for which we gained a Green Impact award, class 2, silver medal. They have been playing all kinds of sport, from winning the annual Wolfson-Darwin day struggle for supremacy, battling valiantly in croquet, football, badminton and cricket, and excelling on the river. Our women novice rowers won the Christ Church regatta in November; in Torpids we got three blades and set new club records; in April, two of our Wolfson women rowers, Elo Luik and Emma Spruce, rowed in the winning Oxford boat in the Boat Race, with Katherine Erickson in the reserve boat; and in Eights Week we were outstandingly victorious. We were the college with the highest number of bumps, with the women’s II winning blades. There have been High Profile and Blues Awards not only for our champion rowers but also for Javelin, Rifle Shooting, Indian Dance, Boxing, Football, Karate and Golf. Diversity indeed.
Much of the College’s activity is created by the students, culminating in a superb and memorable Fiftieth Anniversary Ball, entirely planned and organised by the Student Ball Committee headed by Katie Gardner, on 25 June 2016.

The College also provides many opportunities and events for our students, post-doctoral fellows, and visiting scholars. ‘Wolfson Innovate’ or WIN, our social entrepreneurship initiative, in which we collaborate with two other colleges, Pembroke and Hertford, goes very well, thanks to the efforts of Pat Nuttall and the generous sponsorship of Gerald Chan. Our post-doctoral fellows, energetically looked after by our Research Fellows Liaison Officer Anne Deighton, have been having a lively year of careers conversations, interdisciplinary lunches, and visiting speakers. Dan Isaacson has been making sure that there are opportunities to meet for our Visiting Scholars (while the artist Kassandra Isaacson was one of the stars of our art-shows this year). The President’s Seminars, which mix Governing Body Fellows, Research Fellows and students in a research seminar once a term, has dealt this year with the themes of ‘Climate Change’, ‘Traditions’ and ‘Design’.

Our Cluster activities have been thriving. The Digital Research Cluster has signed an agreement with the Oxford e-Research Centre in June 2015 for a working collaboration which will greatly enhance the Cluster’s activities. The Quantum Cluster has been discussing philosophical topics over pizza and beer, and running workshops on Quantum Linguistics; Vlatko Vedral’s physics research group has also been active within the College. The Foundation for Law, Justice and Society, has had a full programme of seminars, film-showings, book discussion groups and lectures, including the second Max Watson memorial lecture given by Professor Alan Paterson on the UK Supreme Court. Tibetan and Himalayan Studies hosted the first Annual Aris Lecture by Professor Janet Gyatso on the future of Tibetan Studies, and has held an exciting range of workshops and talks. The South-Asia Cluster has run seminars, visiting lectures and discussions on topics as various as Pakistan’s political economy, care practice in Indian transnational families, sustainable development in India, and Burma’s Rohingya people. The Ancient World lived on in the modern community of Wolfson, and if you wanted to hear about Roman decapitations, an ancient spell to get rid of wrinkles, Mesopotamian literature, archaeology and cultural heritage in post-revolution Libya, or the story
of our Wolfson founding Fellow Colin Kraay, told by Chris Howgego, Wolfson was the place to be. At the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing we set up collaborations with TORCH and with the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, welcomed the Professor of Poetry Simon Armitage to talk about memoir and travel writing, and, among many other lectures and conferences, ran the Weinrebe lecture series, which included Marcus du Sautoy (on the biography of prime numbers), and Julian Barnes, with a talk called ‘Some of My Best Friends are Biographers’.

Our College named lectures have been outstanding. There was an excellent Syme Lecture by Roger Bagnall, hosted by Martin Goodman in Michaelmas Term, and a successful Safraz Lecture on US-Pakistan relations given by Christophe Jaffrelot. In February 2016 we had the great experience of hearing Tim Berners-Lee give the fiftieth anniversary Haldane Lecture, to a huge audience, on the ethics of the World Wide Web.

In addition to Professor Appiah’s Berlin Lecture in Trinity Term, in May 2016 we also had an extremely interesting Wolfson Lecture series on Global Education, with topics ranging from British universities and African women’s education, to Syrian refugees and Climate Justice. The admirable Mary Robinson spoke movingly on
that topic in the light of the recent Paris Climate Agreement.

All these events culminated in an Anniversary weekend bursting with activity, which included a lecture on the future of Universities by the Chancellor, Lord Patten; a magical garden party for our Emeritus Fellows at the house in Headington which was lived in for many years by Isaiah Berlin, thanks to the kindness of its present owners Sam and Debbie Laidlaw; a weekend of Cluster presentations, sporting and family events, art and architecture and garden tours, lunches, dinners and fireworks; and special access to the Ashmolean’s exhibition on Sicily, thanks to its curator and our colleague Paul Roberts. I give my thanks to all who worked so hard to plan and carry out these events, and to all who have contributed to the excitement, energy, distinction and vivid life of the College in its fiftieth year.
Glyn Humphreys (1954–2016)

Glyn Humphreys, Watts Professor of Psychology and Head of the Department of Experimental Psychology since October 2011, died on 14 January 2016. He was a leading expert in the field of cognitive neuropsychology and his research was internationally renowned for its theoretical insight and unique combination of empirical creativity and rigour. But first and foremost, he was a much admired and loved colleague, whose brilliance, kindness and humility will continue to resound throughout the Department and the international community. We have been immensely saddened by his passing.

Glyn had broad interests in the field of visual cognition, including neuropsychological disorders of vision and attention, functional brain imaging and neural intervention procedures. He published over 600 papers and 20 books, and his contribution to the field was recognized in many national and international awards. In summer 2015, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the British Psychological Society for his contribution to the advancement of psychological knowledge. He was very humble when accepting the award, and with typical generosity shared the credit: ‘I have been fortunate to work with a large number of extremely bright, committed and generous colleagues, and I thank them all.’

After moving to Oxford, Glyn and his team in the Cognitive Neuropsychology Centre developed the Oxford Cognitive Screen, a cognitive assessment for use in acute stroke. The OCS has been licenced to more than a hundred NHS units across the UK and is now being used internationally in projects in South Africa, Hong Kong, mainland China, Italy, Spain, Brazil and Iran. He cared passionately for helping those with brain disorders.
Glyn was not only a transformative Head of Department, his role as teacher and mentor was also of great importance and impact. He truly inspired the lives of his students. During his academic career, he supervised no fewer than 68 doctoral students, 18 of them during his time at Oxford.

Glyn will be greatly missed by friends and colleagues around the world. But his genius will continue. As Professor Ian Robertson has said on the memorial site: ‘Glyn lives on in the network of minds he influenced so positively – goodness like that doesn’t really ever die out.’

Charlotte Thompson-Grant
(Executive Assistant to the Head of the Department of Experimental Psychology)
*A memorial event for Glyn Humphreys was held at Wolfson on 28 May 2016.*
Serena Moore (1947–2015)

Serena Moore, ‘Sally’ to family and friends, who worked at Wolfson on the Isaiah Berlin Papers project for fifteen years (1998–2010), died on 13 October 2015 after a long struggle with cancer. The following appreciation is based on two addresses given at her funeral in Charlbury on 30 October.

In letters and emails to friends Serena Moore habitually signed off ‘much love’, and if there is a single phrase that captures what she was and did, this would be a strong candidate. She loved life, and bitterly regretted leaving it, even though she described the prolonged suffering of her departure, with marvellous English understatement, merely as ‘slightly tiresome’. She loved England and continental Europe, especially Italy. She loved Charlbury, where she lived for the latter part of her life. She loved her family – her parents Pat and Rachel; her troubled sister Geraldine, tragically killed in a road accident at the age of thirty-two; her brother Piers; her husband Colin, cruelly snatched from her after less than a year of marriage. She loved her friends. She loved her colleagues. She loved Jane Austen, especially her use of the English language. She loved her work. And in her quiet, undemonstrative way she loved her God, who gave her meaning, purpose and strong hope for what lay beyond the death that galloped up on her over her last months, bringing her far too much pain.

The formal roles Serena filled in her professional roles – high-end secretary and PA – were a bushel under which she almost (but not quite) concealed one of her leading lights, namely her authorship. She had a good English degree from London University, and all through her life wrote for publication. She completed several works, some of which have already appeared in print, some not yet. In 1980 she published a riposte to Shirley Conran’s book Superwoman entitled Supersecretary: How to Survive Superbly: Redundant Mum, First Timer or Career Girl. Later came a number of acutely observed studies of Jane Austen’s language, originating as lectures, and several other essays on topics as diverse as Oxford’s Botanic Garden and Isaiah Berlin, for whom she worked briefly in 1972. She also finished a book of short stories and an unusual piece of social history entitled Mustn’t Grumble, based on her work as a volunteer at St Bartholomew’s Hospital in London: she had talked to the inmates, drawn out their memories, and brought them to life as full-bodied personalities with arresting histories, not the empty husks misperceived by some of
the staff to whose care they had been entrusted. She wrote, too, a biographical study of her grandfather’s training at Barts, edited her mother’s poems, and prepared two books by her soldier father, including his Second World War letters. This was all done with loving attention to detail, and she left meticulously prepared manuscripts virtually ready for the press, illustrations and all.

Serena was an unswervingly loyal, astonishingly efficient, deeply civilised, exactingly conscientious and beneficently imaginative colleague and sister: poised, private, unselfish, insightful, brave, kind. Our lives were enriched by knowing her. She was not vouchsafed her full three score years and ten, and had so many plans for the future. We mourn her passing. Her abundant love was expressed with perfect English good manners, though it remained clearly visible beneath the veneer of always polite formality and twinkling humour. Equally English was her self-deprecation, though she knew her worth, and rightly expected those whose views she cared about to recognize it.

Serena Denholm-Young was born in Harrogate in 1947, her parents’ firstborn. Geraldine appeared two years later, and Piers two years after that. When Serena was only seven her parents separated and then divorced. This must have left a wound, even though they restored their relationship, later moving to Norwich and remarrying when Serena was fourteen. There was another source of anxiety during the same period, when Rachel underwent major cancer surgery, which took her away for a year while her children were looked after by a housekeeper.

Serena read English at University College London with success and much enjoyment. In 1972, a year after graduation, she came to Oxford to work as PA to the founding President of Wolfson, Isaiah Berlin. She has written entertainingly about this experience in her essay ‘In the President’s Office’. She had to leave this position prematurely, less than a year later, to support her parents in the face of her sister’s worsening mental illness.

Five years later Geraldine, who was to be married, seemed more stable, and Serena felt able to move back to London, where she met her future husband Colin Moore. In 1982, after her sister’s death the previous year, they married, and were very happy together for nine short months. In 1983 Colin died of a heart attack: her diary for 2 April records simply ‘C’.
For the next ten years she worked for over twenty different organisations, volunteering at Barts one day a week on the elderly acute ward. In 1991 her father died and she moved to Charlbury to be near her mother, by then living in Oxford. When Rachel became terminally ill she nursed her at home until her death in 1994. Her subsequent story can be told in part from her diaries, in her own words:

1998: I have recently accepted something nice at Wolfson College, working as Archive Assistant to Berlin’s editor and literary trustee, Henry Hardy, on the Isaiah Berlin papers, a fascinating enterprise. (Note: published eleven volumes by and about Berlin, plus other items.)

1999: I try to help the Campaign to Protect Rural England […] a wonderful organisation.

She helped with meals on wheels in Charlbury every Christmas, and later joined her brother at that season in Coventry, where she helped to run a drop-in centre for the homeless. She walked all over the country, writing evocative descriptions of what she saw:

I came upon a herd of deer in the shelter of a copse. I counted twenty-five, I think, old and young – brown, cream, and the dappled grey dun of brushwood – sauntering about, tails wagging or lying down. At a distance of perhaps a quarter of a mile, they seemed elusive, legendary, yet plumply three-dimensional, there in the sun. Medieval, tapestry-world creatures.

Litchfield itself I liked: an elegant town centre, not spoilt or smart, and a fine gothic cathedral whose interior was soaringly high and narrow and fragile-looking, and remarkably harmonious. We attended Evensong by candlelight, which to my mind was the high point of the weekend, though the rest of it was fun too. Lots of old friends.

Serena worked steadily with Henry Hardy until her retirement in 2010. She had started serious work on Jane Austen a year before. She gave a series of markedly successful lectures at branches of the Jane Austen Society, and at their national conference. The last lecture was given in April 2015 during a course of chemotherapy – a huge effort, but a triumph. In 2011 she had had major surgery for cancer, which went well, though recovery took a year. After a respite of two years,
the cancer reappeared in earnest. By early 2015 all that was left was a long slow
decline, with palliative care. She told very few the real story. It was a hard road,
despite excellent medical care, help from many remarkable friends, and visits to a
local hospice, which looked after her and made her feel able to let go.

In 2010 Serena gave a talk on *Persuasion* to the Jane Austen Society’s London group.
In Jane’s writing she found a consummate expression of her own deepest feelings,
and she lingered over Jane’s pages often as she contemplated life’s sorrows and joys.
In a particularly felicitous image, she likened Austen’s use of the English language
to that of an accomplished skater:

Jane Austen created such language for the feelings. Her last virtually complete
novel [...] is an exercise in sustained emotional lyricism, and the denouement
of the luminous, late-flowering beauty that is *Persuasion* is the most passionate
she wrote. [...] What she produced was no less than her most ravishing
expression of the belief that one should marry for love. The language – grown-
up and serious – is a tour de force of spiralling tension, released in the miracle
of mutual discovery. [...] Charles asks Wentworth to escort Anne home: ‘There
could not be an objection. There could only be a most proper alacrity; a most
obliging compliance for public view; and smiles reined in and spirits dancing in
private rapture.’ Could there be a lovelier metaphor? After which, the aria of the
deliriously happy stroll up the gravel-walk:

*There they exchanged again those feelings and those promises which had once before
seemed to secure everything, but which had been followed by so many, many years of
division and estrangement. There they returned again into the past, more exquisitely
happy, perhaps, in their re-union, than when it had been first projected; more tender, more
tried, more fixed in a knowledge of each other’s character, truth and attachment; more
equal to act, more justified in acting. And there, as they slowly paced the gradual ascent
[...] they could indulge in these retrospections [...]*. 

The language steadies. Repeating the adverb ‘there’, Jane Austen firmly puts the
couple out of earshot, removes them to the privacy they crave and a world of
enchantment all the more magical because we are forced to supply its details
ourselves. Having subjected them to torment, she now deals gently with this
couple; deeply aware of the ephemeral, fragile nature of happiness, she has the
wisdom to treat it with the utmost care. The episode is, I would suggest, her most accomplished solo on ice.

Piers Denholm-Young and Henry Hardy
David Price
(1937–2016)

David William Price was born in Banbury, Oxfordshire, in 1937 and was raised by his mother who worked at the family bakery whilst his father served abroad for five years as a medical orderly. David’s childhood memories of air raids over Coventry during the War and general privation left him with a keen interest in British and European social and political history. After completing his national service in Germany in the 1950s, where he encountered Elvis Presley, he trained as a teacher at the College of St Mark and St John in Chelsea. He spent thirty years teaching in state schools and was an enthusiastic disseminator of history to both willing and unwilling pupils. In 1968 he persuaded a local Somerset landowner to provide his country house and estate to stage a successful pageant that featured the royal visit of Queen Elizabeth I. This involved organising horses, music and many local schoolchildren. David played Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and Megan his wife played Elizabeth. Their six-week old son also took part as – who knows?

After raising their son Iorwerth and daughter Abigail in Sherborne, Dorset, during the 1980s and 1990s, David and Megan suddenly encountered an unexpected and life-changing situation when dreams of early retirement from teaching became a reality. David took early retirement in 1994 and immediately embarked on a new educational path. Attracted to the wilds of Wales, he began a study of Celtic History at the University of Wales, Lampeter, where he was awarded an MA and PhD. In 2001 he joined Megan in Oxford, whose own early retirement from teaching in 1996 had already taken her there to study for a BA in Archaeology and Anthropology, followed ultimately by a DPhil in 2006. After a spell of working at Sainsbury’s Heyford Hill petrol station, David applied to study for an MSt in Archaeology at Wolfson.
From 2001 as mature students (indeed, very mature), David and Megan collected various postgraduate degrees, culminating in David’s award of a DPhil in Irish Prehistory in 2015. Their children would often ask them when they were going to settle down and become ‘proper grandparents’, whilst being deeply proud of their ability to switch from academia to nappies at the drop of a gown. During his early years in Oxford, David once gate-crashed an Encaenia Garden Party while Megan hid behind a tree. He was subsequently invited officially, and enjoyed these occasions which contrasted so strongly with his early life.

David and Megan were fortunate enough to live in College from 2006 to 2014 in a flat with a beautiful view overlooking the harbour. David served as an Elected Member of Governing Body, and after completing his studies he became a Member of Common Room. Despite being one of the oldest students in Oxford, he was full of life, encouragement and compassion, and relished in his time at Wolfson.

Alongside his passion for rugby, David cherished the spiritual side of life. He had been a committed Christian from childhood; having been an active member of most Christian denominations, he was ordained priest in the Traditional Anglican Church in Britain, and became known for making people feel special and valued just as they were. In 2004 he was diagnosed with cancer, and over the next few years received expert care and treatment at the Churchill Hospital. His last six months were difficult for a man so full of life and energy. He died peacefully on 30 April at Green Gates Care Home, Summertown.

Megan Price
There were many layers to John. One came to know him across time. On that often enhancing occasion, the Wolfson lunch, he was both conversationist and teacher. He would sit among doctoral students and JRFs, and with his questions lay bare, dismantle and rebuild what he heard. He was as full of insight as he was sceptical. It made for demanding but amusing lunches, punctuated by John’s ironies and corrections, his counter-thoughts, careful misgivings and enlargements. He was an adept of institutions and of the conversation the best institutions make possible – perhaps are even there to make possible. Michael Barnes, who lived as a Jesuit student in a house in Kensal Rise with John in the 1970s, when John was a Jesuit teaching at Heythrop College, remembers how important a figure John was in the social and intellectual make-up of this and other communities. Tom Whyte, taught by John in Oxford (where John was tutor in Theology at Trinity), says:

‘He did not judge his students solely by academic potential. He had a strong pastoral interest in them. He disliked injustice. If he felt a student was being treated unfairly, he made it his business to give whatever support was needed. In tutorials, his strong interests beyond his own extraordinary New Testament scholarship shone through, particularly his love of literature, as did the deep affection and high regard he held for his own teachers, particularly ‘Iris’ (Murdoch). His frequent references to Eliot and Browning helped give his students the confidence to approach Gospel as text – regardless of their own personal faith or lack of it – in a building in which one could smell the incense.’

He could be radical. He would tell students if he felt they were wasting his time and theirs; but he would spend hours getting a non-linguist through the minimum of Greek needed to get to the next stage of study. He preferred telling people what they were doing to telling them what to do.

John Ashton was born along with his twin on 13 June 1931. John and Michael marked their eightieth birthday with a memorable party in Wolfson in June 2011. He attended Stonyhurst College, the Jesuit school in Lancashire, and in 1949 joined
the Society of Jesus. After three years studying scholastic philosophy, plus a fourth training as a schoolteacher, he was sent to Campion Hall, Oxford, to read Greats. It was not until 1964, the third year of the four he spent studying theology at Lyon-Fourvière, the Jesuit seminary in France, that he began to think seriously about the Gospel of John. Lectures given there by Xavier Léon-Dufour and Paul Lamarche had a profound impact on him. Indeed, there is a thread linking them with some of the most important insights in his first book on the Gospel of John; a thread that continues right up to a colloquium held in John’s honour in the University of Bangor in 2010 which took as its subject ‘the intimations of Apocalyptic’ discussed in his book of 1991.

He was ordained priest in 1964, then studied in Rome at the Pontificio Istituto Biblico. After a short period of doctoral study at Cambridge, he taught at Heythrop College, newly based in London, between 1970 and 1978. The length and intensity of Jesuit formation meant that he published very little in all these years other than the tiny volume *Why were the Gospels written?* Recognition of just how significant was the affinity between the Gospel and Jewish apocalyptic literature already begins to dawn in this book. It is an insight whose development remained central in his thinking.

In the summer of 1978 he resigned from his post at Heythrop and began to negotiate his departure from the Society of Jesus and from the priesthood, because of ecclesiastical and theological doubts. As he put it, the public renunciation of his priesthood meant a restoration of his personal integrity. But the years following departure from the Jesuit order were difficult. During this time he did some schoolteaching in Hampshire before obtaining a series of temporary appointments in Scotland between 1981 and 1983. Then work on the Gospel of John resumed. John set himself the task of answering two questions posed by the great German theologian Rudolf Bultmann, concerning the position of the Gospel of John in early Christian thought and the overarching conception of the Gospel. John agreed with Bultmann that the second question could be answered in a single word, *revelation*, though he would offer a very different historical background for the concept. Eventually in 1984, after a succession of applications for university posts, John was appointed to a lectureship in Oxford, where he also became a Fellow of Wolfson. He taught New Testament in the Faculty of Theology for the next twelve years, his
willingness to share ideas being a key element in the productivity of the department. The magisterial book *Understanding the Fourth Gospel* was duly published in April 1991, and was followed in 1994 with the publication of his collected essays, *Studying John*. His very last seminar before retirement in 1996 took place on his sixty-fifth birthday when he was presented with a Festschrift, *Understanding, studying and reading: New Testament essays in honour of John Ashton* (edited by Christopher Rowland and Crispin H T Fletcher-Louis, 1998). Two years later he gave the Wilde Lectures, which were published in 2000 as *The Religion of Paul the Apostle*. In many ways it is John’s most original contribution to New Testament study, not least in his advocacy of the application of an analogical method to shed light on Paul’s experience. *The Quest for Paradise* (2001), which he wrote with his former student Tom Whyte, traces an important concept in the world’s myths and religions. He then lived for six years (2004–10) in Paris, before returning to Oxford in 2010. His last book, *The Gospel of John and Christian Origins*, took further important issues raised in his earlier work on the gospels.

John’s speech was marked by aphoristic punch-lines, sometimes his own, sometimes borrowed. Walking shivering out of the waves off a beach in Normandy: ‘La vie serait supportable sans ses petits plaisirs.’ There were memorable episodes of conversation, such as the Wolfson Guest Night when John and Brian Magee exchanged blows on whether the art of boxing was really an art, comparable even with playing the piano, or a relict of barbarism. John was a philosopher too, a lover of clear reasonings who understood that reason must be ready to break bread with what lies beyond it: he was not taught by Iris Murdoch for nothing. The eloquence in his writing is the effect of thought purified. The irony, though, could have the effect of masking strength of feeling.

His attachment to friends at Wolfson was a great part of his life; and beyond that he had a great number of friends across the world, whom he would visit in his travels. After retirement he spent time in Turkey learning Turkish. His engagement with French culture – Proust in the foreground – was constant, as was his delight in the thoroughfares and by-ways of the language. His beautiful flat in the Marais in the years when he lived in Paris was a centre for his hospitality, though his eventual return to Oxford, helped along by some of his Wolfson friends, was a
welcome return to a more sociable existence. He was easy with children, never stooped to them. It was always clear, though he seldom talked about it at length, that his leaving the company of the Jesuits was a terrible break for him in human terms. He seems to have survived by reading bad novels and listening to good music. In religious life, he seems to have lost faith in the institutions, and this was perhaps the beginning of loss of faith. (He spoke of it unambiguously as loss of faith.) Yet the very brilliance of the historical approach he took to the Gospel of John makes his book a meditation on belief itself. John once said he had been to a big Courbet exhibition and thought it perhaps the best show he had ever seen. There is a consonance between the painter’s realism in depicting nature and the conviction of John’s restorations, through careful siftings, of the historical past. What he writes has body. But John was a complex man, and the realism is always an answer to the question: might this way of seeing it be the one that fits best, given that we know none will fit perfectly? It is based on a practice of creative revisionism and self-revision. There are a few especially revealing pages where John shows how Kierkegaard reconciles the poles of an absurd conflict, that of transient event and eternal being, by borrowing from St John’s story of Jesus’ disappearance and death. It is the very disappearance of the event as it recedes in time that lies at the heart of faith in an eternal being, says Kierkegaard, just as the disappearance of Jesus of Nazareth is the grounds of the Johannine community. The use of this to throw light on the Fourth Gospel gives the historical method quite a jolt.

John will be very much missed, by his Wolfson friends and by so many others.

Peter Cramer and Christopher Rowland.
The Fiftieth Anniversary celebrations
by Richard Morin, the Bursar

Celebrations culminated in the weekend of 8–10 July 2016, but were preceded by a whole series of remarkable events. Highlights included a fascinating Haldane Lecture on 25 February by Sir Tim Berners-Lee on ‘Protocols and Politics: the inseparable pair’; and each week in May lectures in the Wolfson College Lecture Series by Ann Cotton, OBE, on ‘Building a movement for girls’ education in Africa: the story of Camfed’s genesis and evolution’; Professor Stefan Collini, FBA, on ‘Gleaming spires: old ideas for new universities?’; Dr Mary Robinson on ‘Educating for Climate Justice after the Paris Climate Agreement’, a very thought-provoking lecture; Professor Stefan Dercon on ‘Hope for a better future: education and jobs as a response to the Syrian refugee crisis’; and on 9 June the Berlin Lecture by Professor Kwame Anthony Appiah on ‘Cosmopolitan Contamination: learning world citizenship.’

The Anniversary Summer Ball on 25 June 2016 was a huge success [see ‘Clubs and Societies’], and much to the credit of the organizing skills of Wolfson’s students with the able assistance of dedicated members of staff. Truly a night to be remembered by the many students and Fellows who attended. It was followed on 6 July by a garden party for Emeritus Fellows, staff and others from Wolfson, at Headington House where a blue heritage plaque proudly commemorates that Isaiah Berlin once lived there. Our gracious hosts were its present owners, Deborah and Sam Laidlaw. Seventy guests were able to reminisce in the sunlit gardens, some of them senior enough to have been there in Isaiah’s day. The Home Bursar even confessed to many visits ‘apple scrumping’ as a youngster, although it was surely excessive to check his pockets afterwards when he left. The more serious-minded speculated on how far the College had actually been planned round the dining-table at Headington House.

Not strictly part of the celebrations, but obviously related to them, was a gathering next day (7 July) in the College lodge. Julie Curtis (25 years a GBF) unveiled the new portrait of the President by Jennifer Anderson, which hangs in the entrance corridor to the Auditorium to mark her outstanding contribution to that new amenity. The other Presidential portraits hang in the Library, prompting instant comparisons by the interested audience. They rated it high among them.
The anniversary weekend itself began with a lecture by the Chancellor, Lord Patten, entitled ‘What is the point of universities?’ He ranged from his own experience of Oxford, whether as undergraduate or as Chancellor, to his view of the expansion in the number of universities since the 1980s and their role in the future. He spoke to a packed Auditorium about balancing the needs of research, funding, science and the humanities, to provide a first-class university system that was fit for the purpose. He regretted the loss of many vocational courses at the former polytechnics, and keenly advocated the importance to society of pure, blue-sky research, not research linked to a government’s perceived priorities. Questions and answers were followed by a reception and informal supper in the Hall, at which visiting alumni were able to renew old ties.
The central day was Saturday 9 July, with a combination of academic activity and appreciation of the Wolfson estate and its history. Walter Sawyer, the first designer of the College landscape, took visitors on tours of the gardens, while they were taken by Alison McDonald to the Nature Reserve across the river. She described the meadow’s unique history as an undisturbed relic of Marston’s medieval farming system, and emphasised the importance of preserving it for future generations. The architect Alan Berman took visitors round the College buildings, explaining how they had evolved from the original designs by Powell and Moya to the Auditorium and Academic Wing designed by his own firm. Mark Norman and Jan Scriven led a tour of the College’s art works, including the new Presidential portrait. Visitors were also treated to the Old Wolves Archives Roadshow, with its film of Isaiah’s founding speech. The Archivist, Liz Baird, had assembled a rich exhibition of video clips, newsprint, photographs and College publications from the early years, together with books published by early Fellows. On sale was *Wolfson College, Oxford: the First Fifty Years*, compiled and edited by two Emeritus Fellows, John Penney and Roger Tomlin. The photograph on the cover shows two mallard swimming into the College reflected in the waters of the punt harbour, expressing its beautiful situation and its academic inclusivity. Copies can still be bought from the lodge.
Saturday morning was also packed with lectures by the seven Academic Clusters, themed broadly on what has happened in their respective disciplines since 1966. The bare list only hints at the interdisciplinary research now flourishing here: ‘Quantum Foundations in Philosophy, Quantum Technologies and elsewhere’; ‘South Asia in the year of Wolfson’s Birth’; ‘From the typewriter room to the semantic web’; ‘Teaching and Learning – Wolfson and Tibet, 1016–2016’; ‘Populism and Constitutions’; ‘From Mesopotamia to the Great Ouse: deciphering the past at Wolfson’; ‘The Golden Years: A Half-Century of Life-Writing History in Thirty Minutes.’

After sandwiches in the new café, more activities were available in the afternoon, including croquet on the lawn or a visit to the College’s boathouse on the river. The Family Society kept the children busy with games and refreshments in the Tree Quad and Buttery. Tours continued of the meadow, the gardens and the architecture. There was also a trip to the Ashmolean, where Paul Roberts (GBF) spoke about his exhibition ‘Storms, War and Shipwrecks: Treasures from the Sicilian Seas’ before providing a guided tour.

The evening started with a very special concert by the Fournier Trio, who played Astor Piazzolla: Summer from Four Seasons and Schubert: Piano Trio in B Flat Major on the College’s brand new Steinway, a fitting prelude to the world première of a new work by our former Creative Arts Fellow, John Duggan, who sang a solo part: The Song of the Hedgehog and the Fox, inspired by Isaiah Berlin’s famous essay. Schumann’s Piano Trio No. 3 in G Minor concluded a programme which the Trio performed with controlled passion as usual, admirably complemented by the acoustics of the new Auditorium.

The Anniversary Dinner saw a record attendance (179) in the Hall, a challenge to which the Chef and his team rose with a superb menu and exemplary service. The President in her speech compared Isaiah Berlin’s Europeanist ideals with current Brexit fears, and looked forward from our first half-century to the next. Afterwards the guests and other Wolfsonians gathered in the Harbour Quad to view the greatest fireworks display that Wolfson has ever seen, assembled and expertly executed by the Home Bursar, Barry Coote. It was preceded by the College’s self-proclaimed ‘Goose Fellow’, Jay Lewis, demonstrating his unique technique to shoo
geese and ducks away; only for them to return en masse when the fireworks began. The display culminated in a brilliant ‘50’ to mark our milestone.

Sunday provided a well-deserved Family Brunch, and a last chance to tour the gardens and meadow. Hundreds have shared in our celebrations, and we owe a huge thank you to all the staff, students and Fellows who have helped to organise them, not to mention all our guests. They have set a high bar to be cleared in 2066.
Alumni Relations and Development
A message from William Conner, the Development Director

Our many plans and ambitions for the fiftieth anniversary celebrations came together during the 2015–16 academic year. The last of the fifty fully-funded DPhil scholarships for the anniversary year were awarded: the College has been deeply committed to increasing support significantly for graduate students. The builders finally departed early in Hilary term, and we started to move into the new Academic Wing with its substantial expansion of the library, a new café and more meeting and office space. The gala opening took place on 10 March. It has transformed the entrance to the College and our ability to host public events as well as a wide range of academic events related to the research projects of members of the College.

The College’s efforts to reach out to alumni have continued. Our two signature London events began with our annual Christmas drinks at the Reform Club hosted by the Acting President, Christina Redfield. In March, the annual London Lecture was given by Professor Nick Rawlins at the House of Lords, hosted by Lord Bradshaw. Both events were attended by well over one hundred people. The President and I made a sweep around America at the time of the University’s bi-annual American reunion. We convened alumni and friends of the College in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington DC and New York City, and enjoyed useful conversations about the College’s plans for the future as well as reminiscing about the past. The University reunion, for the first time outside New York City, took place in Washington DC and featured some of the University’s cutting-edge research.

The Fiftieth Anniversary was celebrated over the glorious weekend (8–10 July) described in this Record by Richard Morin. It began with our first-ever lunch for the Wolfson Syme Society, which recognizes in their lifetime the generosity of people who have remembered the College in their wills. It ended with fireworks, drinking and conversations far into the night, in which old connections were renewed and new connections made. Some three hundred people participated in the weekend, about fifty of them alumni, many of them with their families.
Philanthropy has continued to play an important role in the College’s ability to achieve its objectives. In addition to our huge success with scholarship fundraising, we have funded a number of post-doctoral research fellowships in fields including Classical art, Tibetan and Himalayan studies, comparative philosophy and human rights. A new commitment from the Daphne Jackson Trust will enable Wolfson to support a research fellowship for a scientist whose academic career has been interrupted (usually) by maternity leave.

The new Steinway piano for the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium has been purchased with support from the Social and Cultural Committee Fund and a number of local music lovers. Investec Bank plc has renewed its sponsorship for another three years for the highly successful Boat Club. The Stallworthy Poetry Prize has been funded by the Derek Hill Trust. The College’s art collection has been enlarged by gifts and loans which have transformed its appearance: three sculptures by Marc Quinn, a standing figure by Antony Gormley, and paintings by Ron Gorchov, Anselm Kiefer, Alexander Calder and Karel Appel. The Works of Art Fund has installed Margaret O’Rorke’s translucent porcelain discs in the entrance corridor of the Auditorium.

We continue to experiment with crowdfunding. What we learned from funding Tibetan and Himalayan studies last year contributed to the much bigger and more widely subscribed campaign for the completion of the Academic Wing. We also sourced some wonderful memories and images from alumni in the decades since the College was founded. Electronic communications of all kinds determine our connection with the extended Wolfson family, and as a global community we will continue to explore new ways of linking its alumni to the College.

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The Library welcomes gifts of books from all its members, past and present, which enhance its academic collections and add to the pleasure of its readers. This year it has received major scholarly collections from the estates of Professor Anna Morpurgo Davies DBE and Professor Jon Stallworthy, and books also from the estates of Dr John Ashton, Dr Martin West and the library of Dr Martin and Nicola Francis. Books have also been generously donated by those whose names follow, authors or contributors being identified by an asterisk. Thank you all.

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Woodruff, Christopher Marshall (BSc Chicago, MA Calif Los Angeles, PhD Texas) Professorial Fellow, Professor of Development Economics

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Deighton, Anne, MA, DipEd (MA, PhD Reading) Research Fellows’ Liaison Officer
Watson, Oliver (BA Durh, PhD Lond)

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Clemit, Pamela Anne, BA, MPhil, DPhil

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Ramracheya, Reshma (BSc De Montfort, PhD KCL)

Yasseri, Taha (MSc Sharif Uni Tehran, PhD Göttingen)

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Christoforo, Mark Greyson (BA Notre Dame, MA Georgia Inst of Tech, PhD Stanford)
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Frantz, Laurent (BSc Montpellier II, MSc Manchester, PhD Wageningen)
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Kirchhelle, Claas (MA Munich, MA Chicago) DPhil
Lachman, Jamie (BA Yale) MSc, DPhil
Ma, Yuge (BEng, BA Tsinghua) MSc, DPhil
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Neenan, James Michael (BSc UCL, MSc Bristol, PhD Zurich)
Poncé, Samuel (MA PhD Catholique de Louvain)
Soares Barbosa, Rui Miguel de Sousa Martinho (BSc U di Minho) MSc DPhil
Volonakis, George Mathieu (MSc Thessaloniki)
Winkler, Andreas (BA MA PhD Uppsala)
Zharkevich, Ina (BA Belarus State) MPhil DPhil

**Stipendiary Research Fellows**

Stepien, Rafal (MA, MPhil, PhD Columbia, MPhil Camb, BA W. Australia) MA

*Berggruen Research Fellow in approaches in Indian Philosophy*

Yu, Ying (BA Chong Qing, LLM Dalian Maritime, PhD Wuhan)

*Law, Justice and Society, Consumer Rights and Protections in China, the European Union and Internationally*

**Stipendiary Junior Research Fellows**

Erhard, Franz Xaver (MA Freie / Humboldt Berlin, PhD Leipzig) *Tibetan and Himalayan Studies*

Jan, Muhammad Ali (BSc Lahore, MSc SOAS) DPhil *Contemporary South Asia*

Matin, Moujan (BSc Tehran, MSc) DPhil *Islamic Art and Architecture*

Rodriguez Pérez, Diana (MA PhD de León, MA Madrid) *Mougins Museum, Classical Art and Material Culture*
Elected members of the Governing Body

**Michaelmas Term 2015 and Hilary Term 2016**
Coxon, Thomas John, MChem [GS 2013–]
Klein, Nina, (BA, MSc Cantab) [GS 2014–]
Midlen, Rachael, (BA Exeter) [GS 2014–]
Mohamed, Basheerah, (BA Kwasulu-Natal) [GS 2014–]
Naiman, Matthew, MPhil, (BA US Franklin and Marshall) [GS 2012–]
Zeitlyn, David, MA, DPhil, (MSc London, PhD Cambridge) [SF 2013–]

**Trinity Term 2016**
Andrei, Raluca, MST (BA Univ Bucharest)
Bogaert, Pieter, (MSC Ghent, MA Cantab)
Falah, Maysa, MSc (BSC Jordan)
Hildebrandt Belmont, Luis, (MA Pontificia Univ Catolic, MA Essex, MSc Essex)
Naiman, Matthew, MPhil (BA, US Franklin and Marshall) [GS 2012–]

**Chairs of the General Meeting**

**Michaelmas Term 2015 and Hilary Term 2016**
Naiman, Matthew

**Trinity Term 2016**
Falah, Maysa
Clubs and Societies

AMREF Group

The Group decided last year to increase the annual Wolfson College, Oxford – Amref Health Africa Bursary from £2,500 to £3,000, with effect from 2016. We were well aware, of course, that this increase would coincide with Wolfson’s Fiftieth Anniversary, and that set us all thinking about the history and significance of the link between Wolfson and AMREF.

Amref Health Africa – to use its modern title – was first adopted as the College charity in the late 1970s, but what did those pioneers, the early Wolfsonians, want from the AMREF connection? They wanted to support a charity that was non-political, not affiliated to any government, but obviously doing essential work, and doing it efficiently. AMREF still fits the bill. It is an African charity, based in Africa, employing mostly Africans, but with a worldwide reputation for the excellence of its medical facilities and emergency relief work. From its Nairobi headquarters it operates across a huge expanse of East Africa.

A significant part of our support over the years has gone towards funding AMREF’s work in medical training and education. The annual Bursary assists one or more students with the costs associated with studying for AMREF’s flagship Diploma in Community Health at its Nairobi headquarters. In the last five years 12 students from Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan, have benefited from Wolfson’s support, 8 women and 4 men.

We can be sure that the Bursary does good work because, thanks to AMREF’s excellent London staff, we get regular reports from the recipients. Last year we helped Susan Sankale, a young Kenyan Community Health Extension Worker from the Maasai community in Kajiado County. Susan graduated with a credit, being awarded her degree at Amref Health Africa / Moi University’s 29th degree day ceremony in Nairobi on 9 December.

The Bursary is now in its 22nd year, but every year we also give whatever extra money we have raised towards a specific project. Last year we gave £2,747 towards AMREF’s costs in running a Medical Laboratory Practices and Management Course. Such courses are essential to the charity’s work, since the skills acquired underpin virtually all of its clinical functions, and this funding expresses Wolfson’s commitment to science and education.
The College’s contribution reflects the generous efforts of students, fellows, and staff, and we would like to thank everyone who has helped. Charlotte Bennett and Raluca-Ioana Andrei have reported on AMREF to the General Meeting, as well as organizing volunteers for sales (etc.), and without them the ever-popular Sunday Morning Coffee Shop would not function. Over the past few years it has been one of the most consistent supporters of AMREF in College. Thanks also to Katharine Hitchcock, Fili Kiros, and Stephanie Mooney of Amref Health Africa’s London headquarters. They visited the College earlier this year, and have done much to give the Wolfson-AMREF link a personal dimension, keeping us informed about the charity’s work, and telling us where best we can help. Those early Wolfsonians would be pleased to learn that in the College’s fiftieth year the link with AMREF grows stronger.

Mark Pottle

Arts Society

Exhibitions in Michaelmas Term opened with Nicholas Eastwood’s ‘Images from Life and Music’, an eclectic show including both paintings and ceramics influenced by international themes and ideas, with many influenced by classical and flamenco music. This was followed by Peter Lawrence’s wood engravings, collages and paintings. As a local artist and Chairman of the Society of Wood Engravers, his work is familiar to many, but the range of media perhaps surprised some who came to see the exhibition. Quite by chance, Peter also derives inspiration from music but, in his case, the freedom of expression found in contemporary jazz. The paintings of Peter Brooke, who also exhibited in Wolfson in 2010, explored totally different visual landscapes. In ‘Cubism and Tradition’, his non-representational works follow the principles of ‘translation / rotation’ of the French Cubist painter Albert Gleizes, and were shown alongside a series applying those same principles to the traditional iconography of the Orthodox Church. They were accompanied by a number of preparatory drawings by the Irish artist Mainie Jellett, who worked closely with Gleizes in the early 1920s.
Shows in Hilary Term began with the work of three Mongolian artists, which was brought to us by Orkhon Gantogtokh (GS). After the exhibition was featured in the Oxford Times, pupils from Dormer House School, Moreton-in-Marsh, who were doing a project on Mongolia, visited Wolfson to meet the artists. Two pictures were donated by the artists at the end of the exhibition: Soyolmaa Davaakhuu gave *The Yellow Tara* and Davaanyam Tsedendamba *Autumn of Khandgait*, and the Arts Sub-Committee purchased Sukhbaatar Davaakhuu’s *Symbolic Ox of the City of Oxford*. This exhibition was followed by local artist Fiona Whitehouse’s vibrant landscapes, which filled the rooms with a welcome burst of colour that contrasted sharply with the dark winter skies outside.

In March, a special exhibition ‘Wolfson College: A Design for Modern Times’, curated by Alan Berman of Berman Guedes Stretton, architects for the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium and the new Academic Wing, was opened in the new café and library corridors, and will continue throughout the Anniversary year. Focusing on design in the 1960s and the College’s original architecture by Powell and Moya, it includes a print by Alexander Calder kindly loaned by Professors Gillies McKenna (GBF) and Ruth Muschel.

Kate Hammersley opened the Trinity exhibitions programme. An Oxford-based artist and sculptor who creates works about landscape and change, Kate takes the environment as her starting point. Her work included a series of exquisitely drawn images of mountains, produced after a visit to Grenoble as part of Oxford City Council’s 2014 ‘Alps Inspires artist’ exchange initiative, which contrasted sharply with images of temporary installations made around the world. These featured text cut out of local newspapers and were photographed in situ, the photograph acting as a lasting document. The Oxford Times reviewed the exhibition as ‘beautifully executed, brutally thought-provoking cross-disciplinary works of conceptual art’, and the College was delighted to accept one of the drawings, ‘Chartreuse Mountains, Grenoble, 2016’, as a gift from the artist.

Kassandra Isaacson, well known to all at Wolfson, followed with an exhibition of her prints, drawings and paintings, including a number of digitally-based images of the College, which will also be displayed and on sale at the Anniversary Weekend.
Deservedly popular, this too was a highly successful exhibition and was Wolfson’s contribution to 2016 Oxfordshire Artweeks. The Arts Sub-Committee purchased a print of the Life Drawing class for the College’s permanent collection.

The year’s programme closed with ‘Exercises in Surrender through stone work and silence’, mosaics by Andreea Zahiu. Predictably, some were made from glass, but others combined stone, shells, glass smalti and recycled wood to produce intriguingly sculptural effects.

As ever, installations in the display cases complemented the main programme. An exhibition of sculptures by Martin Smith included his gift to the College of a marble sculpture in memory of Marianne Bartlett, former Wolfson student and member of the Arts Sub-Committee. Entitled Flower for Marianne, it is now in the Upper Common Room. This was followed by a selection of Upchurch pottery from the collection of the late Nicola Francis, wife of Martin Francis (EF). Life Drawing classes with Kassandra Isaacson continued to be popular throughout the year, and two visits were organised to exhibitions in Oxford. ‘Armenia: Masterpieces from an Enduring Culture’ at the Bodleian was led by Robin Meyer (GS), its curator, and ‘Kaleidoscope – Celebrating 50 years of MAO’ at Modern Art Oxford was led by its Director, Paul Hobson.

Finally, Wolfson’s buildings have been enhanced by a number of spectacular loans and donations in its Anniversary year. A private collector has loaned paintings by Anselm Kiefer (Kranke Kunst) and Ron Gorchov (Joseph Brandt) and sculptures by Marc Quinn (Alison Lapper, 8 months, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette) and Antony Gormley (Insider VIII / Weeds I) which have been installed in the Marble Hall, the new Quad, the Lodge and the Academic Wing. Other significant loans include
an unfinished portrait of Isaiah Berlin (1997) by Lucian Freud from the Berlin Charitable Trust, displayed in the Isaiah Berlin Room within the Library.

Margaret O’Rorke’s Space Discs 2016, a series of thrown and back-lit translucent porcelain discs, was commissioned by the College for the new building and can be seen outside the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium.

Professors Gillies McKenna and Ruth Muschel generously gave two works by Karel Appel, Composition (1960) and Tête Volante (1966), which have been hung in the Upper Common Room. The Anniversary year has seen Wolfson’s collections transformed.

Mark Norman (Chair, Arts Sub-Committee)
Jan Scriven (Arts Administrator)
Badminton

The Club was founded in November 2015. We hold practice sessions throughout the week, the time depending on the availability of a court. New players of varying levels of skill have been joining us, the aim being to improve our game while having fun. We have collaborated successfully with St Anne’s in League and Cuppers: in Cuppers, the men’s team came second, and the women actually won.

Our plans next year are to continue our collaboration with St Anne’s, to make our social practice sessions more structured, with fitness and strength training if time allows, and to add some off-court social events.

Anqi Gao

BarCo

The Cellar Bar continues to be an important social hub for the Wolfson community, and opens almost every night of term. It currently has a small but dedicated group of ROTA staff, to which we hope that next year’s students will contribute enthusiastically.

We have continued to expand our already wide selection of drinks, including an ever-popular range of single malt whiskies and an impressive collection of bottled beers from around the world. This year we have also introduced a wine menu selected by Jackie Ang, President of the College Wine Society. The Committee hopes to continue enhancing our drinks selection, and next year will focus on improving the variety of soft drinks on offer, to increase our appeal to all members of the College.

The Bar has been used for a diverse array of fun and informal student events, such as the very popular Mario Kart Tournament during the spring. By working closely with the ENTS committee, we aim to produce a term card detailing the wide range of activities on offer. The Bar has also continued to work closely with the Conference Office to provide facilities for many external events. Most recently, we provided a specially-themed cocktail menu for the Annual Dance Sport Club Ball.
The Committee hopes to secure funding this year for a much-needed refurbishment of the back-bar area. This would aim to match the high standard of furnishing in the main bar, and to improve its efficiency, ease of use, and contribution to internal and external events in College.

Jennifer Dodsworth
Boat Club

The Club has achieved another extraordinary year with many victories and new records. The season started in November with all of the crews entered into Nephtys Regatta winning their respective divisions. It continued with the famous Christ Church Regatta where, twenty years after the Wolfson novice men’s victory in 1995, the novice women were crowned victors in their turn. The novice men claimed second place, after an unfortunate crab 200 m from the finish line.

December to March was challenging, with heavy rain and the river levels too high to go out in boats, but the Club kept up its training with even more ergs and weekends at Dorney Lake. Some days at Dorney were made up of constant rain and high winds, while others were in sub-zero temperatures. These cold and wet weekends paid off during Torpids, four days of bumps racing. Wolfson had a tremendous success with the four women’s and four men’s boats entered. M1 reached fourth position on the river, while the women climbed even higher into division 1, now seventh on the river. Our M2, W2 and M3 all won blades, while W3, M4 and W4 climbed higher in their respective divisions.
After Torpids our crews competed on the national stage in several regattas. We entered two women’s and two men’s crews in the Women’s Head of the River and the Men’s Head of River. We also entered crews in Pairs Head, Reading Regatta, Quintin Head and many others. Spring came around with beautiful weather and Summer Eights, the famous four-day bumps racing event. With seven crews entered, Wolfson looked strong and determined. W1 and M1 both campaigned well, with M1 maintaining its position at fifth on the river, and W1 bumping up three places to seventh on the river. W2 claimed the second boat headship and won blades, while M3 also maintained their third boat headship.

We won Nepthys, won Christ Church and achieved the highest number of bumps in both Torpids and Summer Eights. We also won a total of four blades. Yet another year of victory for the hungry wolves.

Claudia Vadeboncoeur (President)
Cherwell Day
On Cherwell Day the community celebrates its relationship with the river Cherwell and with summer in the best way possible: punting, croquet, drinking Pimms in the gardens, and sharing a well-cooked dinner. In its short history, Wolfson has achieved some fine traditions, and Cherwell Day is among the finest.

The Day begins with a croquet tournament and punt regatta. Competition is fierce but gentlemanly, with all competitors being required to wear summer formal attire. These physical activities are followed by a gowned drinks reception in the Harbour Quad, and a dinner punctuated with a speech from a senior Wolfsonian known as the Deipnosophist.

The Day is organised by the Admiral of Punts and the Master of Croquet, who look forward to the sun on the river and the scent of freshly mown grass. Please join us for a day of jovial sport at the next annual Cherwell Day.

Matt Naiman and Frederick Hamilton

Choir
With the relaunch of the Choir this term, we hope to make it a permanent feature of college life and to take advantage of the spectacular space that is the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium. Until recently the College had a choir led by John Duggan, composer and singer and Creative Arts Fellow 2012–15, but it folded with his departure. This Trinity term we have launched a new Choir led by Meghan Quinlan, who will focus its efforts on music not well covered in Oxford, music from different ethnic backgrounds and a variety of countries. This will accord with the diversity of Wolfson’s community and reflect its commitment to being egalitarian, democratic, open-minded and forward-looking. The Choir as an agent of community-building will unite newcomers to music and to Wolfson with accomplished musicians and old hands, as it explores song in various traditions. We look forward to termly performances. Everyone is welcome: do please join us.

Christina Cook
Cricket

In a season much affected by rain, the Wolfson / St Cross team was only able to complete three of its seven League fixtures. We lost many senior players at the end of the last season, and the new team took a few games to gel and get some experience, so this was very much a transitional season. We were convincingly beaten by St Anne’s in the first League match, and defeat followed at the hands of New College / St Hilda’s in the first round of Cuppers. Their team included some very good University-level batsmen, but we more than held our own in batting. Our second League match against Lincoln was lost to the weather. We then played Balliol in a very close match which could easily have gone either way, but we collapsed from 110 for 0 to 150 all out and, despite some good bowling by us, Balliol just won with an over to spare. In the next match we defeated Keble MCR comfortably, thanks to fantastic batting, bowling and fielding, but this high point turned out to be our last, as two of the next three fixtures were cancelled because of rain, and the other was forfeited by Worcester.

Andrew Powell (Captain 2016)
Croquet

Wolfson is slowly becoming a force to be reckoned with in inter-collegiate croquet competitions. This year’s Cuppers saw seven Wolfson teams participate with decent success, and our flagship foursome even managed to make it to the quarter-finals, finishing in the top 8 out of 512 teams. More croquet enthusiasm was demonstrated during Cherwell Day, where appropriately dressed Wolfsonians competed in a friendly tournament. A new trend observed this year is Extreme Croquet, in which particularly motivated types continue their matches through rain and hail, and even after nightfall.

Edwin Dalmaijer
Darwin Day

We played at home this year. Although Darwin’s numbers were small, the competition was fierce, and we could not have asked for a more entertaining group. The Day was full of Oxbridge camaraderie, and once again we went to sleep happy, knowing that we had made friends from ‘the other place’. We also regained the Wolfson-Darwin Cup, and the evening’s bop was a raging success. Members of Darwin will be attending the Wolfson Ball.

Matthew Naiman

Entz

Another big year started with three exchange dinners in Michaelmas: we visited Merton, Kellogg and Lady Margaret Hall. We organised a trip to the Cotswolds, and another to the ‘Lion King’ musical in London. There were three more exchange dinners in Hilary, St Hilda’s, Mansfield and St Hugh’s, as well as exchanging wine and cheese with St Catherine's, University College and Worcester. We made a trip to Bath, and another to ‘The Phantom of the Opera’ musical in London. Trinity brought good weather of which we took advantage, enjoying sea, sun and amazing company in a trip to Swanage.

Then we attended another musical in London, the famous ‘Wicked’. Exchange dinners were enjoyed with St Anne’s and Corpus Christi, as well as wine and cheese exchanges with St Catherine’s again and with Mansfield.

A rich and enjoyable year’s events, and we look forward to the next.

Maysa Falah
Environment

The College’s effort to increase environmental sustainability has been recognized with a Silver Award in the Green Impact challenge. In addition, Zoë Goodwin, the former Environment Representative, received a runner-up Green Impact Student Award. These results were announced in June at the Sustainability Showcase held in the Blavatnik School of Government during Low Carbon Oxford Week. Wolfson’s initiatives included new photovoltaic panels, composting, and the use of fish certified by the Marine Stewardship Council. The College also achieved bronze status in Student Switch-Off, an intercollegiate competition to encourage students to lower their energy use.

Green Impact is an environment accreditation scheme developed by the National Union of Students and coordinated in Oxford by the University’s Environmental Sustainability team. It extends beyond environmental sustainability to include the health and wellbeing of staff and students, and more than 1,350 sustainable actions have now been completed by colleges, buildings and laboratories.

The President of Wolfson comments: ‘I am delighted and proud that the College’s Green Impact Team, working with the Home Bursar, have achieved so much to reduce the College’s environmental impact. Our prize-winning new Academic Wing was built with environmental concerns to the fore, with its green Sedum roof and its natural ventilation system.’ Energy-efficient technology in the new Academic Wing greatly reduces its environmental impact. It is equipped with temperature and CO₂ sensors, which allow ventilation and heating to be controlled automatically. Almost all of the heating is supplied by two air-to-water heat pumps, and the striking chimney provides natural ventilation. Part of the roof has been planted with low-growing plants that provide extra insulation and create a habitat for small wildlife.

New bird-boxes for robins and owls have been added to those already for tits. The College is also participating in the Felix Byam Shaw Foundation’s hedgehog conservation project, to create an area of almost 120 hectares in which hedgehogs can roam freely and safely, on land belonging to the College, the Dragon School, Lady Margaret Hall, the University Parks and smaller properties.

I would like to thank everyone in the Wolfson community who helped make the College greener this year and who helped raise awareness, in particular Zoë Goodwin,
Nina Klein, Christina Cook and the Home Bursar Barry Coote. My thanks also to Emma McIntosh. To read more about the Environment at Wolfson, go to <wolfson.ox.ac.uk/environment>

Pieter Bogaert (Environment Representative)

Family Society
The year began with afternoon tea in the Buttery: on a pleasant day in early autumn, the children enjoyed the opportunity of running around the Tree Quad. Next we enjoyed two well-attended Halloween events, pumpkin-carving the night before (with thanks to Hugo Rojas Corral for co-organizing it) and trick-or-treating on Halloween itself. Children and adults alike came in droves dressed as all sorts of interesting characters. We made an extensive tour of the College and, laden with sweets, we retired to the Haldane Room for a pizza dinner.

As the weather cooled down, we retreated indoors for the annual Christmas party in mid-December. In early spring we held an Easter event with origami, Easter nest building, Easter cookie decorating, and more ... The Easter Bunny had hidden chocolate eggs all through the Bishop’s Garden, and the children had a wonderful time hunting for them. Our last term-time event of the year was a movie afternoon
in the Buttery, but we hope to keep active over summer and make the most of the warmer weather with a BBQ.

A big thank you to everyone for helping out with catering, setting up and cleaning up after events, and (most of all) just for coming and spending time with us and contributing to the family-friendly atmosphere that we love so much at Wolfson.

Fiftieth Anniversary Ball

The Summer Ball, ‘Wolfson through the Decades’, celebrated fifty years of the College on 25 June 2016. The evening began early for members of the Family Society, whose children were welcomed an hour early to test-ride the spinning tea cups and carousel while enjoying popcorn and candy floss. Guests enjoyed a commemorative dinner in the Hall, decorated in honour of Wolfson’s commitment to fine art and the foundation year of 1966. Our Decorations Committee and its talented volunteers created depictions of famous artworks with a Wolfson twist: guests were astounded by Jennifer Dodsworth’s take on a Warhol classic featuring our very own President Dame Hermione Lee, while Rachael Midlen’s take on a Lichtenstein had everyone playfully joking about Wolfson’s proximity to the centre of town.

Our guests raved about the food on offer, which included personalized mini-doughnuts featuring our bespoke logo, alcoholic milkshakes, and international food stalls. Many worked up an appetite for the midnight Hog Roast by enjoying shisha on the balcony or spinning ferociously in the tea cups. Music throughout the evening reflected the College’s five decades. The Hall was packed with guests dancing the night away to the sounds of the Oxford Beatles and Atlantic Soul, a 60s and 70s soul / funk tribute band. Others were found in the Duelling Decades silent disco in the Games Room, or reliving the 80s in the classic arcade in the Cellar Bar. The new Wolfson Café was transformed into a theatrical cabaret.

The Harbour marquee took centre stage with rising bands (Chartreuse, Martha Gunn, HAUS, Strong Asian Mothers, and Patrick Nazemi) keeping the party alive until after 3 a.m. The only thing better than the music was the view outside.
The evening culminated with a fireworks display over the Harbour, with a water fountain and projection screen. Special thanks go to the College staff and student volunteers for an amazing night that will be talked about for the next fifty years.

Katie Gardner
Football

The Wolfson / St Cross club was once again able to field two men’s teams, captained by Claudio Llosa Isenrich (First XI) in Division 1 and John Prince (Second XI) in Division 3. After some successful pre-season friendlies, hopes were high. The season started with a weekend of Cuppers in which the First team managed to beat Exeter and then beat Osler a few weeks later, making it to the quarter-finals where they faced a strong team from Keble which defeated them 2–0. The Second team faced St John’s in the first round, which was playing two divisions higher, and despite putting up a strong fight they were finally forced to concede.

The First team was less successful in the League, their season starting with a sequence of defeats against some of the strongest opponents, such as OUP and Mansfield. They never quite managed to recover from these early setbacks, but improved enough to gain seventh place, thanks to having a better goal difference than Osler. Thus they narrowly escaped relegation, and will still be playing in Division 1 next year. The Second team also made a difficult start, but they recovered quickly and played very strongly in the second half of the season, defeating the champions of Division 3, St Catherine’s, and drawing against Keble, the runners-up. This gained them fourth place, the closest to promotion they have ever been in their three-year history.

On 9 April there was the annual match between current and former team-members in memory of Tom Bee (Wolfson), a former captain who died in 2010 of a rare genetic disorder, aged only 27. Almost twenty former members took part. The match was balanced for a long time, but in the last 20 minutes the former members made a big push and won by (was it?) 6–2. Afterwards we gathered in the Buttery for a meal and drinks and shared our memories.

The season ended with the traditional First against Seconds match, followed by a Social at which awards were handed out. In the First team, the Captain’s player of the season award went to Mika Blázquez Carretero, and the Player’s player of the season award went to Claudio Llosa Isenrich. In the Second team, the respective recipients were Peter Leighton and Ollie Carr. The season had been less successful than we might have hoped, but we had a lot of fun.

Claudio Llosa Isenrich
Full Dance Latino

I have danced all my life, from Ballet through Ballroom to Streetdance, but what really motivates me is modern dance and Streetdance. When I came to Oxford last September, I could not find a Streetdance class like the ones I had known in Chile. I tried a number of schools and classes in Oxford, but I found them disappointing, and this was when I decided that the best solution was to do it myself. But I did not want to dance alone; I wanted others to join the fun. So I talked to my neighbours in College, to the Latin American Society, and of course the College staff, to find the space to dance. I wanted to share the joy of it with others, so the class would be free and everyone welcome, regardless of gender, age or experience, provided they had a lot of energy and wanted some fun.

In a couple of days I arranged two classes a week, each of one hour. It was fitness-oriented work based on my own choreography, which involved an hour’s non-stop dancing, hence the term ‘Full Dance’; like Zumba, but even better, because the steps were modern and the music ‘Latina’. I had about thirty students, who made impressive progress in improving their motor skills such as coordination, and gaining in self-confidence as they worked their brains out mastering the steps of each sequence, exercising, stress busting, above all having fun. Each of them made my stay in Oxford memorable. I really enjoyed being their dance teacher. Thank you all.

Fabiola Elisa Villagrán Paredes

Meditation

The Meditation Society continued to run 8-week Mindfulness Meditation Courses that started in Michaelmas term and continued during Hilary and Trinity. They were free of charge and designed for newcomers as well as regular meditators, the aim being to create a space in which to relax and practise mindfulness meditation in a friendly environment, sharing experiences, asking questions and getting to know ourselves in a non-judgemental manner by increasing awareness, clarity
and acceptance of our present-moment reality. The sessions were based on MBCT (Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy) and supported by the techniques of the Tibetan Buddhist understanding of mindfulness. Each session consisted of an introduction to the week’s topic and technique, followed by a short meditation and then questions and answers.

On 26 September the Society helped to organise a Tibetan Chöd practice event with the renowned Chödpa Lama Rinpoche, a Tibetan Lama who specialises in this Tibetan technique of meditation. There were further Chöd sessions for those who wanted to practise it after the mindfulness sessions. The Courses will continue next year.

Güzin Yener

**Music Society**

We have continued to make good use of the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium to host a number of recitals by outstanding performers. In Michaelmas Term, Japanese virtuoso pianist Maki Sekiya, now based in Oxford, performed at Wolfson for the first time. She played works by Mozart, Rachmaninov and Mussorgsky to much acclaim. In December, the Fournier Trio gave their termly recital before a Guest Night dinner, performing Tchaikovsky’s Piano Trio in A minor (Opus 50) ‘In Memory of a Great Artist’. Also in December, Wolfson members gathered after dinner in Hall to sing carols, accompanied by the talented Pieter Bogaert on the piano, with mulled wine and mince pies served by the AMREF Group. This informal event was a great success.

In Hilary Term, a special Sunday concert was held on 21 February to celebrate the 100th birthday of Nancie Villiers, a local resident who has supported our music events over a number of years. South Korean pianist JongSun Woo, returning to Wolfson for a second time, played works by Bach, Beethoven and Chopin. Later in the month, Sulki Yu and Chiao-Ying Chang (of the Fournier Trio) gave a piano and violin recital performing works by Mozart, Ysaïe, Ravel and Beethoven. The
Fournier Trio returned on 13 June to round off Trinity Term with a stunning performance of Mozart’s Piano Trio in G Major, Frank Bridge’s Phantasie Trio in C Minor and Gaspar Cassadó’s Piano Trio in C Major.

Our local audience has expanded considerably, and we are delighted to see many of our neighbours coming regularly to Wolfson music events. Our concerts always include refreshments, now served in the new café, where members of the audience have a chance to mingle. In February, the College was delighted to take delivery of a Steinway model C grand piano for the Auditorium. This was made possible from funds raised from members and friends of the College over the last few years together with a generous donation from the Common Room. The smaller grand on loan from Karen Segal had served us well, and we are extremely grateful to her for allowing us to use it until a suitable replacement could be found. The Society was also very pleased to support the revival of the Wolfson Choir, under the direction of Meghan Quinlan (see ’Choir’ above).

Jan Scriven (Arts Administrator)

Odissi dance

The Odissi Club was founded by Baisali Mohanty, studying for a Master’s degree at the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, who has practised this form of dance for more than eighteen years. It is one of India’s oldest classical dance forms, which began at the temple of Lord Jagannath at Puri in the state of Odisha, but has spread across the globe.

The Club began with some fifteen students, mostly from Wolfson, who ranged across age-groups and countries. As well as holding regular weekend classes in Hilary and Trinity term, it organized the Oxford Odissi Festival, the first in Oxford to amalgamate four different classical dance forms, Bharatnatyam, Mohiniatttyam, Kathak and Odissi. With generous support from the College, this festival brought many dance enthusiasts together, and spread knowledge of the rich culture and tradition of Odissi across the University.

Baisali Mohanty
Old Wolves

The Old Wolves meet termly for informal lunches, often followed by a talk. A table is reserved in Hall. Lunch is on a self-serve, self-pay basis (cash or Battels card at the till), with liquid refreshments, including a glass of wine, laid on. These events are open to all who enjoy sharing memories of Wolfson in former days. The College Archives team will be there to welcome you back to the College, and to eavesdrop on your stories.

Our lunch on 4 February was followed by a fascinating talk by Professor Glen Dudbridge (EF), who gave his personal reflections on Hong Kong and China fifty years ago.

After our lunch on 5 May we repaired to the Leonard Wolfson Auditorium for a most interesting talk by Dr Hubert Zawadzki (GS, JRF, MCR), on life in post-war Polish resettlement camps. We organised an ‘Old Wolves Roadshow’ for the College’s Fiftieth Anniversary celebrations on 9–10 July 2016. We are most grateful to all those who contributed their reminiscences and other Wolfsonalia, some of which we were able to include in the display.
Lunch on 3 November 2016 will be followed by an illustrated talk on the manuscripts of St Catherine’s Monastery, Sinai, by Dr Sebastian Brock (EF). Other dates for your diary are 2 February, 4 May and 2 November 2017. All lunches will be on Thursdays at 12.30, with accompanying talks at 1.30 p.m. Before making travel plans from outside Oxford, check the date with the College Newssheet. Places are limited so please confirm your intention to attend with <archives@wolfson.ox.ac.uk>

Ellen Rice (Archives Fellow) and Liz Baird (Archivist).
Pilates
Pop-up Pilates Oxford has continued its weekly class at Wolfson. Programmes run by experienced and knowledgeable physiotherapists combine strengthening, stretching and relaxation exercises to work on posture, core strength, muscle length and tone. Experience them to ease aches and pains from long periods of desk work, to improve strength and sports performance, and to enhance wellbeing.

Punt Club
Anniversaries are a time for reflection and anticipation, for looking to the past and to the future. Perhaps it is fitting that Wolfson traded stone for concrete, spires for a harbour; cobbled streets for a river and convenience for tranquillity. We are closer to nature – willows and oaks, ducks and swans, lilies and the occasional jumping fish – than most of the colleges. We have always had a fleet of fine punts to enjoy these gifts, with an addition every so often, as this season, or the administrative procedures are revised, as will be the case next season; but these are minor alterations. The essence remains.

So, let us look forward to the next fifty years. The Cherwell will still flow, and summers will alternate, as always, between perfection and unseasonal extremity. The wind will still carry the sounds of mowing in the Parks and cricket ball against bat at the Dragon School. The gentle rustling of the willows, the splash of a punt pole, the peals of laughter and the warm babbling of courting mallards will remain the musical score for our longest days and warmest nights.

Frederick Hamilton
(Admiral of the Punts, 2015–16)

Reading Group
The Group is open to all with a love of books. It is friendly and sociable, and meets every few months to discuss a work of fiction, classics as well as modern works by lesser-known authors. The novel chosen often serves as a point of departure for a lively discussion that can take surprising turns.
In our first meeting this year, we read *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood. Not for the faint-hearted, this book is rich with Atwood wit but offers a dismal view of the future of mankind. It prompted debate on the nature of science fiction and whether or not it was a dystopia. Most recently, Alexander Solzhenitsyn’s *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* plunged us into the Siberian gulags. We discussed the difficulties of translation, particularly of the prisoners’ dialect, as well as prison life, Guantanamo Bay and the surprising story of a modern prison-break. Other books were set in distinct countries and eras, and offered glimpses into other lives: farming in rural England during feudal times (*Harvest* by Jim Crace), the Dreyfus Affair in France (*An Officer and a Spy* by Robert Harris) and the life of Congregationalist ministers in America (*Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson).

Our next book is *The Time Regulation Institute* by Ahmet Hamdi Tanpinar which, despite its title, promises to be a comedy. We are grateful to the Academic Committee for its continued support which enables us to offer refreshments at our meetings.

Tara Hurst

**Romulus**

*Romulus* this year decided to favour the general semi-centennial festive spirit rather than a particular theme. The editorial board invited submissions in various formats and genres, and offered prizes for the best-written and photographic essays. A wide array of submissions was printed, ranging from essays on architecture and digital writing techniques to poems on the eternal themes of love, joy and suffering. Prize-winners for the best-written essays were Sam Grimes and Fuchsia Hart with ‘Lines and Designs in Oxonia’ and ‘Bauhaus in Baghdad’, while the photographic prize-winners had not yet been decided at the time of the *Record* deadline. As ever, the magazine strove to represent the voice of Wolfson, to express the diversity of our lives as individuals and to capture the buzz of the community we share. The board held a wine reception at the end of term for contributors. Its members were Grace Egan, Martin Lohrer and Melissa Purkiss, in consultation with Yasser Khan and Heather McRobie.

Martin Lohrer
Running

The year started with a colourful display at the Freshers’ Fair, where we attracted lots of new members, who were happy to receive a free pair of laces in the Wolfson colours, yellow and red. Our new red running shirts were also popular this year, and are easy to spot in crowded race conditions. We had a record turnout for the Oxford Half Marathon in October 2015. Our team came third overall in the University Challenge, based on the times of our fastest four runners Evan Odell, Kevin Schlegel, Michael Clark and Estelle Beguin. Nine runners also participated in the Oxford Town and Gown 10K in May 2016, as well as several Wolfson staff members. It was a beautiful sunny day and supporters lined the entire route.

A couple of our running rowers competed in the Cross Country Cuppers in October 2015, and Philipp Schafer has been active in the University’s Cross Country Club. Our members have also participated in the Oxford and Reading ParkRuns,
the Endure24 Challenge and team social training runs around Port Meadow, the University Parks and Christ Church Meadow. We are entering a large team in the Oxford Half Marathon again this year, and four of our runners were successful in the ballot for free places from the event organisers. The others will be subsidised by the Club again, so as to increase the number who can afford to take part.

Photographer: Emma McIntosh

Running Club members behind our stall at Freshers’ Fair sporting their brand new shirts.
Squash

Promotion into League 1 in Michaelmas term caused some trepidation, but fortunately it coincided with the arrival of Nicola Dotti, who is an outstanding player and has played at No. 1 all year. He is also a very talented coach, and has led session after session for the benefit both of beginners and of more seasoned players. The team consolidated its position in League 1 with some excellent results, and this success has continued through Hilary into Trinity, where we are in the quarter-finals of Cuppers with every chance of further progress.

Club nights on Mondays and Wednesdays continued through Michaelmas and Hilary with a number of new players staying the course and enjoying the exercise and sense of enjoyment that squash brings. Captain Mike Kohlhoff has been a brilliant leader, with his infectious passion for the game and for making the College team as successful as possible. With the invaluable assistance of Michael Davies, he has inspired new players and the more experienced alike to achieve their maximum in the weekly sessions.

We hope that improvement will continue next year under Nicola’s influence, with an eye to that elusive victory in Cuppers.
Tibetan New Year (Losar)

Losar means ‘New Year’ in Tibetan, and 2016 according to the Tibetan Calendar is the ‘Male Fire Monkey’ year of 2143. Losar was celebrated for the second time at Wolfson on 20 February, and was a big success thanks to the overwhelming support of the Wolfsonians and others who came, almost a hundred in all. Everyone enjoyed tasting the traditional snacks (Tibetan ‘momo’ dumplings and sweet rice dessert) and drinks (Tibetan ‘chang’), and joining in the dances and music. The Haldane Room was decorated with prayer flags and Tibetan paintings to bring good luck. May the Tibetan Fire Monkey year be auspicious for all members of Wolfson. We hope to see you at the next Losar in 2017.

Güzin Yener

Wine Society

The Society continued to organize popular and successful tasting events, three in each term. They were usually booked-up within hours of being announced, and people were turned away or transferred to waiting-lists. Each tasting was planned around a theme and the wines were carefully chosen, typically ten or so accompanied by cheese and nibbles, with each bottle being identified by grape variety, region and quality.

We opened Michaelmas term with a Champagne tasting in mid-October. This was followed by a special St Emilion tasting with Gerald Sacks, Chancellor of the London and Southern Great Britain chapter of the Jurade de St Emilion, a
medieval brotherhood devoted to promoting the wines of this village. The third Michaelmas tasting was themed as ‘Australia vs New Zealand’. In Hilary we had ‘Born in the USA’ (American varieties), ‘Fine Wines of Northern Spain’ and ‘Wines of the Ancient World’. In Trinity we organized a Rosé tasting, continued to support AMREF with a charity tasting that featured many top wines from South Africa, and ended the year with an ‘Introduction to Fine Wines’ for long-term supporters of the Society.

The Society’s long-term President, wine connoisseur Jackie Ang, also led a wine course as requested by Güzin Yener. She has decided to share her responsibilities with Güzin, who succeeds her as President, and in collaboration they will organize future wine-tasting events.

Güzin Yener and Jackie Ang

Yoga

Core Strength Vinyasa Yoga has now been taught at Wolfson for almost four years by Kristine Homoki, an established teacher in Oxford known to many colleges and local studios.
This style of yoga teaches how to use one’s core strength for maximum benefits which include strength, stability, balance, focus and flexibility. Classes once or twice a week are taught in a safe and friendly environment where everyone is welcome, experienced and beginner yogis alike, both in term and outside it, with the occasional outdoor session during spring and summer when the weather permits.

Regular members include Joseph O’Hara (GS), Haruko Inoue (GS), Kyoko Nomoto (GS), Georgina Ferry (MCR), Alan Lauder (MCR), as well as Rosie Glenn and Yi Zhu who have now graduated.

Kristine Homoki
Research Clusters

The Ancient World Research Cluster has once again been very active. In Michaelmas term Dr Christopher Metcalf shed ‘New light on ancient Mesopotamian literature and religion’; we discovered ‘How and why to find out where ancient Greeks came from’ from Dr Richard Hitchman, and Dr Rick Schulting updated us on some gruesome discoveries in Moray, Scotland, in ‘Roman coins, ring money and decapitations at Sculptor’s Cave’. Dr Mark Merrony’s evening lecture ‘Archaeologists, Collectors, and Museums: addressing the ethical divide’ explored topical questions surrounding the trade in antiquities. Eva Miller organised ‘Three Ancient Languages in Forty-Five Minutes’ in which she, Arto Belekdian and Corina Smith provided crash courses in Proto-Cuneiform, Egyptian hieroglyphs, and Confucian philosophical texts.

Hilary term saw lunchtime lectures from two of our philologists: Dr Wolfgang de Melo surveyed syntactic changes over the course of a millennium in his ‘Give me the book / give the book to me: indirect object expressions in 1000 years of Latin’; Dr Elizabeth Tucker taught us ‘An ancient Indian spell to get rid of wrinkles, and other reasons for editing the Atharvaveda.’ Our visiting speaker Professor Susan Kane (Oberlin College) spoke on ‘Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in post-Revolution Libya’ to an audience of archaeologists from Benghazi and Tripoli, Libya, as well as Leicester and Oxford, all of them actively recording and trying to prevent further damage to archaeological sites in Libya from uncontrolled development and the activities of Da’esh (so-called Islamic State).

In Trinity term we honoured the memory of one of the founding Fellows of the College: Professor Christopher Howgego, Dr Simon Glenn and Professor Andrew Meadows spoke on ‘Colin Kraay (1918–1982), Founding Fellow and Greek Numismatist: Past, Present and Future.’ Martin Gallagher gave us an overview of his doctoral work on Hellenistic Greek archaeology in ‘A tale of two “capitals”: the development of Aigai and Pella in the Hellenistic period.’ Eva Miller organised the inaugural AWRC Beer and Pizza evening, with Professor Sarah Iles Johnston (Ohio State University) being invited to speak on ‘The Greek Mythic Hero’.

The current and former directors of the Cluster, Dr Peter Barber, Dr Susan Walker and Dr Jacob Dahl, spoke at the Anniversary weekend in July: ‘From Mesopotamia to the Great Ouse: deciphering the past at Wolfson.’ Jacob Dahl
used the evidence of cuneiform clay tablets to recreate ‘One day in the life of Joe Sumerian’, and Susan Walker introduced us to ‘Feasting with the Gods’, using evidence from residue analysis of late-Roman pewter serving-dishes excavated at Steane, Northamptonshire, to recreate a feast which probably marked the closure of a dining pavilion linked to a nearby religious site.

The Lorne Thyssen Fund for Ancient World Projects has continued to support the work of members of the Cluster. It funded the archaeological exploration of flood-damaged, remote mountainous areas of north-west Greece, and of the fields of Tisbury (Wilts); it facilitated the radiocarbon dating of Neolithic skeletons and the digitisation of medieval manuscripts; it helped members attend international conferences in venues as diverse as Chicago and Tehran.

Peter Barber

The Coordinating Group of the Digital Research Cluster, led by its Convenor, Professor David Robey, met throughout the year. Members are drawn from the College and the Oxford University e-Research Centre, reflecting the collaboration between them that was formalised in a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 3 November by the Acting President of the College, Professor Christina Redfield, and the Director of OeRC, Professor David de Roure. On 23 February the Cluster highlighted the University’s Energy Network, and on 3 June the University’s IT Strategy. In July it contributed to the Anniversary weekend. It will hold a major event on 27 September to honour the life and work of Sebastian Rahtz, a member of the College and a strong supporter of the Cluster.

Donna Kurtz

The Quantum Cluster has devoted regular discussion sessions over pizza and beer to foundational and philosophical topics. Up to thirty participants have discussed some controversial question, with an internal or external researcher taking the lead, and discussions have usually lasted for more than two hours before adjourning to the Bar. There have been three one-day workshops on ‘quantum linguistics’ between Oxford, Cambridge and Queen Mary University London (involving
former Wolfson members Sadrzadeh and Kartsaklis, who are now there); the last was on 28 October 2015. It also contributed to the Anniversary weekend in July.

Bob Coecke

The **South Asia Research Cluster** is a hub which organises a wide range of relevant events, and welcomes scholars with any academic background who are from South Asia and / or interested in the region. This has been an exceptionally lively year with six conferences and workshops, three special lectures, three discussion events, one work in progress presentation, two academic exchanges (with Pakistan and with Poland) and two longer-term academic visitors – activity which was spread throughout the year, some of it co-organised with other South Asianist institutions. Full details will be found on the SARC webpage <wolfson.ox.ac.uk/clusters/south-asia>

Highlights included a research conference in May on the Rohingya people of Myanmar/Burma, with 65 participants and watched live by over 2000 viewers in 41 countries. In November 2015 Professor Christophe Jaffrelot (Paris) gave the Safraz Lecture: ‘The US – Pakistan relations under Obama: Resilience of Clientelism?’

In February we mounted a workshop at which Professor Akbar Zaidi (Karachi University) lectured on ‘Pakistan: The Need for a New Political Economy. Another well-attended talk was given by Colonel Zulfiqar Ali Bhatti, Army and Air Advisor to the Pakistan High Commission in London, who offered nuanced insights and a range of Pakistani perspectives on questions of domestic, regional and global significance. The Cluster also hosted, with the University’s Pakistan Society, a lecture and discussion on Pakistan’s Blasphemy Laws.

India was also explored. In January Dr Kasturi Sen of the Cluster presented a seminar with Tanya Ahlin (Amsterdam University) on ‘ICTs and everyday care practices in Indian transnational families‘. Later in January, the veteran BBC journalist and South Asia correspondent, Owen Bennet-Jones, held an off-the-cuff discussion with the Contemporary India programme and other specialists. The entire South Asian region was the subject of Uma Pradhan’s graduate student workshop ‘What is South Asia?’, and George Kunnath’s conference on ‘Caste in South Asia and the Diaspora’, and the joint SARC – UCL conference on ‘Democratic Cultures’.
In May the College interviewed for a three-year stipendiary Junior Research Fellowship in the social sciences of contemporary South Asia, the successful candidate being a political scientist and economic anthropologist, Ali Jan, who conducts fieldwork in small towns of Pakistan. This Fellowship is closely associated with SARC, which itself operates on a financial shoestring provided by the College for which we are all extremely grateful.

SARC contributed to the Anniversary weekend by exploring the theme of ‘South Asia in 1966’. Talks were given by Matthew McCartney (‘South Asia’s early economic capabilities’), Barbara Harriss-White (‘The Green Revolution’), Kate Sullivan (‘Reforming the Indian Foreign Service’), Indrajit Roy (‘The rise and rise of Indira Gandhi’) and George Kunnath (‘The roots of Maoism’).

Barbara Harriss-White and Matthew McCartney

The Tibetan and Himalayan Studies Cluster has enjoyed another lively and eventful year. Here are the highlights. In October 2015 Professor Janet Gyatso (Harvard) gave the first Aris Lecture, on ‘Tibetan Studies and its Possible Futures’. This annual Lecture has been founded to celebrate the contribution of Michael and Anthony Aris to Tibetan Studies, but with the sad death of Anthony only a week before the first Lecture, it became a commemoration attended by many family members and friends. On 20 February 2016, the Cluster celebrated the Tibetan New Year with a party [see Clubs and Societies], to which College members were invited for Tibetan food and music.

We held three international conferences or workshops. In February a workshop on preserving cultural heritage in the Himalayas was attended by specialists from Vienna and London, as well as by a Drukpa nun from Ladakh who is engaged in local cultural heritage projects. In May the first international conference on Spiti was convened by Yannick Laurent, dedicated to this region in the Western Himalayas. Speakers came from various European countries, Asia, and North America, and the cultural programme included a Mongolian singer. Later in May, Dr Lama Jabb convened a conference on the interplay between the spoken and the written word in Tibetan literature, which was unique in bringing together academics working on Tibetan literature and Tibetan writers. Participants discussed the literature of a
thousand years, ranging from ancient Buddhist texts to contemporary poetry and fiction.

The Cluster is most grateful to the Events Office and the College catering team for all their excellent work. A complete and detailed list of the year’s events will be found on the Cluster’s website <wolfson.ox.ac.uk/clusters/tibetan-himalayan>

Ulrike Roesler
Oxford Centre for Life-Writing

We have enjoyed a varied year of events, all well attended and thought-provoking, which included three panel discussions, six conferences and fifteen lectures. We have listened to biographers talk about their work while we ate four delicious lunches.

Four doctoral students are permanently attached to the Centre. It hosted eleven Visiting Scholars and PhD students from the UK, India, Switzerland, and Australia, who were working on a wide variety of projects which included their own life stories or their ancestor’s, discovering forgotten women poets from the Victorian era, working on theories of lyric poetry, life-writing and medical humanities.

The Weinrebe lecture series in Hilary term is always a highlight, the theme this year being ‘Variations on Biography’: we hosted authors Julian Barnes and Alexandra Harris, psychoanalyst Adam Phillips and mathematician Marcus du Sautoy. We have also organised events in collaboration with TORCH, the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography and the Oxford Network of Theatres.
The President’s Seminars

Speakers and Sessions 2015–16

**Michaelmas Term:** ‘Climate Change’

Harvey Brown (GBF): ‘Certainties and Uncertainties in Climate Change’
Nathalie Schaller (JRF): ‘The Fine Line Between Weather and Climate’
Leonardo Ribeiro Tedeschi (GS): ‘Oceanic Anoxic Events: Records of Global Warming’

**Hilary Term:** ‘Traditions’

Marcus Banks (GBF): ‘Unsettling Traditions: Fluid Anthropological Thoughts on a Category – or Vice Versa’
Joshua Broggi (JRF): ‘Myth and Logic in German Idealism’
Stefanie Lenk (GS): ‘Pagan Roots – Reconstructing Christian Tradition From Late Antique Baptisteries’

**Trinity Term:** ‘Design’

Paul Roberts (GBF): ‘Seeing the Design, Designing the Sea: The Design of the Exhibition *Storms, War and Shipwrecks* at the Ashmolean Museum’
Rhiannon Evans (JRF): ‘Unravelling Nature's Design Principles for Future Energy Technologies’
Corina Gurau (GS): ‘Vision for Autonomous Driving’

Anastasia Tolstoy, Christine Fouirnaies, Erin Cutts
Some memories of the College’s early days
by Glen Dudbridge (EF)

Wolfson College burst into my life quite unexpectedly one fine July afternoon in 1966 when the phone rang at home. I picked it up to hear an unfamiliar voice tell me that the College had come into being that morning and I had become a Fellow by Special Election on the same occasion. All complete news to me.

The time that then followed had an unreal atmosphere that still lingers in the memory. I found I had joined a large body of established scholars as their youngest member (only Richard Gombrich belonged to my own age group). We met for lunch at 15 Banbury Road and for Governing Body meetings at the Oxford Union, surrounded by the William Morris decor. We wore the faint incredulous smiles of people who had just won the lottery. As indeed we had: not only were unbelievably large sums of money heading in our direction, but we were now to be led by a legendary figure in the intellectual firmament, and a welcoming site on the banks of the Cherwell lay ready for us. Our sister college St Cross had recently held a drinks reception for us, handsomely transforming it into a champagne reception when the big news suddenly broke. Was all that really happening?

One thing that bound our extremely varied company together was this: hardly any of us had been Fellows of a college before. And we were not entering a community with an established habitus reaching back for centuries, but creating a society from scratch. We had to develop a style, discover a sense of purpose. What is more, with the promised endowments now approaching, there were practical duties to take up: building specifications to be drafted, architects to be chosen, quite apart from the day-to-day running of our own little establishment.

So committees were set up. I found myself made secretary of the Domestic Committee (the ‘Premises’ bit came later). The thinking was, I believe, that a lecturer in Chinese ought to know a lot about food, but in truth I can remember making only one proposal: that the College should, like the Chinese, use round tables for its dining arrangements. This was not accepted, and the College opted for traditional long rectangular tables in Hall. Yet now, fifty years later, I am delighted to see the round tables at last making an appearance. In those still unreconstructed days only three members of the Fellowship were women, and two of them sat on the Domestic Committee. We earnestly oversaw the College’s first purchase of knives and forks. One of our members eagerly urged us to embrace the exciting
new technology of microwave cooking, but I think we decided to allow our sweet-natured cook to do things in her own way. The day came when Isaiah Berlin turned up at a meeting. Our poor chairman was so overwhelmed that he was speechless until the President gently nudged him to begin.

The really strategic work was done by the Building Committee, who travelled the length and breadth of the nation to view new architectural offerings and build a short-list to guide our choice of architect. When they had narrowed the focus down to three firms, one of them Danish, the stage was ready for one of the great dramas that I remember from the early Governing Body days. A paper had been circulated to the Fellowship in which Sir Leonard Wolfson made known his considered opinion that the College buildings should be designed by a British architect. Although no one openly articulated the challenge, I think it was clearly understood among us: did we as an independent body have free ownership of the final choice of architect, or were we the feudal clients of our patron? How would this decision be negotiated at our meeting? The issue was resolved in incomparable style by Isaiah Berlin. We received a Governing Body paper authored, uniquely, in his own name. In prose of thrilling eloquence he reviewed the achievements and performance of the three candidates in such a way that inexorably the choice must surely fall upon Powell and Moya. (British architects!) Discussion at the meeting was short and sweet, with one of our number saluting the President’s persuasive document. The vote was unanimous, save for one opposing voice. And even that voice was reassuring, for it came from a colleague known as ‘the man who always says no’. So all was well.

A second moment of drama came a little later, when the architects had been appointed and had submitted their early plans. Martin (later Sir Martin) Wood had joined the Governing Body at that precise point. Still meeting at the Oxford Union, we discussed the plans in a broadly rubber-stamping spirit. Then suddenly our new colleague’s voice spoke up from the back of the room, apologizing for breaking into the discussion on his first day. He pointed out that the plans for accommodation were based on an extremely high unit cost (among other things they featured bronze fittings), and that a more economical unit costing would hugely expand the accommodation at the College’s disposal. This had the effect of halting the progress of the whole operation while we went back to the architects. With only
slightly raised eyebrows they accepted the change. The results stand around us in the College to this day. A few years ago, when I reminded Sir Martin of this story (he had forgotten it), he told me he would now want to pack the site with environmentally friendly units.

Those were years of world revolution. The Vietnam War was in full swing, China was just launching its Cultural Revolution, students were rioting on both sides of the Atlantic. Wolfson’s own Jacquerie was more decorous and restrained, but certainly more lasting in effect. The unified Common Room, the welcoming of families with children – these were among the bright and bold ideas that our largely middle-aged Fellowship generated at that time. It even felt as though we were searching for rules to break. Yet we still made gestures to the past – the rectangular dining tables, the (minimal) Latin grace survived in the Wolfson culture. And we drew back from a proposal to name one space in our building ‘the Drugstore’, to call it instead the Buttery.

By now fifty years of my own life have been lived in the College’s embrace. We have grown up together. In those early years we shared the intimacy of a family, before moving on to the more populous, cosmopolitan and diverse society that surrounds us in the College today. It has been great fun, and to this day I remain most grateful for that telephone call.
Conferencing at Wolfson
by Louise Gordon, the Conference Manager

An academic alchemy gives each Oxford college its own element, its collegial character reflected in its physical appearance. In more than three decades living in Oxford, I have had ‘elemental’ knowledge of three. Brasenose, which brought me across the Atlantic for postgraduate study, is time-worn burnished stone and brass glinting golden in the setting sun. Keble, where I learned the conferencing trade, takes workaday brick to an art form. But the element of Wolfson (where I have sojourned by far the longest) is, despite the concrete magnificently resurgent in the new buildings, indisputably the river.

In shaping and managing its conferencing operations, I have come to perceive our riverside location not as a commercial ‘selling point’, but as the embodiment and inspiration of who we are and what we do. We are at home with fluidity and continually recreate and renew – finding new ways to use our meeting spaces, new configurations for room layouts, new menus and serving formats. We feel at ease when borders blend and affiliations merge.

Sometimes the intermixing verges on the surreal: one Saturday night an RAF veterans’ dinner coincided with BarCo’s venerable Communist Bop, and bemedalled dinner guests collided on the Marble Stairs with Che Guevera lookalikes. We pay our tribute to globalism: one autumn afternoon, the Finnish School celebrated with national songs and dishes in Hall, Cuba’s rising male ballet star danced the Dying Swan in the Auditorium, and our Malaysian students hosted their compatriots to Eid meals and prayers in the Buttery.

We share, too, the river’s quality of momentum. Most visibly in the current of delegates between Auditorium and Buttery, Seminar Rooms and Haldane Room, but most powerfully in the flowing together of hands and heads, minds and muscles, that make up Wolfson’s workforce, a multitude of droplets massing to propel every element in the same direction. Yet always with a propensity for the unexpected, for indeed ‘no man steps in the same river twice’.

Outside bookings weave Wolfson into the landscapes of others’ lives – weddings and wakes and the myriad milestones that mark memory. The restful backdrop of river and meadow outdoors, matched indoors by the simplicity of wood-panelled floors, ceilings and walls, invites our temporary inhabitants to make the space their own for the day; and so they do, transforming the College briefly into their own
image. A bride and groom are piped in to a Highland Hall; others find a reflection of their Japanese, Indian, French or Persian heritage; a scientist couple arrange their seating plan as the Periodic Table, with test tubes as vases; a thirtieth birthday sees out her third decade with art deco Roaring Twenties décor; a wedding couple kicks off its shoes and breaks into ‘flash mob’ choreography, another breaks into song, and yet another stages home theatricals; while magic holds sway at the Harry Potter Society’s Yule Ball, when a snowy owl flies across the Hall.

Alongside such quirky individuality are moments of universal tenderness. A politician dashes in late and pauses – vulnerably – to comb his sparse strands of hair before masterfully taking to the lectern; a centenarian shows with shy pride her card from the Queen to the chefs and kitchen staff who have come out to congratulate her; and always there is the throat-catching sight of beautiful youth making its excited entrance to an evening function. Wolfson’s design – original and new – achieves impressiveness without imposition, the landscape and architecture communicating openness and acceptance in a way which gives scope for personality to illuminate the liminal moments which cross the College’s threshold and become part of our own pattern.

Sitting on the Marble Stairs, remembrance reverses the half century of the College’s span to my eight-year old self, sitting on the stairs in our suburban American home, overhearing the little-understood adult chatter of my parents’ dinner parties. And I marvel at the time and tide which has carried me here, to sit on other stairs and overhear people doing what they have always done the world over – gathering together to exchange ideas and enthusiasms, sharing celebrations and sorrows. Beneath the superficial commerce of conferencing flow strong currents of collective enterprise and endeavour, of commonality and communality. Wolfson, all your rivers run deep.
An Oxford Florilegium
by Barbara McLean (MCR)

During 2007 and 2009, my colleague from the Department of Plant Sciences, Rosemary Wise, and I ran a series of Natural History Illustration classes at Wolfson. We were able to use the Florey Room where the light was perfect for both pen and ink and watercolour work. In 2008 we held an exhibition of our illustrations in the College.

Thanks to these classes, we found we had a small group of enthusiastic botanical artists who wanted to continue painting. In 2012 Rosemary and I were able to form the Oxford Botanic Garden and Harcourt Arboretum Florilegium Project, with much help and support from both Plant Sciences and Garden staff. The Florilegium aims to study, and record by illustration, species growing in the Garden and Arboretum, and specimens held in the Plant Sciences Herbaria. We have 14 members at present, several of them from those early classes at Wolfson, joined by others from the Oxford area. We have had 52 watercolours accepted so far for the archives of Plant Sciences. Since they hold work by eminent early botanical artists such as Ferdinand Bauer, Georg Ehret and Jacob Dillenius, it is a great privilege to be included in such an historic collection. In 2015 we held our first exhibition of accepted work in the Botanic Garden.

The first of the modern Florilegia was that of the Chelsea Physic Garden, formed twenty years ago and rapidly followed by groups in the UK, USA and Australia. As a relatively new Florilegium, we join these others around the world to provide portfolios of botanically correct illustrations of plant species for future researchers. Those of us who attended the classes at Wolfson, where it all started, remember our time there with great affection.

This beautiful illustration (copyright Rosemary Wise) is of Pinus nigra, Tolkien’s tree in Oxford Botanic Garden. Sadly, the pine had to be felled shortly after Rosemary had painted it, but at least we have a permanent record of such an iconic tree.
The Record

Personal News

Births
Cluver
  To Lucie (GBF 2009–) and Richard Katz, a son, Michael, on 2 May 2016.
Weber
  To Ulrich (GS 2006–09) and Belinda (GS 2008–12), a daughter, Lena Jessica, on 2 June 2016.

Marriages
Conner / Magozzi
Hamnett / Wood
  Gillian Hamnett (GBF 2013–) to William Wood on 13 August 2016.
Roesler / Taylor
  Ulrike Roesler (GBF 2010–) to David Taylor (GBF 2003–) on 9 April 2016.

Deaths
Ashton
Bruner
Eisenstein
Goff
Humphreys
Leonard
Lobo
  Lelio Quaresna (GS 1976–79) on 8 June 2016
Moore
Pickering
Price

Professional News

Austyn, Jon (GBF 1983–) Visiting Scholar at Xiamen University for the inauguration of the new Beutler Institute.

Bhaskaran, Harish (RF 2013–19) Appointed Professor of Applied Nanomaterials.

Boehmer, Elleke (GBF 2007–) Awarded a Major John Fell Award for the project ‘Postcolonial Text, World Form’. Awarded Australian Research Council funding for an award ‘Transnational Coetzee’. Longlisted for the Sunday Times (South Africa) Literary Award for her novel The Shouting in the Dark.

Bonacić, Cristián (GS 1996–2001, MCR 2002–) Appointed Professor in the Department of Ecosystems and the Environment, founder Director of the School of Agriculture and Forestry Engineering. Awarded a Visiting Professorship, Nelson Institute of the University of Wisconsin, and afterwards appointed Head of Department and Professor in Conservation Science and Wildlife Management.

Brockington, John (MCR 2014–) Appointed interim Academic Director of the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies from MT 2016 to TT 2017.


Charters, Erica (GBF 2009–) Awarded the American Association for the History of Medicine’s George Rosen Prize 2016 for her book Disease, War, and the Imperial State.
Clemit, Pamela (MCR 2007–16, SF 2016–) Awarded the Keats-Shelley Association of America Distinguished Scholar Award for 2016.

Curtis, Julie (GBF 1991–) Member of the 13-strong team led by Professor Karin Kohl (Jesus College) which submitted a successful bid to the AHRC for a £4 million research grant for 2016–20, the largest grant ever awarded to the Humanities Division in Oxford. Member of a second successful AHRC OWRI team, whose bid is based at Manchester University.

Dahl, Jacob (GBF 2008–) Hosted the celebrations of the 125th anniversary of Assyriology in Oxford, at Wolfson on 14 April 2016.

Dalley, Stephanie (MCR 2010–) After publishing The Mystery of the Hanging Garden of Babylon (OUP 2013) spoke at the Salisbury Arts Festival, gave the Charles Eliot Norton lectures at nine different universities in the USA on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of American, and gave the Franz Rosenthal memorial lecture at Yale.


Jayasingam, Thangamuthu  

Macdonald, Michael  

Meyer, Eric  
(RMCR 203–16) Appointed Professor of Social Informatics.

Potter, Barry  

Probert, Philomen  
(GBF 1999–) Elected to the Academia Europea. Appointed Professor of Classical Philology and Linguistics.

Roesler, Ulrike  
(GBF 2010–) Appointed Professor of Tibetan and Himalayan Studies.

Rickaby, Rosalind  
(GBF 2009–) Awarded an ERC Consolidator grant. Contributed a scientific essay feature to Lucy Hawking’s *George and the Blue Moon*, a book intended to inspire science in children of primary school age.

Schwarzwald, Ora  

Stellmach, Darryl  
(GS 2012–16) Awarded the 2015 Sutasoma Award by the Royal Anthropological Institute.

Weber, Ulrich  
(GS 2006–10, MCR 2011–) Appointed Professor of Mathematics in Engineering, University of Applied Sciences in Munich, Germany.
Books published by Wolfsonians


Sullivan de Estrada, Kate(RF 2010–17) Edited *Competing Visions of India in World Politics: India’s Rise Beyond the West*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.


Photographer: Roger Tomlin