

2023

# RECORD

WORCESTER COLLEGE





WORCESTER COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

## 2023 RECORD

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*Cover:* Provost's Lodgings and Rose Garden lit up during the Ball. © Coco Cottam (@cocospix)

*Left:* Henry Moore, 'Reclining Figure' (1982)

*Designed by:* Nicki Averill Design

*Thanks to:* photographer Charles Henderson

Worcester College

Walton Street

Oxford OX1 2HB

Tel: 01865 278300

Web: [www.worc.ox.ac.uk](http://www.worc.ox.ac.uk)

# Provost's Welcome

## Michaelmas Term 2023

**The Provost's year is a busy but rewarding one. At the start of April, it was my pleasure to chair the Oxford Literary Festival's annual Provost's Lecture at the Sheldonian Theatre. My interlocutor was our own Senior Research Fellow, Peter Frankopan, speaking about his new book *The Earth Transformed: An Untold History*.**

At more than 700 pages, Peter's book is an epic journey through thousands of years to illuminate the joint history – and future – of humanity and the planet we inhabit. Gazing out at the packed theatre – a place that is evocative for anyone who has matriculated and graduated there – I was reminded that Worcester's purpose is not only to teach and promote research but to inspire. Peter's account of how human history has been, and continues to be, shaped by our environment is both a clarion call for decisive climate action as well as a reminder of the influence of the places in which we live and breathe.

In a year which has seen the launch of our Five-Year Strategy, thoughts about our purpose and the importance of place have been at the front of my mind. Our vision for Worcester is to be a forward-looking college: outward facing and contributing to society. To succeed, we must balance tradition and innovation to ensure we equip our students for the challenges of the twenty-first century. All our people are fundamental to achieving these ambitions and I am delighted that our vision has been embraced so positively by colleagues, students and Old Members alike.

One of the key areas of growth and investment in our strategy is an increased focus on research. Dr

Emanuela Vai and Dr John Parrington are our new joint Heads of Research and I hope that you will quickly see the fruits of their work in the way that we will in future showcase research activities at Worcester. Other areas include our commitment to increased sustainability in College as well as improved financial stability and good governance. To help deliver the new strategy we have recruited key new members of staff: Harmohinder Bahl as Home Bursar, Dr Helen Parish as Senior Tutor and Viola Kerr as Director of Development. I'm delighted to welcome them all to work with the existing Worcester team.

The highlight of our year must, however, be the news in late summer that Honorary Fellow Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones has donated £30 million to Worcester. This unprecedented sum – the largest single gift we have ever received – will transform the College for generations. Sir Lindsay's generosity will enable the construction of a brand-new library and study centre at the heart of the College. This is a much-needed space which will be accessible to all and provide the open and collaborative learning environment which we currently lack. The donation will also improve our graduate students' experience through the provision of additional graduate accommodation. Sir Lindsay's investment in the



College recognises, I hope, the clear and steady course we have charted for Worcester's future. I cannot overstate my gratitude to him and I look forward to welcoming him back to College as the projects progress.

Sir Lindsay studied Modern Languages at Worcester and spent his career in France, where he became CEO of L'Oréal. Reflecting on his career it is gratifying to recognise the direct link that Old Members make between their careers and their undergraduate degree here at Worcester. It is one of my favourite tasks as Provost is to sit down with each and every one of our students for Provost's Collections. In those (short) five minutes, I hear first-hand about the impact which Worcester is making. I learn about how students are progressing academically but also about what other things they do and what motivates them. I'm always impressed by our students' approach to work and fun but also to their civic commitments and concerns for the planet. It's a pleasure to see our young people taking both the present and future seriously.

One of my other treats is to interview guests for my Role Models conversations. Whether active in the fight for increased focus on issues for women (Catherine Mayer, co-founder of the Women's Equality Party), the complexities of Muslim lives in the UK (Zara Mohammed, first female leader of the Muslim Council of Britain) or the state of journalism (BBC broadcaster, Evan Davies), it is a great opportunity to find out more about what led to my interviewee's success and what lessons they are able to share with our students. Most guests balk at the notion of being a 'role model' but from my discussions it's clear that all these individuals are pioneers in some way and have interesting insights that we do well to listen to.

This year I have also been involved with other Heads of House, students and academics in promoting freedom of speech at Oxford. One reads constantly about so-called 'cancel culture' and the deterioration of free speech on university campuses. I have commented elsewhere that I think that this problem has been overstated but, to the extent that there is any anxiety about expressing views within the law, I have been determined to ensure that listening and respect are central to holding debates. As such, we have developed a series of 'Tips' to help students and colleagues hold conversations on 'difficult' topics. We've now held our first debate using the 'Tips' and I am pleased to say that the event was a success and that all views were heard.

Finally, this year it has been wonderful to have a full roster of events for Old Members – offering you all the chance to come back to Worcester and relive your student days in College. I very much enjoy meeting Old Members and some of most memorable occasions have included meeting those of you who celebrated matriculating 50 and 60 years ago as well as a stimulating dinner with Rhodes Scholars from across the decades. I've also enjoyed Gaudies (including a first return visit for our younger alumni) and it was a delight to welcome Lady Arden of Heswall as the guest of honour at our annual Law Dinner. As a former Justice of the Supreme Court, the insights she shared with our budding lawyers were invaluable.

The high point of the College calendar – for current students and Old Members alike – was surely the Commemoration Ball at the end of Trinity Term. The sun shone on Worcester and, as the light dimmed, our glorious buildings and grounds really glowed. The first Ball in six years, it was an all-out success and the student committee, led by Nitheesh Velayan

(2021, Economics and Management), are to be thoroughly congratulated – even if the lawn in the Provost's Garden looked rather worse for wear after a riotous ceilidh. You can read more in Nitheesh's report on page 34.

Reminiscing about the past and planning for the future with Old Members is wonderful, but it also reminds us of those we have lost this year. There are detailed obituaries on page 36, but I would like to pay special tribute to three very longstanding and supportive members of our community. In December, Professor Paul Hyams (1960) died following a period of illness. A distinguished medieval historian, Paul came up to study at Worcester under the legendary James Campbell and last visited College in May 2022 for our CambellFest celebration. 2023 also saw the death of both Simon Brown (1957), The Rt Hon The Lord Brown of Eaton-under-Heywood, and Julian Ogilvie Thompson (1953). Both made their mark on the world, Lord Brown as a giant of the legal profession and Julian as a committed educationalist who gave many years' service to the Mandela Rhodes Foundation and endowed one of our graduate scholarships.

I would also like to remember the sudden death of first-year student Aryan Bhagat in May. Out of the sadness of Aryan's death came a real show of love and support and the memory of his vigil in the Chapel – every inch of space packed by his friends and contemporaries in quiet contemplation of his life – will live long in our memories. I would once again like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt condolences to Aryan's family.

As I write this introduction, I have just entered my third year as Provost. It is a huge pleasure to occupy this role and to be the custodian of a College with an impressive past as well as a very positive future. Each day I meet students who impress me – as well as Fellows and staff whose commitment to support them makes Worcester the special community it has always been. Worcester continues to inspire me and I hope that the record of our activities this year will inspire all of you too.

**David Isaac CBE**

*Provost*

“It is a huge pleasure to occupy this role and to be the custodian of a College with an impressive past as well as a very positive future.”

# Fellows and College Officers

## Visitor

The Master of the Rolls

## Provost

**David Isaac CBE**

## Tutorial, Professorial & Supernumerary Fellows

**Simon G.B. Cowan**, Associate Professor of Economics; Wigmore Clarendon Fellow and Tutor in Economics; Vice-Provost (until March 2023); Senior Fellow

**Kate E. Tunstall**, Clarendon Professor of French; Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones Fellow in Modern Languages and Tutor in French

**Donal P. Nolan**, Professor of Private Law; Francis Reynolds and Clarendon Fellow and Tutor in Law

**Nir Vulkan**, Associate Professor of Business Economics; Lloyd's Research Fellow and Tutor in Management Studies; Garden Master and Flag Master

**Andrew J. Carr**, Nuffield Professor of Orthopaedics; Professorial Fellow

**Benjamin A.C. Morgan**, Associate Professor of Modern Languages; Fellow and Tutor in German

**John Parrington**, Associate Professor in Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology; Rank Foundation-Netherthorpe Memorial Fellow and Tutor in Medicine; College Head of Research (Sciences)

**Richard A. Earl**, University Assessor (until March 2023); Ben DeLo Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics; Vice-Provost (from March 2023)

**J. Scott Scullion**, Associate Professor of Greek and Latin Languages and Literature; Fellow and Tutor in Classics; Dean of Degrees

**Deborah J. Cameron**, Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communication; Professorial Fellow

**Josephine Crawley Quinn**, Associate Professor of Ancient History; Martin Frederiksen Fellow and Tutor in Ancient History

**Andreas Willi**, Diebold Professor of Comparative Philology; Professorial Fellow

**Endre Süli**, Professor of Numerical Analysis; Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

**Grant A.D. Ritchie**, Professor of Chemistry; John and Patricia Danby Fellow and Tutor in Chemistry

**Robert Harris**, Professor of British History; Harry Pitt Fellow and Tutor in Modern History; Senior Treasurer of Amalgamated Clubs

**Paul J. Azzopardi**, Fellow and Tutor in Psychology; Dean; Steward of the Senior Common Room

**Andrew J. Price**, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery; Supernumerary Fellow

**David R. Steinsaltz**, Associate Professor of Statistics; Loevner Fellow and Tutor in Statistics

**C. Conrad Leyser**, Clarendon Associate Professor of History; Lightbody Fellow and Tutor in History; Deputy Dean of Degrees; Student Financial Aid Officer

**Laura Ashe**, Professor of English Literature; David Woods Kemper Family Fellow and Tutor in English

**Gabriel Stylianides**, Professor of Mathematics Education; Supernumerary Fellow

**Kim A. Dora**, Professor of Microvascular Pharmacology; Fellow and Tutor in Medicine

**Antonis Papachristodoulou**, Professor of Engineering Science; Fellow and Tutor in Engineering

**Michail M. Peramatzis**, Clarendon Associate Professor of Philosophy; Hinton Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy

**M. Afifi al-Akiti**, KFAS Fellow in Islamic Studies, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies; Supernumerary Fellow

**Sadie J. Crease**, Professor of Cybersecurity; Supernumerary Fellow

**Zofia T. Stemplowska**, Associate Professor of Political Theory; Asa Briggs Fellow and Tutor in Politics

**James R. Edwards**, Associate Professor of Law; Fellow and Tutor in Law

**Alexander J. Sturgis**, Director of the Ashmolean Museum; Supernumerary Fellow; Curator of Pictures

**Andrew T. Stephen**, L'Oréal Professor of Marketing; Professorial Fellow

**Mark D. Bainbridge**, Fellow Librarian and Keeper of the Archives; Data Protection Officer

**Peta G. Fowler**, Fellow and Lecturer in Latin; Student Financial Aid Officer (from 1 April to 30 September 2023)

**Alice L. Violet**, Besse Fellow and Lecturer in French

**Andrzej S. Murawski**, Associate Professor of Programming Languages; Bernard Sufrin Fellow and Tutor in Computer Science

**Hauke K. Marquardt**, Associate Professor of Solid Earth Geosciences; Fellow and Tutor in Earth Sciences

**Robert P. Smith**, Associate Professor of Physics; Fellow and Tutor in Physics

**Merve Emre**, Associate Professor in English Literature (1830–Present Day); Fellow and Tutor in English (until August 2023)

**Lisa M. Wedding**, Associate Professor of Physical Geography; Fellow and Tutor in Geography

**Laura E. Quick**, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament; Fellow and Tutor in Theology and Religion

**Tsilly Dagan**, Professor of Taxation Law; Professorial Fellow

**Leah C. Trueblood**, Career Development Fellow and Tutor in Public and EU Law

**Michael K. Mayo**, Director of the Visiting Student Programme

**Natalia R. Waights Hickman**, Associate Professor of Philosophy; David Mitchell Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy; Tutor for Graduates

**Kate Foley**, Director of Development (until October 2022)

**Iain McCulloch**, Associate Professor of Organic Chemistry; Fellow and Tutor in Chemistry

**Paulo Savaget**, Associate Professor of Engineering (Engineering Entrepreneurship); Supernumerary Fellow

**Patricia Clavin**, Professor of Modern History;  
Professorial Fellow

**Wouter Mostert**, Associate Professor of  
Engineering; Edward and Catherine Wray Fellow  
and Tutor in Engineering

**Emmanuel Breuillard**, Professor of Pure  
Mathematics; Professorial Fellow

**Mike Huggins**, Finance and Estates Bursar

**Simon Boddie**, University Chief Financial Officer;  
Supernumerary Fellow

**Jennifer Walshe**, Professor of Composition;  
Fellow and Tutor in Music

**Anthony Brewerton**, Associate Director for  
Academic Library Services and Keeper of  
Collections, Bodleian Libraries; Supernumerary  
Fellow

**Ronelle Roth**, Associate Professor in Cell and  
Molecular Plant Biology; Fellow and Tutor in  
Biology

**Leila Ullrich**, Associate Professor of Criminology;  
Supernumerary Fellow

**Helen L. Parish**, Senior Tutor (from January 2023)

**Viola F. Kerr**, Director of Development (from May  
2023)

**Richard D'Arcy**, Associate Professor of Particle  
Accelerator Physics; Fellow and Tutor in Physics  
(from June 2023)

**Weston Struwe**, Associate Professor of Molecular  
and Cellular Biochemistry; Fellow and Tutor in  
Biochemistry (from August 2023)

## Senior Research Fellows

**Professor Michael H. Goldsmith**, Associate  
Professor of Computer Science

**Dr Katharina U. Ulmschneider**, School of  
Archaeology

**Professor Peter J.A. Frankopan**, Professor of  
Global History; Stavros Niarchos Foundation  
Director, Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research

**Dr Robin W. Knight**, Mathematical Institute

**Professor Sugata Kaviraj**, Department of Physics

**Dr Christopher A.J. O'Kane**, Kadas Research  
Fellow (until January 2023)

**Professor Tom Brown FRSE FRSC**, Professor of  
Nucleic Acid Chemistry

**The Revd Canon Dr Peter J. Groves**, Vicar of St  
Mary Magdalen, Oxford

**Professor Heather A. Viles**, Professor of  
Biogeomorphology and Heritage Conservation;  
Associate Head (Research), Social Sciences  
Division

**Dr Amy E. Hinsley**, Kadas Fellow (until November  
2022)

**Professor Sir A. Jonathan Bate CBE FBA FRSL**,  
Professor of English Literature; Provost (2011-19)

**Dr Thomas K. Hyde ARAM**, Faculty of Music

**Professor Fabian H.L. Essler**, Professorial  
Research Fellow, Rudolf Peierls Centre for  
Theoretical Physics

**Dr Michael Drolet**, Senior Research Fellow in the  
History of Political Thought, Centre for Intellectual  
History

## Junior Research Fellows

**Dr Emanuela Vai**, Scott Opler Junior Research Fellow

**Dr Anna Tsalapatanis**, Social Sciences Junior Research Fellow (until November 2022)

**Dr Charlotte Terrell**, Isenberg Junior Research Fellow (until August 2023)

**Dr Neva Kandzija**, Wilkinson Junior Research Fellow; Assistant Dean

## Emeritus Fellows

**Professor Michael Winterbottom** FBA

**Professor Pierre Foëx** FRCA FANZCA FMedSci

**Professor Sir Christopher J. White** CVO FBA

**Professor Paul P. Craig** QC (Hon.) FBA

**Professor Francis M.B. Reynolds** QC (Hon.) FBA

**Professor John Kenwright** FRCS

**Professor Ian J.R. Aitchison**

**Professor Jean M. Aitchison**

**Professor Andrew W. Lintott**

**Anthony P. Weale**

**Professor John H.D. Eland** FRS

**Edward P. Wilson** FSA FLS

**Dr David Landau** CBE

**Professor Arthur L. Dexter** CEng

**Bernard A. Sufrin**

**Professor Jeremy C.N. Horder** FBA

**Dr Sabina M. Lovibond**

**Professor Alan J. Ware**

**Professor John H. Woodhouse** FRS

**Dr Stephen G. Williams**

**Professor Paul Ewart**

**Professor D. Roger Heath-Brown** FRS

**Professor Anthony Blakeborough**

**Professor Christopher P.H. Brown** CBE

**Dr Rory J. Bowden**

**Professor Don G. Fraser**

**Professor Robert N. Gildea** FRHistS FBA

**Coleen L. Day**

**Professor Ernesto Macaro**

**Dr Peter R. Darrah**

**Professor Robert L.A. Saxton** FGSM

**Professor Judith A. Freedman** CBE FBA

**The Revd Canon Professor Susan E. Gillingham** DD

**Professor Julian V. Roberts**

## Honorary Fellows

**K. Rupert Murdoch** AC KCSG

**The Rt Hon Sir Timothy Sainsbury**

**Professor Barry E. Supple** CBE FBA

**Professor Sir Christopher B. Ricks** FBA

**The Rt Hon The Lord Brown of Eaton-under-Heywood** PC (died 7 July 2023)

**The Rt Hon Sir Peter Gibson**

**Sir Martin W. Jacomb**

**The Rt Hon Sir Anthony T.K. May** PC

**Dr Kotaro Ono** KBE

**Barrie A. Wigmore**

**Professor Sir Roger Williams**

**Kathe Henry**

**Professor Anthony M. Snodgrass** FBA FSA

**John G. Curtis** (died 14 October 2022)

**Sir Terence A.H. English** KBE FRCS FRCP

**The Rt Hon The Lord Faulkner of Worcester**

**Professor David S. Ingram** OBE VMH FRSB FRSE FLS

**Sir (Philip) John Weston** KCMG

Emeritus Justice Lourens W.H. Ackermann  
 The Rt Hon Lord Hamilton PC  
 Sir John A. Hood KNZM  
 Professor Michael G. L'Estrange AO  
 Sir Jeremy Q. Greenstock GCMG  
 Sir Lindsay H. Owen-Jones KBE  
 Steven L. Isenberg  
 Justice Elena Kagan  
 T. Dennis Sullivan  
 Professor John L. Heilbron (died 5 November 2023)  
 Martin D. Paisner CBE  
 Professor Anne-Marie Slaughter  
 Professor Dame Jean O. Thomas DBE FRS  
 FMedSci MAE FLSW  
 Sir Richard P.H. Thompson KCVO  
 The Rt Hon Lord Wilson of Culworth PC Kt  
 Deedee Wigmore  
 Richard G. Smethurst  
 HRH Sultan Nazrin Shah of Perak  
 Sir Michael V. Codron CBE  
 The Rt Hon Sir Stephen Tomlinson PC QC  
 Haruhiko Kuroda  
 Sylvia Mathews Burwell  
 S. Russell Davies OBE HonFRSL  
 Professor Sir Simon K. Donaldson FRS  
 Wing Commander Andrew D. Green OBE  
 The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann M. Hartley  
 Sir Mark E.P. Jones FSA FRSE  
 David R. Loevner  
 Rachel M.B. Portman OBE  
 Maria N. Djurkovic  
 Peter Kosminsky FRSA  
 Dr Gyongyver Kadas

Peter Kadas  
 The Rt Hon The Lord Sales PC  
 The Rt Hon Sir Julian Flaux PC  
 The Rt Revd Dr Steven J.L. Croft  
 Professor Sir Mark E. Welland FRS FREng  
 Sir Anthony F. Seldon FRSA FRHistS  
 Anne J. Desmet RA  
 Ben P. Delo  
 Rosanne M. Murison  
 Professor Christine E. Holt FRS FMedSci  
 Edward J. Wray  
 Professor Judith R. Buchanan  
 Claire E. Robins OBE  
 Professor Ravindra K. Gupta

### Visiting Fellows

**Professor Ton van den Bremer**, Senior Research  
 Fellow, Department of Engineering Science

**Professor Christopher Reed**, Terra Foundation  
 Visiting Professor of American Art

### College Staff

#### Academic Administrator

Phillipa Tarver

#### Accountant

Leigh MacNeill

#### Archivist

Emma Goodrum

#### Chaplain

The Revd Marcus Green

#### College Doctor

Dr Simon Clough

**Director of Development**

Viola Kerr

**Fellow Librarian & Keeper of the Archives**

Mark Bainbridge

**Finance and Estates Bursar**

Mike Huggins

**Head Chef**

Arnie Wallbridge

**Head of Conference & Events**

Amanda Coombs

**Head of Gardens & Grounds**

Simon Bagnall

**Head of Student Welfare & Safeguarding Lead**

Georgina Heywood

**Head of Works**

Jayne Stoddart

**Home Bursar**

Harmohinder Bahl

**HR Director**

Saida Rana

**Senior Tutor**

Dr Helen Parish

**Common Room Presidents**

**President of the MCR**

**Carys Howell** (until December 2022)

**Morten Thomsen** (from January 2023)

**President of the JCR**

**Samuel Millington**



# SCR News and Publications

## Afifi al-Akiti

On 10 August 2023, HRH Sultan Nazrin Shah (1976, PPE), Honorary Fellow of the College, officially launched the book published by Springer, *Islam and Biomedicine* (2022), which I edited. This royal book launch opened a one-day international symposium, convened at the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with the involvement of Professor Tess Lambe OBE, who co-designed the Oxford Astra-Zeneca Covid-19 vaccine. The book is a result of a major project supported by the Templeton Religion Trust, which brought together Muslim theologians and medics from all over the world and represents an original, serious attempt to integrate two different bodies of knowledge in science and religion. This year, I completed the *Walk With Muhammad* project ([walkwithmuhammad.com](http://walkwithmuhammad.com)), a two-year research project brought together by the Qatar Foundation, the National Library of Qatar, and Hamad Bin Khalifa University. This is an exciting new initiative that provides an online resource to engage with the scholarly biography of Prophet Muhammad (d. 632), highlighting his humanistic values to the wider public.

### The few noteworthy keynotes I have given this year include:

- ‘*La Convivencia* in Muslim Spain and Peaceful Coexistence in Malaysia Today’, hosted by the University of Malaya (January 2023)
- ‘Cultivating Good Governance between the Muslim World and the West’, hosted by the

Association of Development Finance Institutions of Malaysia (April 2023)

- ‘The Concept of ‘*Budi*’ as a Civilizing Value in Shaping Civilized Society’, hosted by the Parliament of Malaysia (May 2023)
- ‘Islam and Human Dignity’ to open the International Symposium on Upholding Human Dignity for Peaceful Coexistence, hosted by the International Centre for Law and Religion Studies of Brigham Young University School of Law (July 2023)
- The Malaysian Independence Day (*Merdeka*) 2023 Lecture entitled, ‘The Origins of the Concept of Rule of Law in Malay Civilization’, hosted by the Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin, Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia (August 2023)

This year I was also invited to join the International Advisory Board for *Al-Amir Research Journal for Islamic Studies*, and the Advisory Board for *Journal of World Religions and Interfaith Harmony*.

## Simon Cowan

This was a busy year for me. I finished a paper called ‘Welfare-Increasing Monopolization’ that shows a surprising possibility. Initially a competitive industry sells an input to another industry (say manufacturers selling to retailers). Then the competitive industry is monopolized, with the result that the retail industry also is monopolized. Now monopoly exists at two levels. Despite this, society can benefit from the creation of double monopoly. I presented this at a conference on oligopoly at

the University of Padua in the summer. I have also been working on, and nearly completed, three papers on price discrimination, with a fourth also on the production line. The three papers cover price discrimination based on ownership, price discrimination where one market is monopolized but the other is competitive, and the welfare effects of price discrimination in consumer markets.

I continued as Vice-Provost of the College for the first two terms of the year, and handed over to Richard Earl at the end of Hilary Term. For the Department of Economics, I was in charge of admissions for the MPhil programme and was chair of the board that oversees all finals exams in economics.

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### Richard Earl

I've now returned to college and departmental life after a very interesting year as University Assessor. My latest book, *A Very Short Introduction to Mathematical Analysis*, came out on 22 June with OUP.

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### Peter Frankopan

This was a busy year. My new book, *The Earth Transformed: An Untold History*, was published in the spring, going to No.2 in the bestseller lists, where it was kept off the top spot by a book about air fryers. It was generously reviewed, with the *FT* saying 'Humanity has transformed the Earth: Frankopan transforms our understanding of history.' The book was *The Independent* 'Book of the Month', *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* 'Book of the Week', Radio Four 'Book of the Week' and an *FT*, *The Times*, *New Scientist*, *Daily Telegraph*, *New Scientist* and *The Hindu* 'Best Book of the Summer'.

I gave papers and took part in events, including on foreign and defence affairs at 10 Downing

Street, advising on Atlantic and Pacific policy on-board HMS Queen Elizabeth, talks on the Russian invasion of Ukraine at De Balie in Amsterdam, on central and eastern European politics at the Foreign Office, and on climate change implications at the Islamabad Security Dialogue in Pakistan. I also gave talks in St Andrews, Manchester, Venice, Madrid, Abu Dhabi, Sydney and Helsinki and at festivals in Cheltenham, Gloucester, Dalkey and Cliveden.

I appeared regularly on the *Today* programme, on BBC Radio 3, on CNN's flagship Amanpour programme and was profiled by *El Mundo*, *de Volkskrant*, *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, *Helsinki Sanomat*, *The Hindu*, *The Economic Times of India* and more. I wrote multiple articles for the international press, including in Canada, Australia, India, Germany, and the Netherlands, recorded multiple podcasts, including *The Rest is History* (on climate change), and *Empire* (on the Byzantines).

I also worked closely with several UN agencies, including UNDP, UNIDO and UNESCO, where I took part in the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Silk Roads Programme. I chaired the Runciman Award for the fourth and final time.

The Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research (of which I am Director) continues to flourish, with the highlight being the endowment of a new curatorship of Greek manuscripts of the Bodleian Library's magnificent Greek and Byzantine collections.

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### Thomas Hyde

I completed my full-length opera, *Aiding and Abetting* in December. The piece is a free adaptation of the novel by Muriel Spark with a libretto by the novelist Alexander McCall Smith. Commissioned

by Scottish Opera, it is due to be staged in their forthcoming 2024/25 season. In February 2023 I was delighted to be appointed a Vice-President of the Presteigne Festival in Wales and was commissioned by them to compose a setting of the *Missa Brevis* for King's College London choir. The KCL choir will record a disc of my sacred music for Delphian in 2024. I co-edited with Dr Oliver Chandler (Keble College) a short volume to mark the centenary of composer Stephen Dodgson (due out next year) and have also contributed a chapter to *The Cambridge Companion to the British Symphony* (CUP, forthcoming). My outreach work continues to focus on the Lucille Graham Trust, a small charity supporting educational music work in the London area, which I chair.

*Emeritus Fellow  
Dr Sabina Lovibond  
attending an Old  
Members' event*

### **Donal Nolan**

I had a period of leave in 2022, which enabled me to complete work on three books, including an edited collection, and to make progress on a collection of essays on the law of tort. The three books have now been published, and the essay collection (*Questions of Liability: Essays on the Law of Tort*) will be published by Hart Publishing in November 2023. I presented one of the essays from the collection, entitled 'Against Strict Product Liability', at the first of a series of Comparative Catalyst seminars at the Institute of European and Comparative Law in Oxford in May 2023. In April 2023, I gave a paper (with James Goudkamp) on the UK Supreme Court decision in *Robinson v Chief Constable of West*



*Yorkshire Police* at a conference on *Reinventing the Canon: Great Torts Cases of the 21st Century* at the University of Arizona, and in September I gave a presentation (also with James Goudkamp) to the Law Society of Scotland Personal Injury Conference entitled ‘Kids Will Be Kids: Contributory Negligence and Children’.

### Publications:

- ‘Negligence and Autonomy’ (2022), Singapore Journal of Legal Studies 356–383
- *Scholars of Contract Law* (Hart Publishing, 2022), co-edited with James Goudkamp, including a chapter, ‘Scholars of Contract Law: Individuals and Themes’ (co-authored with James Goudkamp)
- ‘Comparing Vicarious Liability’ [review of Paula Giliker (ed.), *Vicarious Liability in the Common Law World* (Hart Publishing, 2022)], *JOTWELL Torts* (20 March 2023)
- *Lunney & Oliphant’s Tort Law: Text and Materials*, 7th edn (OUP, 2023) (with Ken Oliphant)
- ‘*Robinson v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police: Taking Duty Back to Basics*’ (2023) 16 *Journal of Tort Law* 125–142 (with James Goudkamp)
- *Contributory Negligence*, 2nd edn (OUP, 2023) (with James Goudkamp)

### Josephine Crawley Quinn

This year I finally finished the book I’ve been working on for the last few years: *How the World Made the West: a 4,000-year history*. It debunks the myth of the modern West as a self-made miracle. I argue that the idea of a longstanding, distinct western civilisation with roots in Greece and Rome, or indeed anywhere else in Europe, erases a much bigger story of contact and exchange, of journeys

and relationships, trade and war that stretched across the known world from the invention of sailing on the Nile to the age of Atlantic exploration, and brought Europeans Phoenician letters, Indian numbers, Arabic science, and Assyrian ideas of democratic governance. Publication day is 29 February 2024, but pre-orders are now available at all good independent bookshops or the Bloomsbury website!

### Gabriel Stylianides

This year I have received the following new research funding:

1. Stylianides, G. J. (Principal Investigator) *Evaluation of the Mathematical Reasoning Online Professional Development Training*. With T. Nunes. Education Endowment Fund (EEF) and Department for Education (DfE). £350,847 (1/12/2022 – 31/1/2024).
2. Stylianides, G. J. (Principal Investigator of Oxford strand) *Self-efficacy in Mathematics: Pathways in Education and Research*. With K. Street, S. Ertesvåg, L. Malmberg, & K. Skilling. Research Council of Norway. £870,512 (1/9/2023 – 31/8/2027).

### Publications:

- Cai, J., Stylianides, G. J., & Kenney, P. A. (eds.) (2023). *Research studies on learning and teaching of mathematics*, Springer
- Zhang, L., Stylianides, A. J., & Stylianides, G. J. (2023). ‘Identifying competent problem posers and investigating their characteristics’, *Journal of Mathematical Behavior*, 72
- Stylianides, G. J., Stylianides, A. J., & Moutsios-Rentzos, A. (2023). ‘Proof and proving in school and mathematics education research’, *ZDM – The International Journal on Mathematics Education*

- Stylianides, G. J., & Stylianides, A. J. (2023). 'Promoting elements of mathematical knowledge for teaching related to the notion of assumptions', *Mathematical Thinking and Learning*
- Skilling, K., & Stylianides, G. J. (2023). 'Using vignettes to investigate mathematics teachers' beliefs for promoting cognitive engagement in secondary mathematics classroom practice', *ZDM – The International Journal on Mathematics Education*, 55, 477-490
- Shilling-Stouffer, L. N., & Stylianides, G. J. (2023). 'A critical discursive framework for analyzing the views about mathematics being promoted by mathematics textbooks for prospective elementary teachers' in J. Cai, G. J. Stylianides, & P. A. Kenney (eds.), *Research Studies on Learning and Teaching of Mathematics* (pp. 253-274), Springer

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### Emanuela Vai

I work at the intersection of art history, architectural history and music, and my research focuses on musical instruments, soundscapes, space and the senses in early modern social life. This year I have received the following grants and awards:

- Principal Investigator of 'Fantastic Musical Instruments of the Global Renaissance' (Digital Humanities and Heritage), funded by the EU Commission – Global Challenges Cofund Scheme: the aim of the scheme is to strengthen high-profile international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral research, bridging the gaps between academic and applied research.
- Principal Investigator of 'Renaissance Musical Instruments: A Digital Humanities Approach',

Ashmolean Museum and Bate Collection of Musical Instruments, funded by John Fell Fund, University of Oxford. This project combines the analysis of historical musical objects with 3D virtual modelling to investigate the material dimensions of Renaissance music cultures.

- Principal Investigator and Academic Lead of 'Digital Humanities and Sensory Heritage: Sound, Space, Objects and the Senses', funded by TORCH, The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities.

I was elected Director in Humanities at AISUK (the Association of Scientists in the UK, Italian Embassy) with the aim of promoting scientific collaborations between Italian and British academic institutions and research centres in the public and private sector, through scientific events and other initiatives such as mentoring and support for graduate students and junior researchers. I was also elected Trustee of the International Society of Musical Instruments Making.

### Recent publications and media include:

- E. Vai, 'Fantastic Finials: The Materiality, Decoration and Display of Renaissance Musical Instruments', *Music and Visual Culture in Renaissance Italy*, eds. T. Shephard and C. Henry (Routledge 2023)
- A.R.E Taylor, E. Vai, 'The Environmental Impact of the Digital Humanities', "*The Digital Humanities*" *ViewFinder Magazine* 122 (2023)
- E. Vai, 'The Musical Instruments Room', *The Museum of Renaissance Music*, ed. T. Shephard, V. Borghetti (Turnouth: Brepols, 2022)
- Short Documentary on *Monstruous Musical Instruments* at the Ashmolean Museum

*Emeritus Fellow  
Dr Peter Darrah at  
his retirement party  
in June 2023*





# Development Director's Report

**I was delighted to join Worcester as Development Director part way through Trinity Term. Kate Foley moved on from her role as Development Director in October 2022 to lead Development and Alumni Relations at the Saïd Business School, and Julia Thaxton joined as Interim Development Director until late May. I am grateful to both Kate and Julia for all they achieved.**

Very soon after arriving at Worcester it was my privilege to meet many Old Members, including a number whose loyal and generous support of College initiatives impacts the work of students and staff here in countless ways. This year we offered a full programme of events to allow Old Members to connect with the College and one another, whether in year groups, by subject, or at events where we thank those who give to Worcester. Gatherings took place in London – at the House of Lords in October and for the Young Alumni drinks at Christmas; and in New York, Boston, and San Francisco. We have hosted events in our beautiful gardens and buildings, ranging from the second Donors' Dinner in April and Donors' Garden Party in June, to a Biology reunion to mark the retirement of Dr Peter Darrah, and a dinner welcoming all those who came to Worcester as Rhodes scholars. The 50th and 60th anniversaries of matriculation were celebrated, along with Gaudies in September and March. The year culminated in perhaps the most memorable commemoration of all: the iconic Worcester Ball, the first for six years. Most events that were missed during Covid have now taken place, but not all: notably we plan to celebrate the 45th anniversary of

women arriving at Worcester (delayed from the original 40-year celebration).

The students who opted to spend some of their Easter vacation calling Old Members and raising much-needed gifts towards the Worcester Fund were struck by the warmth and enthusiasm for the College amongst those they spoke to. Over conversations about memories that often resonated strongly, the students were bowled over by the support that many of you offered, collectively raising a staggering £210,000. Gifts will go towards a range of projects, according to need, that make studying at Worcester so special. Crucially, as so many chose to give a regular gift, the College will be able to plan activity in future years.

Campaigns like the telethon are a reminder that every gift to Worcester, no matter its size, really is fundamental to the College. Your support enables us to provide the best possible environment for our students to develop and for ground-breaking research to be nurtured. Some projects for which we are delighted to have received funding from Old Members may not be known by all but make a big difference, such as reaching a longstanding aim to install

LED lights in the library, funding microscopes for medics, creating a research fund for Philosophy or funding kit for sports teams. Many Old Members have been pleased to give the College the freedom to use their donation wherever the need is greatest, and some have given specifically with the aim of supporting the financial health of the College. This important vote of confidence gives us much needed flexibility, and we are very grateful.

We are especially thrilled that generous and visionary support has enabled some very exciting projects at Worcester this year. One of our ambitions is to open up the option of postgraduate study more widely. Without support, the brightest students often have to turn down incredible academic opportunities due to lack of funding. This year, we welcomed four scholars on the Weidenfeld-Hoffman initiative for young leaders from emerging economies who are passionate about social change in their home countries. Not only that, but we have been given a generous gift to welcome a scholar in the 2023-24 academic year on the Weidenfeld-Hoffman *Hope* programme, for refugees and those who have been displaced due to conflict, persecution, or other serious human rights violations or deprivations. Also, for the first time, a student joined Worcester through the University's *Black Academic Futures* scheme for UK residents, which aims to address under-representation and help improve equality, diversity and inclusion in the Oxford graduate student body. It is thanks only to inspirational gifts that we

have been able to offer such a range of ground-breaking scholarships. We are delighted that, through their donations, donors can experience a connection with very meaningful academic work which has a global impact.

In 2022-23 we received £6,811,720 in donations, £4,976,664 of which was made up of gifts from a single legacy. This legacy is pivotal in building our endowment, funding Theology at Worcester and furthering the work of our Chaplaincy team. We remain deeply grateful for this gift and know it will make a lasting impact.

Finally, words like 'visionary' and 'inspirational' do not go far enough in describing Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones' commitment to Worcester and its students. His gift of £30 million, announced in September 2023, will be, quite simply, transformational for Worcester and generations of students who study here. With this gift, we will build a new library, creating the best circumstances for study and collaboration for all Worcester's staff and students, and a new accommodation building – a welcoming home for our growing community of graduate students. We look forward to providing updates on the progress of these landmark projects.

Worcester owes so very much to the support of its community of Old Members and donors: thank you.

**Viola Kerr**

*Development Director and Fellow*

“We are especially thrilled that generous and visionary support has enabled some very exciting projects at Worcester this year.”



# Finance and Estates Bursar's Report

“I am very grateful for the support of our Old Members and our hardworking staff who have helped us make the progress we have achieved.”

**At the beginning of the 2022/23 financial year we wanted to make progress in four finance and estates areas:**

- Trying to reduce the operating deficit
- Moving towards breaking even over three years
- Tackling the backlog of maintenance works
- Becoming more environmentally sustainable

The economic environment was not conducive to achieving any of these objectives. Inflation was around 10% in the first half of the year and was still around 7% by year end. Inflation in key areas of expenditure – such as energy and food – was considerably higher. These inflationary pressure were also felt by our loyal and hardworking staff, and we did what we could to help them manage, including adopting the University pay settlement.

At the half year point in 2022/23 we were forecasting a deficit of £2.1 million on unrestricted activities. We have a few levers to pull in-year to make a difference. First amongst these is cost-control, but this is ongoing and we have to invest in people and facilities for the long term. What we can change is the scale and returns from our commercial activities, which we did successfully. Activity levels were already improving but we made a conscious decision to increase them further in view of our financial situation. This paid off in the second half of the year. We also increased our targeted fundraising, which helped us balance our books and avoid a repetition of last year's sizeable deficit. Our accounts are still

being audited but at the time of writing we hope to have broken even on unrestricted activities, albeit with the help of a partial write-back of the pension fund provision.

We made good progress in moving towards achieving a more financially sustainable model, but we are not there yet. Because our free reserves are so thin, we have very limited ability to ride the waves of economic shocks, but we are doing what we can to boost our income in the short term. In the long run we still need to build the College's endowment to generate sufficient unrestricted income to cover our operating costs.

One of our ongoing financial challenges has been addressing the backlog of maintenance of our wonderful buildings. What we found this year was that costs were much higher than initially budgeted, not only due to materials shortages and consequent price rises, but also due to dilapidation being more severe than expected once we stripped buildings down. We continued the good progress in addressing our Surveyors' Condition Survey, but we are only at the start of a programme that will last for at least five years.

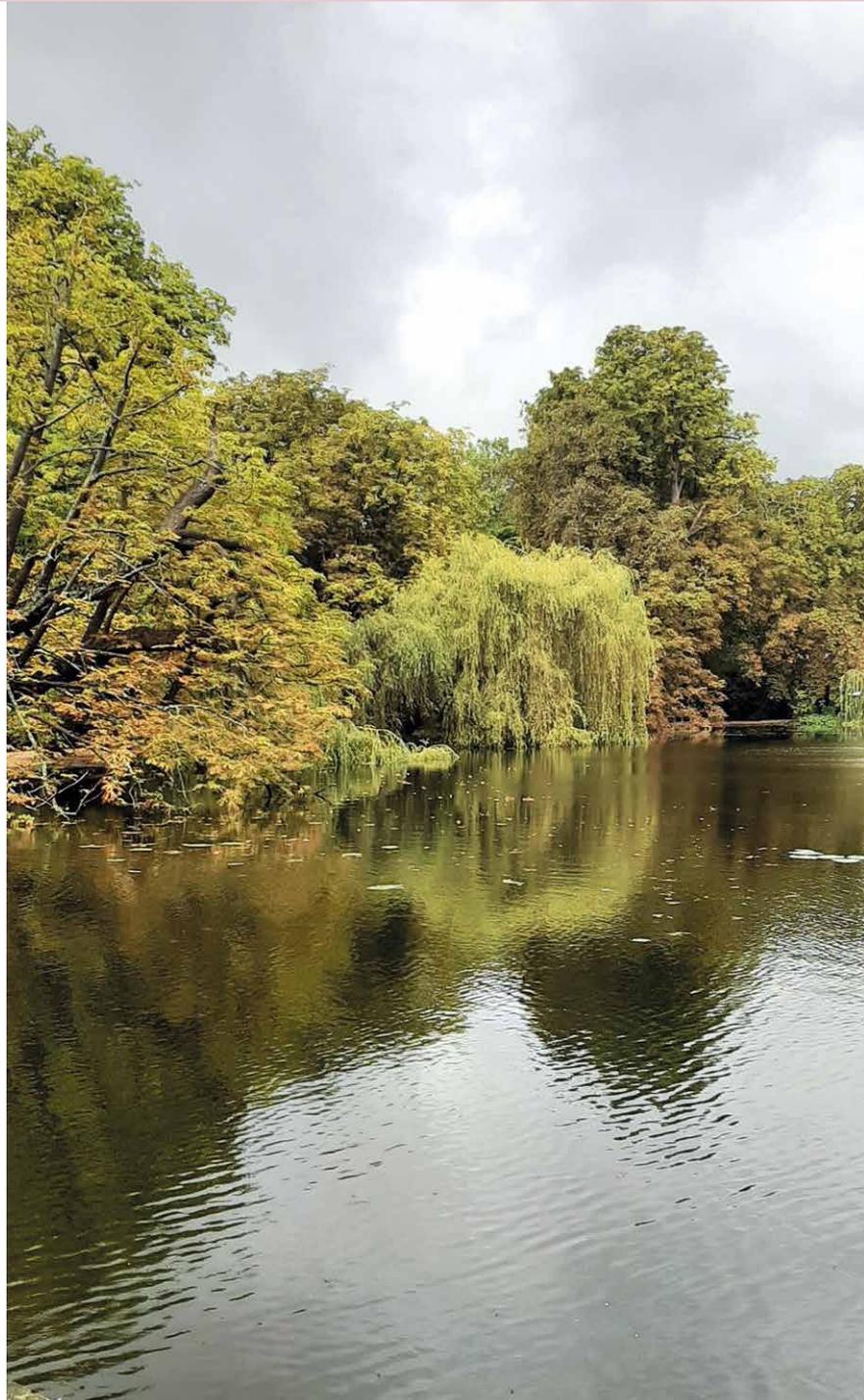
Our carbon audit completed in the year defined the baseline from which to measure progress in reducing our carbon footprint. High energy costs

have renewed our focus on reducing energy consumption. It is said that what is measured improves, and this is proving so, although we are aware that what is directly within our control is only 40% of our footprint. We are working with our suppliers to help us achieve improvements by them reducing their own footprints. This is going to be a long haul and will bring further significant financial challenges to change energy sources, but we are committed to becoming more environmentally sustainable for the benefit of us all.

In summary, it has been a rollercoaster of a year and we have made good progress in moving the College forward, but we are still reliant on the generosity and support of our Old Members. I am very grateful to them and to our hardworking staff who have helped us make the progress we have achieved.

**Mike Huggins**

*Finance & Estates Bursar*



# The Chapel Report

**My first full year as Chaplain at Worcester was book-ended by two very different memorial events. Early on, Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passed away and we joined with people across the nation in offering space for mourning and reflection. In the summer, a member of our student body died suddenly and the whole College community came together for a vigil in Chapel. Hundreds of people filled every available space and silently, respectfully, tearfully took their time to light candles and write messages in a book of remembrance.**

These remarkable, deeply human, compassionate, corporate moments demonstrated something of the heart of Chapel life. People ask – what does a chaplain do these days? There are all sorts of answers to that question. But one remains what it has always been: we believe in a God who loves people, all people; so we try to find ways of helping on the days that try to find ways of doing anything but.

Chapel was often a place filled with song and celebration this year. I loved my first Christmas here – with the choir not only singing five carol services, but adding to those with a Midnight Mass for ‘Oxmas’. Given the turnout for that one, we should seriously look at 11.30pm for more of our events.

Our services followed a familiar pattern, though Mondays are now called *Choral Reflection* and are built around a theme which changes each term and allows a little more time to think through and respond to a particular idea. Sunday guest preachers have been many and very varied, including the Bishop of Oxford (and Worcester Old Member) The Rt Revd Steven Croft; the Baptist chaplain of Regent’s Park College, Revd Beth Allison Glenny; Sr Ann Swailes OP from

the Cambridge University Catholic Chaplaincy; and theological advisor to the House of Bishops, Revd Dr Isabelle Hamley. We have also had Chapel collections for Mary’s Meals, the Oxford Gatehouse and Embrace Middle East. Sue McLellan from Embrace spoke at the Woodroffe Society dinner. Our large and responsive congregations both on Sundays and oftentimes through the week are a joy; if you haven’t worshipped with us recently, please do so: all our services are open to the public and are advertised online (on our website and via X-Twitter) and on the notice board outside College.

We had concerts from Iestyn Davies and Thomas Munford (as part of the 2023 Oxford Lieder Festival); Professor Jennifer Walshe brought us *Music for Meteorites*; and a string quintet from La Scala Milan played historic instruments. Our own College Choir sang Faure’s *Requiem* in Michaelmas and a sequence of music for Holy Week at the end of Hilary, as well as joining in with other College musicians at the summer concert in the Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre at the end of Trinity.

I am very grateful to Helen Smee for the energy she gave to her role as Director of College



*Filming the Vice-Chancellor's Christmas Message in Chapel*

Music up to Easter, and to Professor Edward Higginbottom for taking time to be interim Director of Chapel Music in the summer. With the appointment of our first full-time Director of College Music in Caius Lee, we look forward to building on their work and seeing all sorts of music in College grow in strength and professionalism. Giles Longstaff came to the end of his very successful tenure as Organ Scholar, and as Henry Coop (Queen's) also nears the end of his time, it is good to have Benedict King beginning with us and settling in well. Visvapriya Desai and Julia Dallaway continued as sacristans, with Tiffany Horter making a wonderful addition to the team.

As soon as I arrived, I learned to rely completely on The Revd Dr Matthew Cheung Salisbury, who has stayed on as Assistant Chaplain. His knowledge, calmness and friendship have been a gift beyond price to me. Between us, we took three weddings this academic year, between David Vyce & Alice Simkins, Thomas Chadwick & Anna Hubbard, and Tawu Chipato & Caroline Gordon. It was also a joy to baptise Henry Pirkis and Tiffany Horter, as well as to see Tiffany later confirmed by the Bishop of Dorchester in Chapel on a summer Sunday evening.

**The Revd Marcus Green**  
*Chaplain*

# The Gardens and Grounds Report

## The Long Border

**There are many features of the Worcester gardens which stand out. The lake is an obvious candidate for its timeless beauty, but also the majestic lawns, the orchard and the sports field, which holds so many fond memories for the countless College members past and present who have played there.**

Amongst my favourite spaces in College is the long border that runs along the south side of the Cottages down to the lake. I thought it might be interesting to dwell on this area and write about its development over the years, focussing a little on the plants that nestle within it and explaining how the border has changed and the planting evolved to deal with climate change and the topsy-turvy weather that comes with it.

When I arrived at Worcester in 2003, I can remember walking through the tunnel at the bottom of the Quad out to the Nuffield Lawn and seeing a pleasant herbaceous border to my right. Turning to my left I expected to see the mirror image of this border but that was not the case. Instead, a thin ribbon border ran around the base of the Cottages planted politely with bedding plants. A well-kept lawn occupied the remaining space to the path. It felt a shame that the herbaceous border didn't continue along the cottages so I went about rectifying this. A proposal was raised with the Garden Committee, along with a planting plan to unify the two borders.

My scheme was approved, the grass stripped in the following autumn and the borders planted. We were able to divide some of the plants from the original border, using the divisions to immediately give a sense of cohesion to the new planting. I used some of the principles of the British horticulturist and garden designer Gertrude Jekyll VMH (1843-1932) in my design. Large drifts of herbaceous plants were used with a colour scheme running from cooler colours (whites and blues) to hot (orange and red) and back to cool again. This works well in this situation, making the border appear longer than it actually is (cooler colours seeming further away to the eye).



*The Long Border © Clive Nichols*

Blocks of *Nepeta* 'Six Hills Giant' ran down the front of the border and the mid-layer saw large clumps of *Acanthus mollis* (bear's breeches) which stood like guards as they took up their billets. The *Acanthus* did an important job of leading the eye along the length of the border, their stature a familiar and reassuring presence amongst the mix of changing colours. *Persicaria* took up the role of the props in this scrum of planting. *Persicaria polymorpha*, a giant plant with strong stems and abundant soft white flowers, were used for the back of border, while *Persicaria amplexicaulis* provided strong blocks along the mid-layer. The border did well in its early years. We filled the gaps between the permanent planting with annuals and tender perennials.

I had the pleasure of a visit to the garden from the great gardener The Hon. Virginia Price, whose garden at Pettifers near Banbury had received international acclaim. Gina's visit was the start of a great friendship and many visits to each other's gardens. We swapped plants and she kindly shared with me her wisdom around plant choice and planting combinations. Gina was passionate about plants and had an eye for detail. She was meticulous and knew what she liked and was very clear on what she didn't! Gina once offered me a nice *Hemerocallis* – this daylily was a reject from her garden because, in Gina's words, 'its ankles were far too thick,' meaning she didn't like its stems. But, with its fabulous early leaf colour and strong burnt orange flowers, I could forgive its shortcomings.

It was on one of our strolls along the border that a comment by Gina really struck me. She was very kind in her words about the gardens but she said she felt the border was very masculine with the strong blocks of planting and choice of plants. I didn't realise a border could have gender! But I think I understood what she meant and,



Photo © Clive Nichols



Photo © Clive Nichols

having reflected on this, it felt like a gently veiled suggestion that things weren't quite right. I think what she was suggesting was that the heavy blocks of planting didn't somehow sit comfortably together. Perhaps they were just too bulky!

At the time I was reading a lot of Christopher Lloyd's work and had the great joy of visiting his extraordinary garden at Great Dixter. Fergus Garrett was his energetic and experimental Head Gardener and I loved this pairing. Their style of planting was fresh and exciting. They worked hard to create layers of plants to give successional colour and interest through the year. And they added the choicest shrubs into their plantings to extend the seasons and give points of interest like bookmarks along the famous borders. The exotic garden at Dixter was truly inspiring and the selection of plants gave great impact. I think what was clear was that the order of the plantings at Dixter was not as strictly arranged as mine at Worcester. They allowed annuals to self-seed and Garrett carefully threaded annuals and biennials through the negative space around the herbaceous plants. Shrubs acted as calming elements along the busy planting and bulbs were used to extend the seasonal colour. In essence the borders had a more relaxed feel.

These influences clearly resonated with me and over the coming years the planting in our border changed. We added more shrubs – *Cornus alba* 'Aurea' is a good example. Its buttery yellow leaves work as a fabulous foil to plants around it but when it sheds its golden fleece it really comes into its own through the winter months with pillar box red stems. We underplanted the *Cornus* with *Galanthus* 'Magnet'. This snowdrop loves our ground and has bulked up extremely quickly, thanks to the persistence of gardener Allison

Leslie who has divided and spread the snowdrops along the border. We now enjoy a carpet of these snowdrops, which dances serenely in the gentlest of breezes along the whole length of the border.

More exotic plants also found their way into the border. The jungle-like foliage of *Ensete ventricosum* 'Maurelii' (the Abyssinian banana), *Canna indica* and *Brugmansia* with its large trumpet flowers, brought instant change to the border in the summer months. The fresh paddle leaves are a good foil for other plants and they stood up well to the strong architecture surrounding them. We reduced the size of the planting drifts too and worked more annuals into the border which gave it a looser look. We chose annuals with a transparent feel: an absolute favourite of mine was *Persicaria orientalis*, which has the romantic common name of 'kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate'. It produces slim stems below crimson tassel flowers which just seem to go with everything and float through the border. More recently we planted the rose 'Munstead Wood', which bounces down the border. This is a nice nod to the aforementioned Miss Jekyll, as it was named after her home, where she created a fabulous garden, collaborating with the architect Edwin Lutyens. More importantly, it's a great rose which repeat flowers all through the summer. Its velvety port-coloured flowers work hard and fit well with both ends of the colour spectrum.

The other influence on the border has been climate change. Strong winds seem to be commonplace now and we appear to get regular summer storms. So the staking in the border had to be beefed up and more fragile plants like the traditional delphiniums have been slowly edited out. The drought of 2022 was a difficult time for all gardeners and Oxford was not spared. Some

experts say it was worse in Oxford than it had been in the great drought of 1976. It was, however, interesting to see which plants performed well in the dry conditions. Many of our herbaceous plants did, but those which struggled are now being replaced. The scarcity of water also highlighted the sustainability of our use of exotic plants within the border, since they are mostly hungry for water. Should we be using such plants? Is it right to overwinter plants in the glass house for a five-month display?

The quandary I face is that people love the display and it's often the exotics that catch the eye and demand conversation. But is it really a sustainable way of gardening? I believe going forward we can keep the bones of the border but must move away from the needy exotic plants and focus more on drought tolerance, opting for hardy, deep-rooted perennials as a replacement for the exotics. *Boehmeria nivea* is a great example of this, a China and Japan native which has very attractive large fuzzy leaves. This relative of the nettle asked for very little from us, required no staking and was equally happy in the drought of 2022 as it has been in this year's wet summer.

There is lots to think about and more work to be done. We will enjoy continuing to improve the border in the coming years. Very sadly, my friend Gina passed away this year, but her words of wisdom will live on. The plants she kindly gave me will be treasured all the more, particularly the ones with chubby ankles.

**Simon Bagnall**

*Head of Gardens and Grounds*

# The Library Report

**One of our most important projects of 2022/23 was the digitisation of the College's collection of c. 1,000 drawings by architects such as Andrea Palladio, Inigo Jones, John Webb, Nicholas Hawksmoor, John Vanbrugh, and William Burges.**

In November 2022 Colin Dunn of Scriptura Ltd photographed all of the drawings under the same conditions so that the College now has high quality, publication-standard images of this precious architectural history collection. The benefits of the project are numerous and include improved conservation of the drawings (through reduced handling), greater access for scholars and researchers (we have already been able to send images where in the past a researcher would have needed to travel to Oxford), encouragement of further research and the security offered by a digital surrogate. Work has now begun and will proceed through the coming academic year to make these drawings available online. The photography, which has long been on our wish list, was funded by a

generous donation from Old Member Graham Child, to whom we offer many thanks.

The year has also seen a series of contractors working inside or, indeed, on top of the Library. In the latter case, repairs were made to the roof of the Eland Room over the summer vacation in 2022 to deal with a series of leaks in that space. The success of this work has allowed us to bring some much-needed Eland Room shelves back into use. The Christmas and Easter vacations were used by electricians to upgrade the Library's distribution boards, finally bringing the Library's electrics into the 21st Century. This was followed by the installation of LED lights throughout the Library in August 2023. We thank Philip Ashton for the donation which supported these LED lights and which has made the Library much brighter!

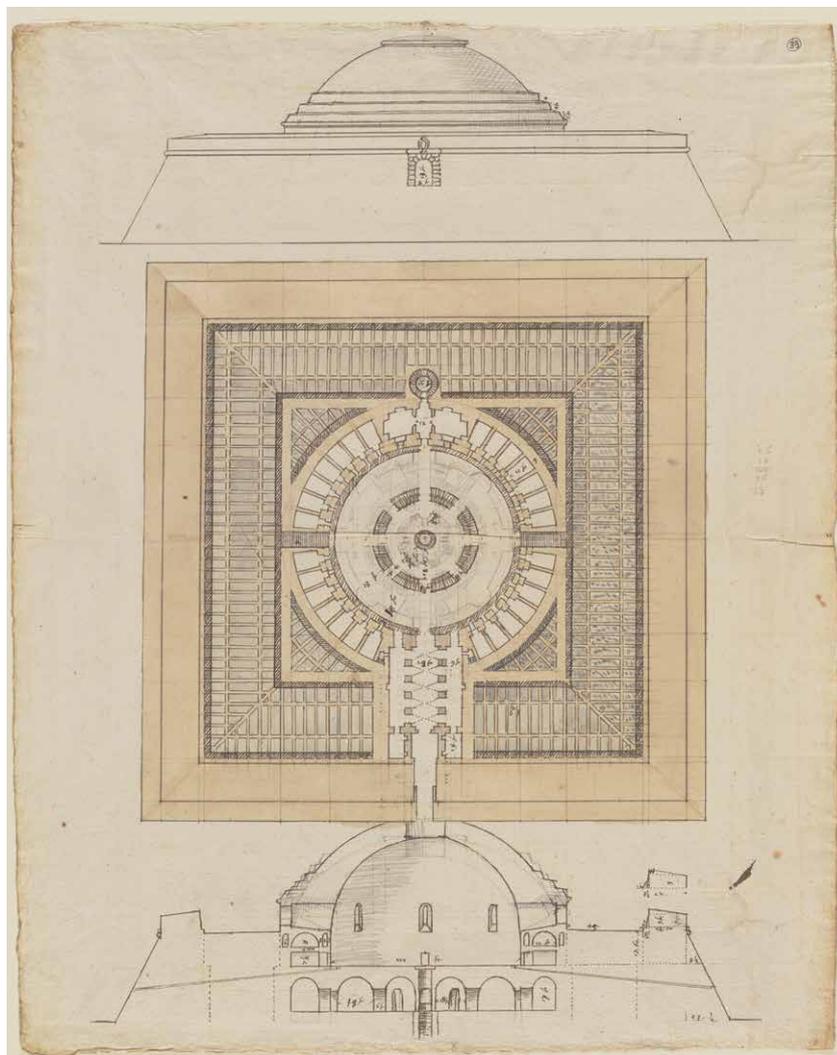
*Colin Dunn  
photographing  
the drawings*



Moving from the fabric of the Library to the work that goes on inside its walls, February 2023 was the occasion for our triennial Library Reader Survey, which is an opportunity for the Library team to hear formally from our students. 98.6% of respondents agreed that 'overall... the College Library provides a good service'. There were, though, comments about the number of copies of textbooks available and the accessibility of the Library. We will aim to improve the former as we review our Collection Development Policy this year; as for accessibility, you might want to jump ahead to the final paragraph....

We have welcomed 88 research visitors who consulted 368 items in the academic year 2022/23. In addition to these visits, special collections items have been displayed as part of the following events: an exhibition of the drawings for the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain (SAHGB) Oxford conference; a joint event with the Archives as part of the 1980-1982 Gaudy; and, in March 2023, an exhibition of items from the Clarke Papers to accompany the launch of the *Letters, writings and speeches of Oliver Cromwell* (OUP, 2022). William Clarke was a member of the Parliamentary Army secretariat in the 1640s and his papers, in addition to copies of letters by Cromwell, contain internal army correspondence, transcripts of the Army Debates and newsletters that take us right to the heart of the New Model Army. In March 2023 we also welcomed back students studying the MSc in Historic Conservation at Oxford Brookes, who were introduced to aspects of their research methods module using items from our drawings collection. There have also been several tours for students and faculty on the Worcester Certificates courses.

The Library year, of course, ended spectacularly: announced on 26 September 2023, the acceptance of a major donation of £30 million from Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones KBE sets an exciting course for the Library's future. The Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones Library will see a new, completely accessible modern library built in College and will provide



the opportunity to improve the type and variety of study space which we offer our students. We thank Sir Lindsay for this astonishing gift, which will be of enormous benefit to our students and the whole Worcester community.

*An image from the digitization project: John Webb, Design for a mausoleum (H&T 107)*

**Mark Bainbridge**  
Fellow Librarian

# The College Archives Report

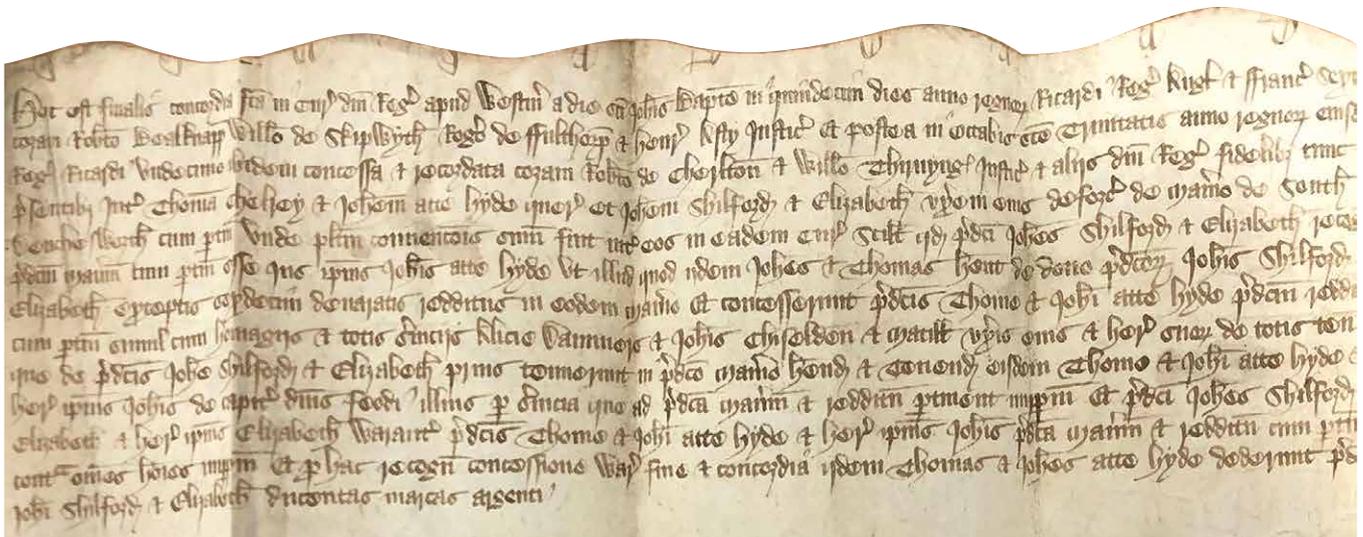
**The oldest item in the College Archives turned 640 years old on 14 August 2023. It therefore predates the foundation of Worcester by 331 years, and was already 375 when it entered the College in 1758, as part of a parcel of deeds for a property in Denchworth, Oxfordshire. Written on parchment, the item is in excellent condition and, with a bit of training in medieval Latin and handwriting, remains legible.**

By contrast, more modern records can be difficult or impossible to read after only a few years, because they exist solely in electronic formats. While a parchment deed can survive for hundreds of years kept dry and dark, electronic records are vulnerable to a range of different threats, including bit rot and technological obsolescence, that can render them inaccessible in less than a decade. Current College records are now kept almost entirely in electronic form, and new strategies for their preservation are therefore required. As reported in the *Record* in 2020, we are using the DigiSafe Repository (co-ordinated by the University), which provides us with a secure digital place to

store electronic records where many preservation tasks are automatically undertaken. However, the shorter lifespan of electronic records requires more work by the Archivist, in collaboration with the administration and IT, to make sure that the records are created and stored appropriately in order to be available for transfer to the DigiSafe at the end of their period of use.

In the past academic year, I have therefore conducted records surveys with departments, raising awareness of the additional challenges of electronic records and encouraging the early transfer of records to the Archives to ensure

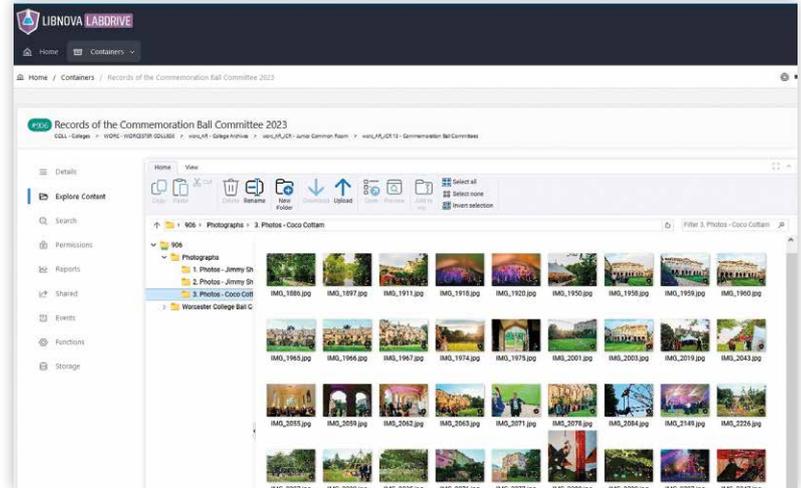
*Final concord for conveying property in Denchworth, Oxfordshire, 14 August 1383*



their survival. This is particularly important with committee papers, which are now only circulated electronically for sustainability reasons. The importance of this proactive work is highlighted by the gaps that exist in the administrative records of the late 1990s and early 2000s. Discoveries of floppy disks in cupboards and attics indicate that some of the missing records may have been kept on external media, and these can be transferred into DigiSafe, but sadly there will always be gaps where things have not survived and I am determined to prevent this happening in the future.

The DigiSafe Repository is also now being used to house electronic items given to the College Archives by alumni and current students. In this academic year I have received electronic copies of a memoir of an Old Member, photographs of the proclamation of King Charles III at Carfax in September 2022, and a large collection of administrative records and photographs from the 2023 Commemoration Ball Committee. All of these will be kept permanently in the DigiSafe Repository, following best practice for the arrangement and preservation of electronic records.

Gaps in the archival record sadly exist in the paper records too, particularly for student activities as the College did not preserve these more ephemeral records. Trying to find relevant items to display at the recent Gaudy for those who matriculated in 1983, 1984 and 1985 exposed the real dearth of material from the late 1970s onwards. In the end we were rescued by an appeal to these year groups for additional material and, with the help of several generous Old Members, were able to put on a creditable display. Many of the documents and photographs have now been donated to the Archives permanently, along with other collections from



alumni or family members throughout the year, and we are very grateful to all those who have given items. A list of donors to the Archives appears on page 74. If you would like to donate items that illustrate your time at the College and fill some of the remaining gaps, please do get in touch at [archives@worc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:archives@worc.ox.ac.uk).

*Photographs of the 2023 Commemoration Ball, stored in the DigiSafe Repository*

To try to prevent gaps in the future, I have made an effort this past year to raise the profile of the College Archives among the student body. I held an exhibition in Michaelmas Term 2022 to welcome new students, and gave a talk and tour to several groups, including the newly established College History Society. This has already led to the donation of three small collections from alumni who graduated in 2022, in addition to the transfer of records from the Ball Committee mentioned above. I hope that in future there will be an almost seamless acquisition of records relating to students and staff of the College, and less need to 'mind the gap'.

**Emma Goodrum**  
*College Archivist*



## JCR Report

**After the brilliant work of last year's committee, the focus of the JCR this year was to further restore and improve the student experience at Worcester. With a large staff turnover following the pandemic, another key focus of this year was to build intra-college relationships between the JCR, MCR, SCR and other members of the College.**

“Sporting triumphs were not rare this year with some of Worcester’s best performances in college sport, notably rowing, football and rugby, in which members from across all common rooms and staff participated.”

Michaelmas Term kicked off with a tremendous Freshers’ Week with events, workshops and activities welcoming a new cohort of students to Worcester. They quickly integrated into student life, getting involved with the welfare T@3s, BOPs, the pub quiz and many other beloved JCR events. This year came with a particular sense of anticipation with the Worcester Commemoration Ball right around the corner. Ball President, Nitheesh Velayan (2021, Economics and Management), and the incredible Ball Committee raised our excitement with the Ball’s launch event hosted at Freud on Walton Street. The approach of the holiday season saw a return of the Oxmas charity raffle, organized by the JCR Charities Rep, Ellie Lei Walker (2021, English Language and Literature). With students winning prizes ranging from Ball tickets across Oxford to acapella serenades, almost £900 was raised for Women for Women, YoungMinds and Homelessness Oxfordshire.

Hilary Term saw a refresh of the College’s committee structure, facilitating important discussions with students about equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI), sustainability, finance and welfare. Although the system was still new, the JCR Committee welcomed the increased communication with other members of the College and saw many positives in a reinforced student voice. The improved collaboration within

the College extended itself to revelling in the events and achievements coming from people in College through the revamped Worcester Newsletter developed by Nathan Stazicker, Worcester’s Communications Manager.

An event the JCR wanted to share the success of was the College Varsity Sports Day, organised by JCR Sports Rep, Eva Ponting (2021, History), where we welcomed our sister college, St Catharine’s College, Cambridge for a day of sporting competitions. Other sporting triumphs were not rare this year with some of Worcester’s best performances in college sport, notably rowing, football and rugby, in which members from across all common rooms and staff participated. Hilary Term also brought the return of the JCR Ceilidh in the Hall made possibly by Aria Nikpay (2021, Earth Sciences) and the Entz Committee. As the first event in Hall since the pandemic, this was a major sign for students that College life had nearly been restored.

Although exams loomed for many, Trinity Term brought the sunshine and the opportunity to make the most of the fantastic grounds we are blessed with. The JCR Garden Party was as popular as ever with the Entz team pulling out all the stops to put on a great afternoon. JCR Arts Rep, Jacob Byfield’s (2022, Modern Languages) ‘Worc in the Park’, an art-filled garden party on the Nuffield

Lawn went down a treat, showcasing the artistic talent of those within Worcester. And of course, the cherry on top was the Commemoration Ball, a fantastic night of food, drink and music, making the most of all Worcester has to offer. A highlight of the term for me was the release of the JCR's new Alternative Prospectus, worked on and designed by JCR Access and Admissions Rep, Andrea Neville (2021, Ancient & Modern History) and JCR Class Act Rep, Leah Carvell (2021, Geography), which brilliantly highlights a fresh post-pandemic Worcester College.

I must thank the incredible committee I had the pleasure of working with this year, as well as all the members of College who worked with us on effective and long-lasting initiatives to improve life for everyone here at Worcester. I am delighted to be handing over the role of JCR President to Abigail Edu (2022, Fine Art) and I wish her and her committee the best of luck in continuing to strengthen the communication within College and pushing for positive change to College life.

**Sam Millington (2021, Physics)**

*JCR President 2022-2023*

*Chill-out area during the Ball  
© Coco Cottam (@cocospix)*





# MCR Report

**As 2023 comes to an end, the MCR looks back at a year in which we fully recovered from the pandemic, and after which the graduate community at Worcester stands as strong as ever.**

“This year has seen the College demonstrate a sincere commitment to its core values of inclusion and diversity.”

This year has seen the College demonstrate a sincere commitment to its core values of inclusion and diversity. This has been evident through numerous initiatives, including the Provost’s Diversity Role Models series and the piloting of a new free speech framework in College. Graduate students at Worcester come from all around the world, bringing with them different ideas and perspectives. I am therefore pleased to see College fostering a community where diverse perspectives are welcomed and valued.

In 2022-23, the MCR has benefited from close collaboration with the rest of College. A notable example of this was this year’s MCR Garden Party, where the MCR committee, in collaboration with the Conference and Catering teams, successfully entertained over 200 members of College and their guests in the Provost’s Garden. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a special thanks to the wonderful people who have kept us well-fed (and hydrated!) throughout the year.

Over the last year, I and other MCR members have had the profound pleasure of meeting Old

Members and donors at various events in College. Learning about life at Worcester throughout the years and witnessing the sincere commitment many Old Members feel towards our College community has been a truly inspirational experience. The MCR is immensely grateful for your contributions to College. 2023 also marked the year when Worcester received its largest-ever single donation, which, among other things, will go towards new accommodation for graduate students and even better library facilities in College. Undoubtedly, this will significantly enhance the experience of future graduate students at Worcester. On behalf of the MCR, I extend my most heartfelt thanks to Sir Lindsay Owen-Jones KBE for his incredible generosity.

As my tenure now comes to an end, I am pleased to see the new MCR President, Rebecca Garnett, and the new MCR Committee take over. The MCR is very fortunate to have you. I wish you the best of luck!

**Morten Thomsen (2021, DPhil Sociology)**  
*MCR President 2022-2023*



Photo © Faryal Ashfaq



# Ball Committee Report

**Commemoration Balls are a peculiar Oxford tradition: 12-hour, all-inclusive, triennial festivals of food, drink and entertainment. At Worcester, this event welcomes around 1,400 people of all ages and dates back to the 1800s. Strangest of all is how student-led the planning of these occasions are. I often wonder why Oxbridge has a tradition of allowing – let’s be honest – children to manage so much money and an event with such reputational and historical significance for the College.**

“Though being a Commemoration Ball President is certainly very challenging, it is immensely rewarding. I have learned a lot, met some amazing people and gained a greater appreciation of College.”

So, it goes without saying, that being a member of the Ball Committee in any capacity is a large time commitment and a significant responsibility to balance alongside an Oxford degree. Therefore, I must begin by thanking my committee. The Ball was the culmination of more than a year of their hard work and I am eternally grateful for them for bringing the event to life. My thanks also extend to the College staff, particularly the domestic team led by the Home Bursar, Harmohinder Bahl, and the Gardens & Grounds team led by Simon Bagnall.

The pressure of getting it right weighed on all of us throughout planning. For many, the Ball would be a celebration of exams, their final night at Worcester, or a nostalgic reminder of their time here. It would also be an important point of interaction with potential donors, who are of course crucial in sustaining the educational experience of my peers. Moreover, anticipation was sky-high since the 2020 Ball had been cancelled due to Covid-19. But, on Friday 23 June, it was an immense pleasure to finally welcome Worcester students, staff, alumni and their guests to the ‘Garden of Light’, the theme we had chosen as a committee.

The Ball commenced at 6pm when the first guests arrived and were greeted with a drinks reception

and string quartet in the cloisters. Guests could then go on to get a broad range of food and drink and enjoy the live music and fairground rides on the Nuffield Lawn. As the sun set late in the evening, the lights we had spent so long setting up came into view. Main Quad and the lake were illuminated in a sea of pink and green, while the lights of the Ferris wheel framed the main stage on Nuffield Lawn. But the best display of lights would come shortly before 11pm, when most of the committee would take a pause from their duties to view the fireworks together from Main Quad. It was a great moment to take in all that we had accomplished.

Then it was the time for the headliner. People often ask me if I had time to enjoy the Ball myself – this was when I distinctly remember being able to do so. My flatmates and I went on the Ferris wheel together before one of them hoisted me onto their shoulders during Jungle’s performance. At midnight we needed to start winding down our live outdoor music. By this point the committee had speedily cleared away the dining marquee to make room for a ceilidh and later a ‘silent disco’. In these early hours of the morning, you could see more guests in the chill-out area we had made in the orchard, lazing on beanbags and playing Connect Four or Jenga.

Photos: above © Coco Cottam; opposite © Jimmy Shixin and Nick Whitley



Meanwhile, I was concerned (though delighted!) about the number of guests still with us because it was becoming clear that we couldn't take the traditional survivor's photo in the Provost's Garden as planned. After an emergency brainstorming session with our photographer, we decided to take our survivors' photo from a stepladder on the main stage on the Nuffield Lawn. As guests departed at 6am, the committee took their own survivor's photo on the hallowed Main Quad lawn.

I was relieved and proud we had pulled it all off, but also desperate to go to bed – at this point I had been awake for over 25 hours. Unfortunately for the committee, work doesn't end with the Ball. Most of us were awake again in a few hours to clear up the site, move excess stock and tie-up administrative and financial loose ends. Though being a Commemoration Ball President is certainly

very challenging, it is immensely rewarding. I have learned a lot, met some amazing people and gained a greater appreciation of College. It was an honour to hold the role for Worcester this year. The committee and I are looking forward to attending the next Worcester Ball in 2026 – hopefully in a far less stressed manner! We hope to see some of you there.

**Nitheesh Velayan**

*(2021, Economics and Management), 2023 Worcester Commemoration Ball President*

“As the incoming Home Bursar, I had a great time collaborating with the 2023 Ball Committee to organise a fantastic event for the Worcester College community.

I'm a little envious that they will get to fully enjoy the 2026 ball whilst I rack up my step count!”

**Harmohinder Bahl,**  
**Home Bursar**

# Obituaries

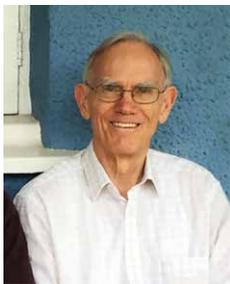
## **Michael Barnard (1970)**

Mike won an Exhibition to read Chemistry at Worcester under Danby and Gill in 1970. He introduced many in College to the music of the time (The Who, The Doors) – sometimes unsolicited. He excelled at most sports and was a mainstay of the College hockey and cricket teams, indeed his forward defensive stroke was classical, if rarely troubling the scorer. His main sport was golf however, representing the University in the 1974 Varsity match at Ganton where he was undefeated, albeit in a losing cause. Having taken early retirement, he spent his time golfing and gardening as well as appearing as an expert witness highlighting the objections to wind farms.

## ***Anthony Brierley (1970)***

I particularly remember Mike as a great companion and friend when we shared a house in Summertown, Oxford in the third year at university. I remember us talking a lot, laughing a lot, sharing experiences. We kept in touch until the early 1980s when we were both starting families but lost contact thereafter. I have a vivid memory of the day we went to a party at his home in Suffolk being welcomed there warmly and generously by Mike and his dad. I will always remember Mike as a lovely, kind, clever and thoughtful young man.

## ***Mike Churchman (1970)***



## **Peter John Barrett (1955)**

Peter John Barrett passed away on 28 June 2022 while briefly hospitalised in his home town of

Durban, South Africa. Predeceased by his wife Ann, he is survived by two daughters, Sue and Jenny, two granddaughters, Leonie and Keira, and sadly missed by them, by his three younger siblings, and by nine nephews and nieces.

Peter was born on 1 January 1934 in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and raised in Plumtree, Southern Rhodesia, where his parents were school teachers. From age 11 he attended Plumtree School, a highly acclaimed boarding school where he was an exceptional all-rounder. A fine scholar, he was also good at games – cricket, hockey, tennis and golf – and a good enough pianist to accompany a school Gilbert and Sullivan production. In 1950, his final year, he was captain of the Rhodesian Schools cricket team.

Canon Bryan Greene's mission to the University of Cape Town (UCT) in the early 1950s completely changed Peter's life. A strong influence too was the University's YMCA, at which he would later meet his future wife, Ann Tyrrell. In 1955, he entered Worcester College as a Rhodes Scholar. He aimed at a doctorate in physics, but, due to his background in electrical engineering and diverse interests, finished with a BA. In 1962, however, he returned to England from lecturing in physics at UCT to complete a doctorate in experimental physics at Imperial College London and work on plasma physics, first at Culham Laboratory and then at UCLA. In 1972, he embarked on a successful career at the University of Natal (now Kwazulu-Natal, UKZN). Sabbaticals included two years at Princeton, three months in Alaska and a spell in Japan.

All this time, Peter's Christian faith governed his life. This showed in his interest in people, wide circle of friends, and unwavering kind and gentle behaviour. On retiring from UKZN's Physics Department at the age of 60, he continued with research, now in science and theology, related to the work of John Polkinghorne. Into his eighties, his research papers funded annual trips to conferences in England, where typically he spent a week or two at St John's College, Oxford and at Gladstone's Library near Chester. In recent years, Peter was increasingly frail and unable to travel, his last two and a half years spent in Caister Lodge, an attractive retirement complex in Durban. To the end his mind was still sharp and his concern for others still strong.

#### **Richard Barrett (1961)**

#### **Simon Brown, The Rt Hon The Lord Brown of Eaton-Under-Heywood (1957)**

A giant of the legal world, Lord Brown was an Honorary Fellow of Worcester who offered decades of wise counsel and commitment to the College – always with warmth and an insatiable sense of humour. His obituary follows, abridged from *The Guardian*.

Centuries of common law precedents were overturned by Simon Brown in 1990 when, as a high court judge, he ruled that a husband could be found guilty of raping his wife. His decision that “there is no marital exemption to the law of rape” was upheld by the higher courts and confirmed in the Sexual Offences Act 2003. Until then, the 250-year-old principle that a husband cannot be guilty of raping his wife “on account of the matrimonial consent which she has given, and which she cannot retract” was accepted in the courts.

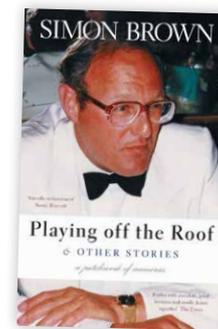
Brown, who died aged 86 of cancer, later told the House of Lords: “I have few boasts to my name by way of legal achievement, few jewels in my judicial crown, but I can... boast of being the first judge in this jurisdiction... to rule that a husband is not permitted in law to have intercourse with his wife quite simply whenever he chooses.”

Renowned for his finely written judgments and entertaining memoirs, Brown, who went on to become a supreme court justice, was liberal in his sympathies, and also made a lasting impact on immigration law. In a 1996 judgment he struck down secondary government legislation that deprived asylum seekers of support if they failed to claim asylum on arrival.

Brown concluded that: “Parliament cannot have intended a significant number of genuine asylum seekers to be impaled on the horns of so intolerable a dilemma: the need either to abandon their claims to refugee status or alternatively to maintain them as best they can but in a state of utter destitution.”

Three years later, in another landmark ruling, he held that refugees do not have to claim asylum in the countries through which they pass to reach safety in order to be protected from prosecution, saying that “some element of choice” should be open to them.

Born in Sheffield, Simon was the son of middle-class Jewish parents, Edna (née Abrahams) and Denis Brown, who ran their own jewellery business. On leaving Stowe School in Buckinghamshire, he undertook national service in the Royal Artillery, where his military exploits included driving his car off the road after a pub crawl before returning to barracks to drink champagne. “Many a driver, 30 years later, I was to sentence to lengthy prison terms for



less,” he remarked in his memoirs. Having been commissioned as a second lieutenant, he was sent to suppress disturbances in Cyprus.

At Worcester College, Oxford, he initially read History before switching to Law. During holidays he variously hitchhiked to Naples, worked as a tour guide for wealthy Americans and swam the Bosphorus.

He was called to the bar in 1961 and shared rooms with Sir William Macpherson. As a young barrister he appeared in civil and criminal cases. In 1979, Brown was appointed as Treasury Devil – the lawyer who represents government departments in civil courts. Five years later he became a high court judge and in 1992 moved up to the court of appeal.

He became a Law Lord in 2004 and a Supreme Court Justice, when the new court was created, in 2009. Brown retired in 2012 but remained an active crossbench peer in the House of Lords as Lord Brown of Eaton-Under-Heywood. There he called for an end to the imprisonment for public protection regime that left inmates stranded on indefinite sentences, labelling it “the greatest single stain on our criminal justice system”.

His two memoirs, *Playing Off the Roof and Other Stories* (2020) and *Second Helpings* (2023), were written on a mobile phone, revealing his love of golf, gossip, and good company. His anecdotes, often told against himself, included tales of judges falling asleep in hot, airless courts, and of the time his own father came to watch him but ended up snoring on the public benches.

Last year Brown opposed the nationality and borders bill, the cornerstone of the government’s new plan for immigration, over non-compliance with international law, declaring: “There are not many

issues that it is worth going to the stake for, but surely the rule of law is one. I have spent 60 years of my life on it and do not propose to stop here.”

At Oxford he met Jennifer Buddicom, and they married in 1963. She survives him, as do their two sons, Ben (1988, Law) and Daniel, their daughter, Abigail, and five grandchildren.

### **Antony Champion (1948)**

Tony Champion was born on 7 February 1928 in Jerusalem, the youngest child of Reginald and Margaret Champion. His father was an officer in the administration of Mandatory Palestine, Trans Jordan and Iraq after the First World War, who rose to the position of Governor of Aden in 1943.

Tony attended Old Hall Prep school and Shrewsbury Public School, his holidays spent either with his family in the UK, if they were back, or with older relatives or friends. At one stage he even lived as an unruly teenage guest in the Provost’s Lodgings at Worcester College. It was during these years that he developed two of his great passions in life.

His love of choral singing developed in the choirs at his respective schools, culminating in being awarded a Choral Exhibition to Worcester College. He was still singing in the Grasmere Church Choir in 2020 at the age of 92.

He climbed his first Scottish mountain, Goat Fell, during a family holiday to the Isle of Arran in 1937. This started a love affair with the mountains that lasted for the whole of his life. Once he had finished school he climbed in North Wales, the Lake District and Scotland. His first of several visits to the Alps was in 1947 where he climbed the Matterhorn. His last climb with ropes was up Pillar Rock in the Lake District at the age of 80.

Tony left school in 1946 and during that autumn he went climbing on the Isle of Skye with his best friend. They had decided that they would join the army, aiming for the Argyle and Southern Highlanders because of the uniform. Tony failed his medical and never got into the army, his friend passed the medical and was killed in Korea. In fact, Tony took a job as a junior master at a prep school in 1946.

There was still the place at Worcester College to study English; the Choral Exhibition that he had been awarded while he was at Shrewsbury School. Tony finally took this up in October 1948. However, after two years teaching, he found it hard to start studying again and focused on rowing. He rowed bow for the College and in his second year was president of the College Boat Club. He was selected for trials for the Oxford University Blue Boat, his great ambition. But in the spring of 1950, he was told that he was dropped because he would have been one of the lightest oarsmen ever in the history of the Boat Race. Tony weighed only ten stone at the time. He then asked if he could be the cox, only to be told that would make him the heaviest cox in boat race history. With any chance of the Boat Race gone, and with little interest in his studies, Dad wrote to the Provost saying that he was leaving.

He returned to what became a lifetime as a prep school master; ultimately as Headmaster of Dorset House School in West Sussex. During those years, he taught Michael Fish, James Hunt, Peter Cook, Christopher Martin Jenkins and Harry Enfield amongst many other fondly remembered young people. He finally retired from teaching in July 1993.

He was married to June, who he met when she was a young matron from one of the schools, for

53 years. They had three children: Tim, Ian and Suzanne. Tim studied at Worcester College in the late 1970s.

Finally, he retired to the Lake District to walk the hills, to sing in choirs, to be a committed member of his church and where he became a governor at Langdale School, and Chair of Governors at Ambleside School. He preached to both children and to adults and took special pleasure in taking assemblies in several primary schools. At Langdale School he presented assemblies every Tuesday morning for 26 years, keeping a record of all 820 of them.

Tony Champion died peacefully in his sleep on 6 November 2022.

*Written by his son Tim Champion*

### **Thomas Harvey Collingridge (1954)**

Tom Collingridge, who has died aged 87, served as General Secretary of the British College of Ophthalmic Opticians from November 1980 until May 1992. During this time, the College established itself as the sole qualifying association for optometry in the United Kingdom. It is an historical quirk that all Foundation Fellow certificates, dated 1 March 1980, bear his signature, but that is because they were not in fact issued until 1981. Although appointed to a new role, combining the transitional posts of Administrative and Academic Secretaries, he served for the first two years in parallel with one of his predecessors, Peter Smith, who remained as Secretary of the British Optical Association until the organisation was formally wound up in 1982.

An Oxford history graduate, Mr Collingridge undertook military service in the Parachute



Regiment and was a District Officer in the British Protectorate of Tanganyika for four years before its independence in 1961. Subsequently he worked for a regulatory body, the General Dental Council, before switching to serve the optometry profession. On retirement from the College, he became the first Secretary of the Optical Consumer Complaints Service (OCCS), overseeing its formal launch in January 1993 but stepping down, as planned, after one year. During this year the OCCS was housed at the General Optical Council, although it would subsequently share premises with the AOP. Also in January 1993, he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the College. He retired to Alderney in the Channel Islands where he suffered a serious stroke in 2015, from which he had recovered fairly well, albeit with some frustrating continuing restrictions to his powers of speech. In April 2021 he was diagnosed with cancer but continued to live relatively independently until close to the end.

*Written by The College of Optometrists*

### **James Guthrie (1968)**

James Guthrie KC, friend, colleague and one of the finest advocates of his generation, died on 26 December 2022.

James was called to the Bar in 1975 and joined 3 Hare Court Chambers (then at 1 Crown Office Row) the following year. He took silk in 1993, and later served as Head of Chambers for two terms, spanning nine years. He was a Bencher of Inner Temple and sat as a Recorder until 2021.

Over a long and distinguished career, James practised both in criminal and civil work. It was not long, however, before he developed a specialist practice in the Privy Council,

undertaking appeals across the full spectrum of the Judicial Committee's jurisdiction, with particular expertise in criminal, constitutional and public law cases.

Such was James's ability as an appellate advocate that his name became indelibly associated with the work of the Privy Council. He appeared in hundreds of petitions and appeals, including many landmark cases, instructed by governments, corporations and individuals. There was little he did not know about the work of the Privy Council or the courts of the various jurisdictions from which its work came.

Perhaps uniquely, James was also admitted to the Bars of the Turks and Caicos Islands, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, St Christopher and Nevis, Grenada, Bermuda, Belize, Antigua and Barbuda, and The Bahamas, and he appeared in the Caribbean Court of Justice and in the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal of Mauritius. He loved appearing in the courts of the various countries from which the Privy Council work came, embraced their different cultures and ways of life, and made many friends overseas.

It was one of James's particular gifts that he wore lightly the burdens of the important work he did; and his easy manner and understated charm, combined with common sense and impeccable judgment, made him the most persuasive of advocates, admired and respected by solicitors, opponents and judges alike. Whether in court, in a Chambers' meeting or privately, he knew what to say – always with a light touch and often with considerable humour.

James's contribution to Chambers and the wider profession was enormous. As a practitioner and



Bencher of his Inn he gave selflessly of his time to assist young people aspiring to a career at the Bar. He was one of the architects of PACH, the precursor of the current Pupillage Gateway, and was himself a pupil supervisor for many years, including to Lord Justice Dingemans and other current members of 3 Hare Court. He also took a particular interest in the work of the *Death Penalty Project*, a legal action NGO which works to protect the human rights of those facing the death penalty, of which he became a trustee in 2005.

James was so successful at the Bar that, if you did not know him, you could be forgiven for assuming that he lived for the law. In truth, however, whilst he cared passionately about the law and gave so much to it, he was a renaissance man, with many and diverse talents and interests and with time for everyone; but, above all, he was devoted to his family, to whom we send our heart-felt condolences.

We will all miss James enormously as a friend, colleague and mentor – his bonhomie, sense of humour, wisdom and endless charm.

***Written by 3 Hare Court Chambers***

### **Michael Hodgetts (1954)**

Priest-holes – those small spaces in old English houses which sheltered mission priests in the dangerous days of the Elizabethan persecutions – have always occupied a place in the imagination of the history of the Catholic Church in England, for many a priest was dragged from them to torture, trial and Tyburn for his part in keeping the faith alive in desperate times. Michael Hodgetts's unrivalled expertise on this aspect of English Catholicism turned a softly-spoken schoolmaster into one of the leading recusant historians of his generation.

The eldest of four children, Michael was born on 29 March 1936; he grew up as an altar boy at the Redemptorist parish of Erdington Abbey to the north-east of Birmingham city centre. He might well have followed a different path, for after attending King Edward's School and Worcester College, Oxford, he went to the Venerable English College in Rome. He left a few years later, however, and returned to Birmingham and a teaching career. He and his wife, Barbara, were married in 1969.

During many years as Head of Religious Education at St Thomas More School in Willenhall, Michael also served on ICEL – the International Commission for English in the Liturgy. There he helped produce a universal English translation of the liturgy for the use of Catholics across the Anglosphere; the vernacular text of the Good Friday hymn *Crux Fidelis* is his own translation. On retirement he threw himself wholeheartedly into the historical research that would dominate the rest of his life.

Michael's remarkable ability to sniff out architectural quirks that had remained hidden for centuries led to *Secret Hiding Places*, which Veritas brought out in 1989. Many more books, chapters and articles followed, and his last work – the second half of a consideration of the experiences of the recusant community at Little Malvern Court – was published posthumously in 2023. His expertise, however, was far more than just paper-based, and in 1984 Archbishop Maurice Couve de Murville appointed Michael to the managing committee of Harvington Hall.

The great recusant house at Harvington, in Worcestershire, has particular associations with St John Wall, St Nicholas Owen, Bl Edward Oldcorne and Bl Arthur Bell, all of whom are known to have



worked in the area. Over 40 years Michael played a major part in nurturing the property, along with its several priest-holes, back to health and stability. In the course of the work he realised that he was looking at only half of the original building, and renewed his research apace.

Never one to shirk the burden of the importance of preserving and sharing historical knowledge – particularly when it came to that of the Church's darkest hours in England – Michael sat for years on the Archdiocese of Birmingham's historical commission, and became chairman of the Midland Catholic History Society when its two predecessors (those of Worcestershire and Staffordshire respectively) prudently merged.

He was editor of *Midland Catholic History*, and on the international scene also edited *Recusant History*, the journal of the Catholic Record Society (since rebranded as *British Catholic History*). Michael also edited the CRS's important volumes series and was chairman of its trustees; he later accepted a vice-presidency in recognition of his work. Meanwhile, he taught ecclesiastical history and philosophy at the Maryvale Institute from its inception; he was made a Reader there in 2002 and later an Honorary Fellow.

Michael was an old-fashioned polymath who was already so widely read by the time he went up to Oxford that his peers frequently mistook him for an English literature student or an historian – when in fact he read for Greats, i.e. Classics. Not without mischief, his prose might often be peppered with references ranging as widely from Aristotle to AA Milne. He was an accomplished musician, too, and served as director of music at St Nicholas's, Boldmere, his local parish church in Sutton Coldfield.

He also wrote hymns – part of his hymn to the English Martyrs appears at the end of this obituary – and sang with the Newman Singers, sometimes directing them in concerts at St Chad's Cathedral, where he also worshipped regularly. Away from his work on recusancy, Michael wrote and edited a series of booklets about places and people who had been particularly significant in the history of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, in which he had been born, lived, taught and raised a family, and to which he was devoted.

In 1990 John Paul II made Michael a Knight of St Gregory the Great; he was the archdiocese's senior knight in the order when he died on 12 December 2022 at the age of 86. At the time of his death a *festschrift* was being prepared in his honour by a distinguished group of friends and admirers; it is expected to appear in 2023. Michael is survived by his wife, Barbara, their children Paul, Anne, Elizabeth and Rachel, and their 11 grandchildren. May the Martyrs of Harvington now pray for his happy repose.

*For what was hidden is revealed:  
the pear-tree is in flower,  
And charity has won the field  
of Tyburn and the Tower.*

**Adapted from The Catholic Herald**

### **Ronnie L Howard (1956)**

Ronnie was born in September 1935, the eldest son of Frank and Iris Howard in Ealing, West London. He was soon joined by his younger sister, Zona, and then a younger brother, Colin. At the start of the Second World War they were evacuated to Henley-on-Thames. Holidays were taken on the Isle of Wight and Ronnie discovered he loved pottering around boats. Then school at

Shrewsbury and he was given a choice of playing football and cricket or going rowing and there was only going to be one winner, he started his career as a 'wet bob'. He was selected for the school first VIII for an unprecedented three years and competed in events around the country.

National Service then took him to Germany. The idea of rowing for the army seemed more interesting to Ronnie so he started the British Army of the Rhine Rowing Club and proceeded to 'row' his way through his National Service.

Oxford University and Worcester College followed and a degree in Geology. Once again, he was drawn to the river: he rowed in the Boat Race in 1957, losing by two lengths to Cambridge. This spurred him on and he became President of the Oxford University Boat Club in 1958 but ended up rowing in the second crew, Isis. The following year he was in the Dark Blue boat and, as President, quashed a mutiny, where a number of Americans wanted to oust him and select their own crew. Ronnie had a very clear view of rules and acceptable behaviour – the mutiny was crushed when the President of Cambridge would only communicate with Ronnie, the 1959 Boat Race was then won by Oxford by six lengths in a time of 18 minutes and 52 seconds, their fastest time since 1911 and largest margin since 1912.

In 1960, Ronnie spent the year completing his degree at Oxford and was not allowed to competitively row for the University as the previous year's shenanigans had taken their toll on his academic studies. Ronnie didn't like the idea of not being on the water, so adopted his mother's maiden name and put together a crew called Cherwell and rowed as Ronnie Brandon. The Oxford crew won the Boat Race for the second year running and was selected as the

Olympic VIII to go to Rome. Ronnie completed the Olympic trials and was selected as a reserve in the Olympic Squad, though unfortunately he never got to compete.

His career at Radley College started the same year, immediately taking an interest in coaching rowing as well as teaching Geography, Geology and Maths. He was drawn to the Boat Club and over the next ten years transformed it. A boathouse and new launched were built, new pontoons on the river, a new boatman to maintain everything, and new trailers to transport the new eights. He exuded an energy and drive to excel, and a calm, resolute determination that if you want to get something done you can. During the 1960s he coached a plethora of Oxford University and Radley College crews with many of them going on to victories at Henley Royal Regatta and to represent Great Britain. All of them benefitted from Ronnie's perspective and life lessons. There are no short cuts to bypass dedication and hard work. Many junior oarsmen will remember his wise words when heading out to compete – 'Row well, win!'

He was an integral part of the National Schools Regatta which was held along a stretch of the Thames at Pangbourne. This venue lasted until 1973 and Ronnie was then involved in moving the National Schools Regatta to Holme Pierrepont and the newly built National Watersports Centre. In the mid-60s he met Margaret, who taught with his sister Zona, and was married shortly after and two children followed, Anna in 1970 and John in 1971.

In 1973, he was selected to umpire the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race. In the odd years Oxford put forward three possible umpires and Cambridge would select one of them, in the even years it is vice versa. Ronnie umpired the Boat Race in 1973,



1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, and 1989 – a total of seven times which was a testament to his character. He would always get nervous before the event as it grew a wider and wider TV audience; if there was ever a football match where the players were accosting the referee, he could be heard mumbling about the referees decision being final and how it should not be allowed.

Ronnie moved to St Mawes, Cornwall, in 1988 after Margaret's untimely death and his retirement from Radley. He threw himself into the newly formed Roseland Gig Club (Cornish coastal rowing). He immediately started applying his coaching techniques to the traditional rowers and became one of the first chairman of the club. Steve Redgrave, who at that time was a double Olympic gold medallist, was persuaded to make the trip down to Cornwall to launch the Rhos, the second Gig in the club, and then at the 150th anniversary of Henley Royal Regatta he organised a trip for a number of Gigs to have a demonstration race down the course.

Ronnie became heavily involved in the local sailing club as well, St Mawes Sailing Club, where he was involved in racing and cruising for many years. Ronnie passed away peacefully in February 2020.

### **John Howard**



### **Paul Hyams (1960)**

My husband, Paul Hyams, who has died aged 82, was a lecturer in medieval history who wrote extensively on his subject, including two books on medieval England. He started his career at Oxford University and ended it at Cornell University in the US.

Born in Leeds, to Henry, a solicitor, and Rachel (née Hauser), an advocate for youth organisations, he went to Bootham School in York and then to Worcester College, Oxford, where he studied History. Graduating with a first, he embarked on postgraduate work, holding the Scurry Jones research fellowship at Jesus College on the way to a doctorate in 1968. The following year he became a fellow at Pembroke College, Oxford, where he spent 20 fulfilling years as a tutor in medieval history.

Paul and I married in 1975, having met at a legal history conference in Wales three years earlier. In 1989 we moved to the US, where Paul taught history at Cornell University. There he experimented with some innovative teaching methods, posting source material online for his students from the early 1990s onwards and asking them to create their own 'glosses' (explanatory notes or comments in the margin) on medieval legal texts.

He was always generous with his time to any students who sought his advice, guiding them with great care through dissertation research and writing. He was a proud Jew and partly this level of attention came from the Jewish concept of 'tikkun olam', or 'repairing the world'.

Paul also wrote two books: *Kings, Lords and Peasants in Medieval England* (1980) and *Rancor and Reconciliation in Medieval England* (2003). He retired from Cornell in 2013, after which we returned to the UK to live in Oxford. He kept up his interest in history through membership of several professional associations, including the American Society for Legal History, the Jewish Historical Society and the Charles Homer Haskins Society. He was also a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Medieval Academy of America.

He is survived by me, our two children, Deborah and David, and his sister Catherine.

***Elaine Hyams, originally published in The Guardian***

### **Thomas (Ken) Johnson (1952)**

Born in 1932 near Romford in Essex, Thomas Johnson was the son of two East-Enders, Tom and Anne. They had made their way to rural Essex after a tough First World War, Tom having seen four years of action including an invalid period from serious injury. Thomas was the youngest of three siblings, adored by his father and often mothered by older sister Connie.

At Brentwood School he saw the Blitz from his dormitory, recalling an awful orange glow over the London his parents had left behind. Immediately after the War, he started at Charterhouse (1945-1950) where he would become Head Monitor of his house, Pageites.

Thomas completed National Service with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (1950-52), where he chose not to be an officer. He came up to Worcester College in 1952. It was in Oxford that he met Pam, fell in love and got married.

They spent seven very happy years in London, where Thomas – following in the footsteps of his father – built a career in timber. In 1965 they moved to the small village of Barns Green, West Sussex to set up a home and a farm, all the while continuing the business in London. The previous year Tom and Anne had moved to Patmans Farm, Coolham – a handy four miles down the road.

Thomas will be remembered as a very intelligent, avid reader. He was a prolific crossword-doer and almost-completer of *The Telegraph* cryptic

crossword in ten minutes. He spent his last six months at Pinewood Care Home where he continued to have fun, enjoy music, make people laugh and, in spite of his Alzheimer's, flirt with the ladies. In occasional flashes, he also maintained his exquisite observations of life and people, offering profound wisdom until the end.

He passed away peacefully on New Year's Eve 2022.

***Eulogy by Richard Johnson***

### **Peter Jones (1966)**

Peter was a Governing Body Fellow of Green College, Oxford from 1989 to 1999 then an Emeritus Fellow of first Green College, then, since 2008, of Green Templeton College.

Peter was first elected to the fellowship to coincide with his promotion to Deputy Registrar of the University of Oxford on 1 April 1989.

Having studied Classics at Worcester College, Peter served in progressively more senior administrative positions at the University of Lancaster, University of Oxford and University of Warwick before returning to Oxford as Assistant Registrar in 1980.

From 1984, he was Senior Assistant Registrar and Secretary of the Medical School, during which time he was introduced to Green College by Emeritus Fellow Clive Hahn.

He went on to take on the Acting Registrarship of the University following the retirement of Dr Bill Dorey and until the arrival of David Holmes as Registrar.

Peter is remembered for having a wide circle of friends. This rich social life was generated by the



intense gregariousness he shared with his late-twin-brother Paul, and Paul's late-wife Christine.

*Written by Green Templeton College, Oxford*



### Rod Kedward (1957)

Through his books *Resistance in Vichy France* (1978), *In Search of the Maquis* (1993) and *The French Resistance and its Legacy* (2022), the historian Rod Kedward transformed understanding of rural France under Nazi occupation during the second world war. His general history, *La Vie en Bleu: France and the French Since 1900* (2005), also attracted a wide readership and the conferences he organised in 1984 and 1994 at the University of Sussex on Resistance and Liberation in France turbo-charged the field.

Kedward's interest in 'history from below' – as experienced by ordinary individuals rather than governments or leaders – prompted his decision in the 1970s to work on the grassroots of resistance and conduct interviews with witnesses. It was a bold move. French colleagues warned of the possibility of fabrication and fantasy. Nonetheless he was determined to talk to witnesses from the time. This was not just to allow them to have their own voice, which he ensured by incorporating passages from interviews into his books, but also to use oral history to inform his approach to the archival evidence.

Previous historians of the period had tended to focus on urban resistance and to assume that rural areas adhered to the regime of the collaborationist Vichy government of Philippe Pétain and supported Pétainist policies that valued farming and a return to agriculture. Kedward's work showed that there was good evidence of a resistance culture in the countryside.

Drawing on 'carnival' theory from anthropology (which examines how established order can be turned upside down) – Kedward showed how the maquis (the bands of rural resisters) subverted the Vichy rule of law in the name of higher justice, to create an 'outlaw culture'. In *The French Resistance and Its Legacy*, for instance, he relates a 'test' in resistance technique that he had to undergo in 1972 before being allowed to interview the resister Louis de la Bardonnie: 'He made me steal a notice from the outside wall of a local police station before he would agree to talk, and then he made me put it back.'

Oral histories revealed a wide variety of motivations and levels of engagement in resistance depending on the resister's location, culture and individual experience. Kedward's research on southern France drew attention to tradition and folklore as sources of inspiration. Resisters in the Cévennes, for instance, linked their commitment to the 18th-century Camisard revolt against Louis XIV's repression of Protestants, while in the neighbouring department of the Aude, they were motivated by the Cathar heretics of the Middle Ages.

Kedward also highlighted how women used traditional gender roles to disguise their resistance activities. Their ruse to distribute clandestine publications or transport weapons in shopping bags and children's prams was so effective that they escaped notice both at the time and by historians subsequently. Observations of women's behaviour in interview led Kedward to discover how 'the women at the doorway' had acted to distract and mislead, covering for a husband or accomplice.

Born in Hawkhurst, Kent, Rod was the younger son of the Revd Neville Kedward, a Methodist minister,

and Nancy (née Judge), a drama teacher. He was educated at Kingswood School in Bath, and studied History at Worcester College, Oxford. As a postgraduate student at St Antony's College, he moved into French history and France became his preferred destination for holidays and sabbaticals. His love of France, its people and its provincial richness marks all his work.

In 1962, the historian Asa Briggs (Provost 1976-1991), Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sussex, invited Kedward to join what was the first of the new universities as lecturer in history. He thrived on the excitement of this new, 'plate-glass' interdisciplinary university just outside Brighton, which caught the momentum of the 60s. He frequently borrowed models from anthropology, sociology, literary and film studies in his research and his writing illuminates how history can benefit from this cross-fertilisation of disciplines. He remained at Sussex, promoted in 1991 to Professor of History, until his retirement in 2002.

Generous with his time, Kedward offered encouragement to generations of scholars. He was a charismatic and engaging speaker, whose students would applaud his lectures. Colleagues and former students became firm friends.

An active Labour Party member with anarchist sympathies, Kedward campaigned against repression of all kinds. In the early 70s, he wrote for the alternative newspaper Brighton Voice, about issues including squatting, anti-racism, individual rights and tenants' protests. In 1973-74, he participated in the Larzac farmers' battle against the extension of a military base in south-west France and supported the movement to recognise the Occitan language of southern France and its border region.

Unusually for a British historian of France, Kedward's work was translated and admired by the French. In 1994, *In Search of the Maquis* was awarded the Philippe Viannay Prize for an outstanding contribution to the history of resistance and, in 2011, he was made a *commandeur dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques* for services to French culture.

In 2014, Kedward realised his ambition to link the French resistance to other resistance organisations, such as the civil rights movement, the anti-apartheid movement and dissidence in communist eastern Europe, with the creation of the Archive of Resistance Testimony at Sussex University. This has taken on a particular relevance since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine. Kedward was also prominent in the Secret World War Two Learning Network, which commemorates British heroes of the Special Operations Executive.

Family was central to Kedward's life. In 1965, he married Carol Wimbleton, who survives him, along with their children, Josh and Jess, and grandchildren, Isabella, Niamh, Lucien and Rufus.

***Hanna Diamond, adapted from original published in The Guardian***

### **Mark Lanier (1980)**

The sudden death of Mark Lanier, aged 60, on 13 February 2019 came as a heart-breaking surprise to family and friends. Mark was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to Lloyd Addison and Melissa Emery Lanier, who predeceased him. He graduated from Cincinnati Country Day School, where he is remembered as a scholar and athlete, for being a loyal friend and for wearing the same skinny tie, day-in and day-out for six years.



He graduated magna cum laude from Williams College, earned a Master's in English Literature from Worcester College, Oxford and an MBA from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. He worked for T Rowe Price before business school and later worked at Grumman Hill, LLC for Richard D Irwin, whom he considered a mentor and then a long-time friend and co-investor. Mark formed and ran Pegasus Capital, a hedge fund that has invested successfully in small cap companies. Mark also served on the boards of Thos Emery's Sons, Inc. and Scinet Development & Holdings, Inc.

Mark was passionate about a few chosen volunteer activities. He loved his close friendships with and his leadership roles alongside generations of brothers and sisters of his Uncle Tony. He devoted hundreds of hours each year to his work with Clubhouse International whose Executive Director, Joel Corcoran, described Mark as 'an extraordinary advocate for people living with serious mental illness and a familiar face at Clubhouse programs on six continents.' While serving as Clubhouse International's Chairman, the organization received the Conrad N Hilton Humanitarian Award, the single largest humanitarian award in the world, given to a non-profit judged to have made significant contributions to alleviating human suffering. Mark's interest in residential programs for people with mental illness began with his service on the board of Laurel House, in Stamford, CT, and continued the rest of his life.

Mark's additional interests were so varied and esoteric that friends and family were caught in an awkward tension between wanting desperately to learn about his newest hobbies and, on the other hand, knowing that we would be thoroughly baffled, once we knew. Mark joined the American

Bonsai Society so that he could join them on a trip to Japan. He became very serious about the study of cheeses and would happily lecture the uninitiated. Long after his considerable weight reached a point where he no longer played active sports, Mark could be found walking rocky river beds throughout the US wearing blue jean overalls, and leaning on a sturdy walking stick, in search of Suiseki rocks, expressive stones deserving of appreciation. Although he travelled repeatedly to Scandinavia, his favourite city was Kyoto. Mark studied the accordion and guitar. He joyfully curated recorded music of many kinds for family and friends. He cooked thoughtfully and generously. He had exceptional gifts of relationship, which were appreciated by old friends and by people he had just met. He enjoyed the strict rigors of writing Haiku. Yet, at same time, splitting infinitives and ending sentences with prepositions were things he was okay with. Mark loved his children, family and friends.

He is survived by his children, Henry Anson Lanier, Spenser Cole Lanier, Lillian Avery Lanier and Samuel Elias Lanier, by his former wife Kirsten Olsen, by his siblings Addison Lanier II (Jamie), John Emery Lanier (Jane Garvey) and Melissa Lanier Murphy (Shenan), and by numerous nieces and nephews who love, enjoyed and will miss him.

*Adapted from The Boston Globe*

### **Hamish Dick (later Lawson) (1969)**

Hamish arrived at Worcester in October 1969. He was then Hamish Dick, the name change came many years later, when he decided to adopt the old family name of Lawson. His ancestors were known as the Lawson-Dicks. He died in December 2022; although he had, in recent times, experienced some health issues, his death was unexpected.

He was born (one of twins) in Chester in June 1951. After a period at boarding school in Shropshire he was educated at Fettes College, Edinburgh and often spoke of his Scottish ancestry. He read Law under Francis Reynolds and Brian Gould at a time when Worcester was fast becoming the leading college for jurisprudence. I doubt he would have described himself as the most assiduous of students, but late-night essays in the basement law library saw him through, and he achieved a good degree.

There was much more to life at Oxford; he was a competent tennis player, a regular in bridge fours and a bar-football devotee. I fear I cannot remember whether the fencing paraphernalia, that others recall his carrying up the stairs on his first arrival at his room in Worcester House, was regularly seen thereafter. Above all he socialised; he was the best of company, with or without a drink in his hand, and was always ready to lend an ear or a hand when called upon.

His love for the theatre (of which more later) was evident in his performances with the Buskins in *Doctor Faustus* and *The Dean's Daughters*.

After university and a period travelling through Europe he departed for a 'new start' (exemplified by his handing over at the airport gates a carrier bag replete with dirty laundry) in Brunei to work with VSO teaching English.

He returned to the serious business of the law joining the Manchester firm of Cobbetts (as they were to become after a series of mergers and name changes). He remained with them throughout his working career until his retirement in 2013. He quickly rose to become a senior partner specialising in licensing work mainly on behalf of the brewing industry. The legal

guidebooks of the time marked him out as a star performer in the North West. Licensing law in the 1980s/1990s was undergoing a time of real change with extended hours, a focus on dining and child-friendly facilities, and Hamish was at the forefront of propelling such modernisation.

However, the law was never his greatest passion. From the early 1980s he was a leading figure both with the Garrick Theatre, Stockport and the Cheadle Hulme Amateur Dramatics Society (CHADS). He served as Chairman/President of both the Garrick and CHADS, but it was as actor and director that he made his mark. He acted in over 80 plays, often in leading roles and directed more than 40 productions. At his funeral many such productions were spoken of with an emphasis on the variety of his work – from Shakespeare to Orton, Ayckbourn to Brecht.

It was at the Garrick that he met Diana; they married in 1982 and together worked tirelessly in the two theatres, both on and off stage, and organised a host of social and fundraising events. His love for (and ability in) croquet was a particular feature.

He and Diana celebrated 40 years of marriage in 2022; he is survived by her, their two daughters, Katherine and Emma, and two grandchildren, Dougie and Joey. Joey was born just a few weeks after his death. Hamish was the proudest of fathers and would have loved getting to know this new addition.

Another death in our small group makes you realise both how much friendships forged at College matter and how you should have worked harder to see those friends more frequently.

**Stuart Brown KC**



*Hamish in Waiting for Godot*



## Roger Mills (1956)

The documentary-maker Roger Mills, who died aged 86 after suffering from Parkinson's disease, accompanied the actor Michael Palin on his globe-trotting adventures for almost 20 years and helped to establish the template for celebrity travel series. Palin called his director, an Oxford classicist, 'the Professor'.

Viewers enjoyed the natural situations Palin found himself in, as he brought his humour, inquiring mind and sense of excitement to the places and challenges he experienced, as well as displaying the awkwardness of travellers confronted by new cultures and people. It began with *Around the World in 80 Days* (1989), which recreated the route of the fictional explorer Phileas Fogg in Jules Verne's nineteenth-century novel of the same name. The idea came from Clem Vallance, who went on to produce the series, for which he and Mills directed different episodes. Although Palin was Vallance's preferred choice as presenter from the start – having been impressed by a 1980 programme he made about a train journey from London to the Kyle of Lochalsh in Scotland – Will Wyatt, the BBC's head of features and documentaries, proposed the seasoned TV traveller Alan Whicker.

Mills had just spent months filming British expats in Australia for the 1988 *Whicker's World* series *Living With Waltzing Matilda*, but he and Vallance conspired to ensure Palin landed the job. At a lunch with Whicker, they decided to stress the discomforts and lack of five-star hotels, with Mills telling Whicker: 'You will have to share deck space with the crew between Oman and Bombay.' Mills recalled: 'He wrote a letter the next day to the effect that he thought the pace of the show would be such that he wouldn't have time to prepare his interviews.' Palin was confirmed as presenter and even consulted Whicker for

some travel tips. As he circumnavigated the globe by land and sea via Venice, Athens, Egypt, Dubai, India, Hong Kong, China and the US, before sailing across the Atlantic back to Britain, he dubbed Mills, Vallance and the rest of the film crew 'Passepartout', after Fogg's French manservant and constant companion.

Viewers and critics agreed on the wisdom of having Palin front a travel programme, and more followed – with Mills again directing. Two further series completed what became known as a trilogy: *Pole to Pole* (1992), from north to south pole via Scandinavia, Russia, Turkey, Greece, Cyprus and Africa, providing greater physical challenges, and *Full Circle* (1997), a logistically complicated, anti-clockwise, 50,000-mile journey round the Pacific Rim that started in the Bering Strait between Alaska and Russia. Mills also directed Palin's subsequent series, *Sahara* (2002), *Himalaya* (2004) and *New Europe* (2007), and was an executive producer of his 2012 Brazil adventure.

He admitted making Palin suffer in front of viewers. When they were both interviewed by the Independent in 2014, Mills told Palin: 'There's not a Turkish bath or hammam that you haven't been slapped or walloped in – or any medicinal mud that you haven't been smeared with.' But he never asked Palin to do anything he would not do himself.

Mills was also the editor of BBC Two's *40 Minutes* strand for its first four years (1981–85), overseeing a wide range of documentaries, encouraging young talent and winning Bafta's best factual series award twice.

He was born in Anerley, south London, to Aileen (née Rowe), a radio actor and dramatist, and Henry Mills, a history teacher. He attended Portsmouth Grammar School after his father

became head of the city's Southern Grammar School for Boys. Following national service in the Intelligence Corps, then at GCHQ, he studied Classics at Worcester College, Oxford, taught Latin and Greek at Felsted School, Essex, and then moved to Eastbourne College.

Mills joined BBC South in 1962 as a television news reporter and later moved to BBC West. Nationally, he produced and directed documentaries such as *The Mormon Invasion* (1967), about missionaries of the American church recruiting members in Britain, and *Expulsion* (1971), about drug-taking in schools.

In 1972, Mills became an executive producer of several ground-breaking fly-on-the wall series about institutions, including the Royal Navy in the award-winning *Sailor* (1976) and Radley College in *Public School* (1980). He regarded it as an achievement to get access to what he had seen as 'closed' institutions. He was also the first executive producer of the investigative-journalism series *Inside Story*, from 1974 to 1980.

As a director, Mills's other documentaries included *Return to Saigon* and *Return to Peking* (both 1988), with the reporter Anthony Grey, and *The Clintons: A Marriage of Power* (1998) on Channel 4, for whom he also produced the series *New Model Army* (2000), about the military's efforts to stamp out racism. His contribution to factual television was recognised with Bafta's 1981 Desmond Davis award.

Mills's marriage to Kathleen Hayward in 1962 ended in divorce. In 1989 he married Susie Mansell, and she survives him, along with their daughter, Hannah, the daughter of his first marriage, Sophie, and his granddaughter, Frances.

**Anthony Hayward, adapted from original published in The Guardian**

## David Longford Lewis Morgan (1958)

A true and humble gentleman who was a long-time servant of the game of rugby in Zimbabwe, David Longford Lewis Morgan died at the age of 85.

Mr Morgan was born in 1935 and attended Prince Edward School before proceeding to the University of Cape Town where he graduated with a BCom LLB. He enrolled at Worcester College, Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar where he studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics before being admitted to the Bar in the then Rhodesia as a Partner at Coglan, Welsh & Guest in January 1964. Mr Morgan worked at the firm for over 50 years before retiring in December 2014. He was also Secretary of the Rhodes Scholar Selection Committee for a considerable period.

Mr Morgan will be remembered as a respected commercial lawyer, administrator and litigator as well as director of many companies. He is survived by his widow Colleen, with whom he had been married for 50 years, and four children.

A keen sportsman, Mr Morgan served as a Zimbabwe Rugby Union President and Old Hararians Sports Club Chairperson for many years. In these positions, David was a paragon of managerial excellence and both organisations thrived during his tenure. His invaluable experience and advice will be greatly missed by all who work for the good of the game in Zimbabwe.

**Written by the Zimbabwe Rugby Union**

## Peter Mundy (1961)

While numerous tributes to Peter have poured in following his death on 3 February 2023, it is regrettable that he did not get to write his own story, which would have been a fascinating



**Peter Mundy cradles a baby Palm-nut Vulture hatched at Vulpro. 24 September 2021. Photo © John Ledger.**

autobiography. This is but a brief tribute to his full and exceptional life.

Born in London, Peter showed early signs of leadership and self-motivation. In 1957 he became a Queen's Scout and attended the World Jamboree. In 1960 he was a member of the British Schools Exploring Society expedition to Iceland, and, in that year, he finished his schooling at the Royal Liberty School in Essex, winning a State Scholarship to Worcester College, Oxford where he (ostensibly) studied Zoology for a year.

But, in his own words, he was 'not yet ready for such training'; and, instead of zoology textbooks, he read Dostoevsky, learnt to play the saxophone, and had a fully wild time. Oxford divested itself of his continued presence. Thereafter followed time at the University of Life, where Peter undertook diverse types of work (including grave-digging) until he became a blues musician in the outfit called Screaming Lord Sutch and the Savages. The band toured in Europe and Peter's stories of those days were hilarious and unforgettable. But, after a few years, he tired of the frenetic but jaded life of an itinerant musician and managed to get back into university, this time at King's College London whence he emerged with a BSc (Hons) in Zoology in 1969. He started birding with his university friend Clive Slater ('when we were on a rather boring entomology field course').

Then followed nearly three years in northern Nigeria, where he was a secondary school teacher of biology and mathematics at the Government College in Sokoto. Here he became interested in vultures and, with another friend (Allan Cook), studied the hooded vultures that were abundant in the heart of the city and had developed a symbiotic relationship with the humans of Sokoto. After that, he became a junior research fellow

at the University of Rhodesia in 1972 to pursue a doctoral study on the *Comparative Biology of Southern African Vultures*.

He researched vultures in the north-east of Rhodesia (present-day Zimbabwe) in the Chirisa and Chizarira Game Reserves and the south-east in the Gonarezhou Game Reserve. With his young assistant Gabriel Ruguma, he worked for three years in wild areas full of large and dangerous animals, armed with only a Swiss Army knife. His tales about their escapades in the bush were entertaining, to say the least! To fulfil the broad scope of his research, Peter had to include the Cape vulture (or Cape griffon as he liked to call it) in his studies, and that brought him to South Africa, the stronghold of the species, where we met in 1972 and became close friends for 50 years. I had been involved with ringing Cape vultures with the Witwatersrand Bird Club when I was a student at Wits and a member of the university's Mountain Club.

The following year Peter joined our annual expedition to ring Cape griffon nestlings at Roberts Farm in the Magaliesberg and with his sharp wit, combative world views, and vigorous usage of strong expletives, had a powerful impact on the young students of the Wits Mountain Club who had never encountered such an unusual character! Peter also had a galvanising effect on several local vulture enthusiasts. Many people were attracted to work for vultures with the enthusiasm that he generated about the hidden charms and unique features of the big birds. We funded the work of this Vulture Study Group (VSG) mainly by selling T-shirts at shopping centres and attracting the inquisitive crowds with a real live vulture called 'Bonaparte (because of his crippled wing).

In 1976 we started reading about Clive Walker and the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) in various

newspapers, and Mundy said he sounded like ‘the sort of bloke who might give us some money’. Clive was taken on a heart-stopping climb up the face of the Magaliesberg to see the vultures. He persuaded the board that these young lunatics deserved support and I was subsequently appointed as an EWT Trustee in 1976 with a brief to make sure the Vulture Study Group was run with business-like discipline, and it became the first ‘Working Group’ of the EWT.

In 1979, we attended and made presentations at the first International Conference on the Vultures, held in Santa Barbara, California. Our participation put the VSG on the international map and resulted in us working with the California Condor Rescue Programme in 1981 and attending a Bird of Prey conference in Thessaloniki, Greece, in 1982.

Peter graduated with a DPhil from the University of Zimbabwe in 1981 and was employed by the EWT as its first Scientific Officer. He later joined the Department of National Parks and Wildlife in Zimbabwe as their Ornithologist. He was subsequently appointed Professor of Forestry and Wildlife at the National University of Science and Technology in Bulawayo, where he played a major role in training young Zimbabweans, many of whom went on to remarkable achievements at the tertiary level and employment in the fields of biology and conservation. He was an excellent and prolific writer and published numerous popular and scientific articles. The ultimate milestone was the publication of *The Vultures of Africa* in 1992, authored by Peter Mundy, Duncan Butchart, John Ledger and Steven Piper. The citation index for this large 464-page book is remarkable and continues growing to this day.

When Peter was diagnosed with cancer he came to Johannesburg several times for treatment

where we saw one another and made two rather nostalgic visits to the Magaliesberg in 2021: one to the Nyoka Ridge vulture restaurant on International Vulture Awareness Day on 4 September and another to Vulpro on Heritage Day (24 September). What struck me about these gatherings was how Peter Mundy’s legacy has inspired future generations of people to appreciate and treasure these great birds and go to great efforts to conserve and care for them. This is a notable achievement that will long be associated with this remarkable man and will hopefully be a solace to his wife Verity and children Matthew and Emily as they come to terms with their loss. I certainly miss him deeply.

***Dr John Ledger, adapted from original publication by Endangered Wildlife Trust***

### **Hugh Nolan (1986)**

Hugh Nolan was born on 10 August 1968 and died of cancer on 30 April 2023, aged 54.

Nolan began his career after graduating from the University of Oxford with a MA in mathematics in 1989 – training as an actuary with Clay & Partners, the firm that later became part of Aon.

In 2000, Nolan joined Mercer, where he managed the firm’s consulting and actuarial support team in Watford, as well as advising clients on all aspects of pension schemes. In April 2002, he moved to JLT Employee Benefits where he became chief actuary, before joining Spence & Partners in 2016, where he was a pension consultant as well as, under the Dalriada banner, a professional trustee.

During his career, Nolan also made huge contributions to the wider industry – both at the

Association of Consulting Actuaries, where he chaired its defined contribution committee, and at the Society of Pension Professionals, where he was president from 2016 to 2018.

Brian Spence – the founder and chief executive of 3173, the parent firm behind Spence & Partners, Dalriada Trustees and Mantle – said both he and all his colleagues were deeply saddened by Hugh Nolan's death. Spence said Nolan had made a 'huge contribution' to both 3173's business and the industry as a whole.

He said: 'There are few people who could be so trusted to provide dispassionate, appropriate and well considered advice and I have valued Hugh's counsel on so many occasions. Hugh was our trusted friend and colleague. He was thoughtful, careful, generous with his time, experience, and support of others. He will be missed by all that knew and worked with him within our business and the wider pensions community.'

In comments on LinkedIn, many in the industry expressed their condolences, with one saying that Nolan's death was a 'loss to the pensions world as well as to family, friends and colleagues', while others remembered 'a wonderful man with a great sense of humour' and someone who 'provided support to many in the industry along their careers'.

Generous with both his time and his energy, Nolan has been a highly-valued, admired and respected friend of *Professional Pensions* for many years. Editor Jonathan Stapleton said: 'Hugh was a huge friend to *Professional Pensions*, regularly contributing articles, judging our awards as well as speaking at our conferences. He was a man who was always hugely generous with his time, regularly going out of his way to help both our journalists

and conference producers. Above all, however, Hugh was one of the kindest, nicest people I have met and someone who was always passionate about pensions. He will be sadly missed and fondly remembered – our thoughts are with his family and friends at this very difficult time.'

Nolan is survived by his wife, Helen, and their three young children.

### ***Adapted from Professional Pension***

### **Basil Payne (1949)**

Born in 1929, my father was brought up in the village of West Harptree in Somerset. He enjoyed 'making things' and excelled at maths (into his nineties, his mental arithmetic was faster than us fumbling about on our phones) and he was offered a place at Oundle. It was 1942 and the war effort became part of school life; the boys made munitions boxes in the school foundry and, at weekends, tractors would drive into the village, load the boys onto trailers and drive them to the fields to help harvest beet, potatoes, and onions. Onions were the most fun, their leaves streaming behind them when they were, inevitably, thrown as missiles!

National Service saw him win best all-round cadet and he was posted as a subaltern to the 3rd Royal Horse Artillery stationed in Germany, where, as a 19-year-old officer, he oversaw sections of the Berlin Airlift. An offer from Worcester to read PPE brought him home. He loved his time at Oxford and, as he remembered it, spent every afternoon rowing, to the detriment of his degree. He missed out on a Blue for the boat race but it was the year Oxford sank and not having his stomach emptied of Thames water, nullified the disappointment of not being in the boat! He became captain of the

WCBC and in 1952 rowed for Worcester in the finals of the Wyfold Challenge Cup at Henley.

On graduating, he accepted a job with the National City Bank of New York and asked to be sent to Madrid, where he taught himself Spanish. Nevertheless, he was still keen to 'make things' and a couple of years later he took a job with E Gomme (later G-Plan). It was from there, on Friday afternoons, that he would wave at a particular train as it passed the timber yard, carrying a young language undergraduate from King's.

Sheila and he married in 1955 and turning his back on flat-packs (it was not the craftsman's job he'd hoped it would be) he studied for the exams that would allow him to become a broker at Lloyd's of London. His syndicate sent him to run their office in Monrovia and, from then on, he would spend several months of the year there as well as in Sydney and Buenos Aires. My mother also had a yearning to travel and once their children (a son Christopher and myself) had left home, they embarked on some incredible adventures, all planned from the kitchen table with Baedekers and books from the library – figuring out which was the best way to navigate the Andes, etc. My father also took himself skiing most winters; his distinctive elegance offset by a huge homemade sheepskin hat, as he sped down the slopes whooping with delight – he just loved the mountains. He skied until he was 79, and later, having lost his right leg, even went for a week's tri-skiing at the age of 88.

He was extremely proud of having been to Worcester. He loved the College, the Chapel, the quad and of course the gardens: he was fond of quoting that 'Worcester has the finest lawn in Oxford or Cambridge, and therefore in England, and therefore the world.' He continued to come



*Torpids 1950  
(Basil is on the left  
in the middle row)*

to Gaudies into his 90s with those who could still make it and they reckoned they were perhaps some of the most stalwart Gaudy-goers out there! My father had a great aptitude for getting on and enjoying life. He was brave, optimistic, determined and had an admirable proclivity for fun.

### **James (Jeffrey) Rackham (1958)**

Following completion of his national service in the Royal Navy, Jeffrey studied Law at Cambridge University followed by PG Diploma in Public and Social Administration at Oxford. He joined Durham University Business School as a lecturer in Management Studies in 1968, latterly as Director of the MSc course until his retirement in 1984.

In the years that followed he was active in the local community, including serving as a North Eastern Prison After Care Society (NEPACS) trustee, Frankland Prison visitor, member of

Durham Meeting (Society of Friends), Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) volunteer, Alington House Community Association trustee, and Unite Community Mediation volunteer. Jeffrey also found time for smallholder duties and the planting of many trees.

***Karen O'Brien, Vice-Chancellor & Warden,  
Durham University***



**Simon Roberts (1959)**

Simon Roberts joined Cranleigh Preparatory School aged eight in 1946, following in the footsteps of both his father and grandfather. He loved sport and in 1951 and 1952 he played for the school 1st teams in cricket, hockey and rugby and was Captain of the last two teams. Simon played in the unbeaten 1st XV of 1955 and skippered the rugby and hockey teams in 1956, whilst also representing the school in boxing and athletics. He was head boy of the Junior School before moving up to the Senior School in 1953, where also became head boy.

After doing National Service with the 4th/7th Royal Tank Regiment in Germany, where he was on the winning side of the British Army of the Rhine Inter Unit Rugby seven-a-side championship of 1958, Simon went up to Worcester College, Oxford. Inevitably, more sport ensued and he played for the University 1st XV, but to his lasting regret, due to an injury, not in the Blues match against Cambridge.

On being demobbed, Simon joined the family business, Job's Dairy based in Hanworth, Middlesex. As Chairman of Job's, Simon diversified the business widely, with a large Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise in southern England. He also chaired the catering firm Payne and Gunter which

to his delight, amongst other things, operated the catering at Twickenham Rugby Stadium.

Simon played for the Old Cranleigh Rugby Club until well into his forties, captaining the team and serving as Chairman of the Club. He remained very close with his school friends throughout his life.

In 1960 he married Katie, with whom he had four children, Andrew, Ashley, Matthew and Eliot. Just after 50 years of happy marriage, Katie died in 2010 and Simon was fortunate enough to go on and marry Charmian Downer in 2012, who was the daughter of the colonel of his old regiment.

Simon died peacefully surrounded by his family on 1 October 2023 at Long Orchard, the family home in Cobham, Surrey.

***Adapted from The Telegraph***

**John Neville Suggit (1942)**

John Neville Suggit was born in London on 14 April 1922 and educated at Gate House School, Kingston Hill (1928-1935) and at St Paul's School, London (1935-1941) where he was a Foundation Scholar.

In December 1940, he won an Open Scholarship in Classics to Worcester College, Oxford, worth £100 a year for four years. Due to the war, he was only able to begin his studies in 1943.

He enlisted in the Royal Armoured Corps in April 1941 but a very serious motorcycle accident a few months later caused a fractured base of skull injury, leaving him unconscious for several weeks. Miraculously, after months of rehabilitation at the head injuries hospital in Oxford (at St Hugh's College) he was discharged in March 1942.

Although he escaped death, he was left with diplopia, causing him to be permanently unfit for military service. He lived with this disability throughout his long life.

He graduated from Worcester in 1946 with BS Hon and later that year married Thelma Elizabeth Robinson. He taught at Dame Allan's School, Newcastle-on-Tyne from Sept 1946 to December 1947 as Master in charge of Classics. During that time, he was accepted as an ordinand for the Anglican Church and moved to South Africa where he spent one year at St Paul's Theological College in Grahamstown before he was ordained priest in November 1948. In 1949 he obtained his MA (Oxon) degree in absentia, as he had already moved to South Africa.

For the next twenty-eight years he had many roles throughout South Africa, including parish Rector, Archdeacon, School Chaplain, Canon, Vicar General and several other clerical positions associated with the Anglican Church.

His true gift was as an academic and his selection as the Principal of St Paul's Theological College (1965-1974) gave him an opportunity to use his scholastic wisdom to share the true meaning of the Scriptures. Having learnt Greek at a very young age, he was affectionately known by his students as Fronny ('Fronimos' – Greek for 'the wise one') and had far reaching influence through his teaching, preaching and writing. All who knew him will attest to his intimacy with his well-worn copy of the Greek New Testament, the importance of the Eucharist and his personal commitment to the daily devotions, both morning and evening.

From 1975 until his retirement in 1989, he was the Professor of New Testament Studies at Rhodes University where he was appointed to other roles,

including Public Orator, Dean of Divinity and Acting Vice Principal.

Retiring to the seaside town of Fish Hoek, he continued in active ministry, taking his final Eucharist Service on his 99th birthday at Silvermine Retirement Village where he lived for the final couple of decades of his life. During this time, he wrote prolifically, from several theological books, articles for journal and translating Greek manuscripts, to writing his autobiography. His days were filled with reading, walking and hiking, playing chess and bridge, and engaging with everyone with interest and grace.

At his 70th anniversary of ordination on 30 November 2018, the Archbishop of Cape Town, Thabo Makgoba, surprised him by presenting him with the Peace with Justice Award stating, 'the Anglican Church in South Africa is honoured to recognise this pastor, prophet, and priest who has selflessly dedicated his life to the liberation and welfare of God's people.'

On Sunday 30 July 2023, he rose early as usual and as he was saying his familiar morning prayers, he coughed and died. He was 101 years and three months, completely at peace, of sound mind and ready to rest from his labours. To God be the glory.

His deep unwavering faith, humility, simplicity, kindness and integrity in all he did was an example to all who knew him and his legacy will live on through his surviving 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God – Micah 6:8*





### Julian Ogilvie Thompson (1953)

A friend and supporter of the College for many years, Julian's legacy will continue to be honoured through the Ogilvie Thompson Graduate Scholarship. This scholarship, established by Julian, provides financial assistance to Worcester graduates embarking on Master's courses. His obituary follows, abridged from *The Telegraph*.

Julian Ogilvie Thompson, who died aged 89, was a pillar of South African business and a pioneer of post-apartheid change as a trustee of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation.

Ogilvie Thompson joined the mining giant Anglo American in 1956. He became the personal assistant and protégé of the then chairman Harry Oppenheimer and rose through the finance side to join the board in 1970 and serve as chairman from 1990 to 2002. He also chaired Minorco – a group of non-African and non-diamond mining interests also controlled by Anglo and the Oppenheimer family – which he merged into the parent company in 1998 to create one of the world's largest natural-resources conglomerates.

Tall and imposing behind large-rimmed glasses, Ogilvie Thompson – known to colleagues from his initials as “Jot” – was an intellectual with anglicised manners and aristocratic British connections. He presided with aplomb and political sensitivity over an empire that touched every part of South African economic life during a turbulent era. One profile called him “a model of British understatement”. It was always his aim to avoid confrontation, but the steel core behind the relaxed exterior also provoked Harry Oppenheimer's son Nicky, the group's deputy chairman, to describe him on one occasion as “very large and very difficult”.

Ogilvie Thompson's challenge as chairman was to achieve amicable relations with Nelson Mandela and the incoming ANC government while also protecting Anglo against radical threats of break-up, nationalisation or asset confiscation. After retiring from Anglo, Ogilvie Thompson was a founder trustee from 2003 to 2020 of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation – an initiative based on an agreement between Nelson Mandela himself and the Rhodes Trust to provide postgraduate scholarships (more than 600 to date) and leadership development programmes for young South Africans.

Mandela himself saw the project as a way to “close the circle of history”, utilising the colonial wealth of Cecil Rhodes to address the legacies of apartheid. Among many contributions, Ogilvie Thompson was instrumental in persuading De Beers to donate the company's historic Rhodes Building as a headquarters for the foundation.

Julian Ogilvie Thompson was born on 27 January 1934 in Cape Town to Newton Ogilvie Thompson – an advocate born in the Cape Colony who served as Chief Justice of South Africa from 1971 to 1974 – and his wife Eve, née Wiener.

Julian was educated at Bishops College in Cape Town, where he was senior prefect, captain of athletics, a 1st-XV rugby player and multiple academic prize-winners. He went on to the University of Cape Town, and from there as a Rhodes scholar to read PPE at Worcester College, Oxford.

He enjoyed grouse-shooting and golf; when in England, he was often to be found at White's club and, in the summer, at the opera. In 1956 he married Tessa Brand, daughter of the 4th Viscount Hampden – whose great-grandfather, the 1st Viscount and 23rd Lord Dacre, was Speaker of the

House of Commons. Tessa died in 2020 and Julian is survived by their two daughters and two sons.

### Jeffrey West (1969)

The Revd Canon Jeffrey (Jeff) James West died after a short illness on 4 December 2022, aged 72. He had a distinguished career in the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments (later English Heritage) and later as an Anglican priest. He was greatly respected and admired by many friends and colleagues – in both the archaeological and the ecclesiastical worlds – for his probity, reliability, fair-mindedness and unflinching kindness. The tributes below were read at his funeral in St Mary's parish church, Banbury, on 5 January 2023:

Jeff was born on the 15 October 1950 in Salisbury to the sound of the bells of St Thomas's church. He was the only child of Walter and Margaret West. His boyhood was spent in Amesbury near where his father worked as an aeronautical engineer. Jeff and his mother made frequent Saturday morning trips into Salisbury market, no doubt visiting the cathedral, and he began buying books from an early age from the bookshop by the Cathedral gate. He never lost his love of the city and made regular visits there whenever he could. Amesbury was undoubtedly a formative influence on Jeff. On Sundays he attended the parish church with his mother, preferring the main service to the children's activities, and remembered being impressed by its fine medieval architecture. He liked to claim that it was the closeness of the town to Stonehenge and its surrounding monuments that first stirred his archaeological interest, particularly when he discovered that the garden of his school was partly cut into a prehistoric earthwork.

When Jeff was ten, the family moved to Bedford for his father's job. Jeff attended Bedford Modern

School where he received a good academic education, became school librarian and enjoyed acting and trips to see the RSC at Stratford. His initial engagement with conservation and rescue archaeology as a teenager arose from the orgy of 1960s development threatening the town.

In 1969, Jeff went up to Worcester College, Oxford to read PPE and joined the University Archaeological Society, where Juliet first remembers seeing him, although they remained acquaintances rather than friends during their student years. Jeff was more involved with the society than she was, taking part in excavations and field-walking, and becoming president in Trinity Term 1971. He was also an accomplished punter and would often reminisce about legendary trips with friends, circumnavigating Oxford and spending nights under canvas in a camping punt.

It was only after Jeff joined the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments in 1974, followed by Juliet a year later, that a romantic friendship began to grow between them. During the week, Juliet worked in London while he was off inspecting monuments in the West Midlands but she would visit him in Oxford at weekends, attending services with him at the cathedral on Sundays and hearing some memorable sermons and choral singing. She was aware that Jeff had considered and never wholly rejected the idea of ordination, but did her best to deter him. When he bought his first house in Milton-under-Wychwood in the late 1970s, and after they moved to Charlbury in 1984, they continued to spend weekends in the country, returning to London on Monday mornings or, in Jeff's case, setting out on site visits. Jeff only finally persuaded Juliet to marry him – she has always found decisions difficult – by presenting her with a beautiful engagement ring on Valentine's Day 1986. She

never regretted it. Their wedding, a wonderfully sunny and happy occasion, surrounded by their many friends, took place in April 1987 at All Saints, Shorthampton where Jeff is laid to rest.

### ***Juliet West***



### **Paul Wilkinson (1978)**

Professor Paul Wilkinson MRCP(UK) MFPHM FRCP – a world-renowned environmental epidemiologist whose inter-disciplinary work was at the forefront of research on climate change, air pollution and the built environment and health – died suddenly and unexpectedly on 11 September 2022.

Paul worked at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) for nearly 30 years. He trained in medicine and public health in Oxford and London before taking up epidemiological research at the UK's National Heart and Lung Institute. Paul joined LSHTM in 1993 as Lecturer in the Environmental Epidemiology Unit (now part of the Department of Public Health, Environments and Society), acting as head of the unit from August 2003 to November 2007. His research career began on the health effects of air pollutants but evolved to encompass a range of environmental health issues. This included ground-breaking work on the effects of cold housing, publishing in 2001 the first study to make a direct connection between housing quality and excess winter mortality in England. In later years, he was at the cutting-edge investigating links between climate change and human health, in particular advancing the research to quantify the effects of climate policies on health. He was currently leading several research projects in addition to being Director of the NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Environmental Change and Health and Scientific Director of the

Wellcome Trust-funded project Complex Urban Systems for Sustainability and Health (CUSSH).

Paul was a remarkable scientist with seemingly unlimited drive and energy. His formidable intelligence – and intellectual curiosity – meant he was frequently able to provide unique insights into even the most complex and challenging scientific issues. This innate ability to see both the 'wood' and the 'trees' gave him extraordinary clarity of vision. Unlike many, he was always very open to ideas from disciplines outside the norm in public health, listening attentively to new ideas even if they did not fit the conventional public health research approach. He had a capacity to not shy away from the most difficult topics and to raise the profile of these in a way that was challenging and persuasive at the same time.

As well as upholding the very highest scientific standards, Paul worked tirelessly to bring about real action. He would often encourage his fellow colleagues (and himself) to 'think big'. By this, he meant we needed to work harder, to be more ambitious in our thinking and to try new ideas and approaches to solve the world's challenges such as climate change. He once remarked that he would rather be too ambitious and fail than not do enough. The challenges were too great for anything less, the time left too short.

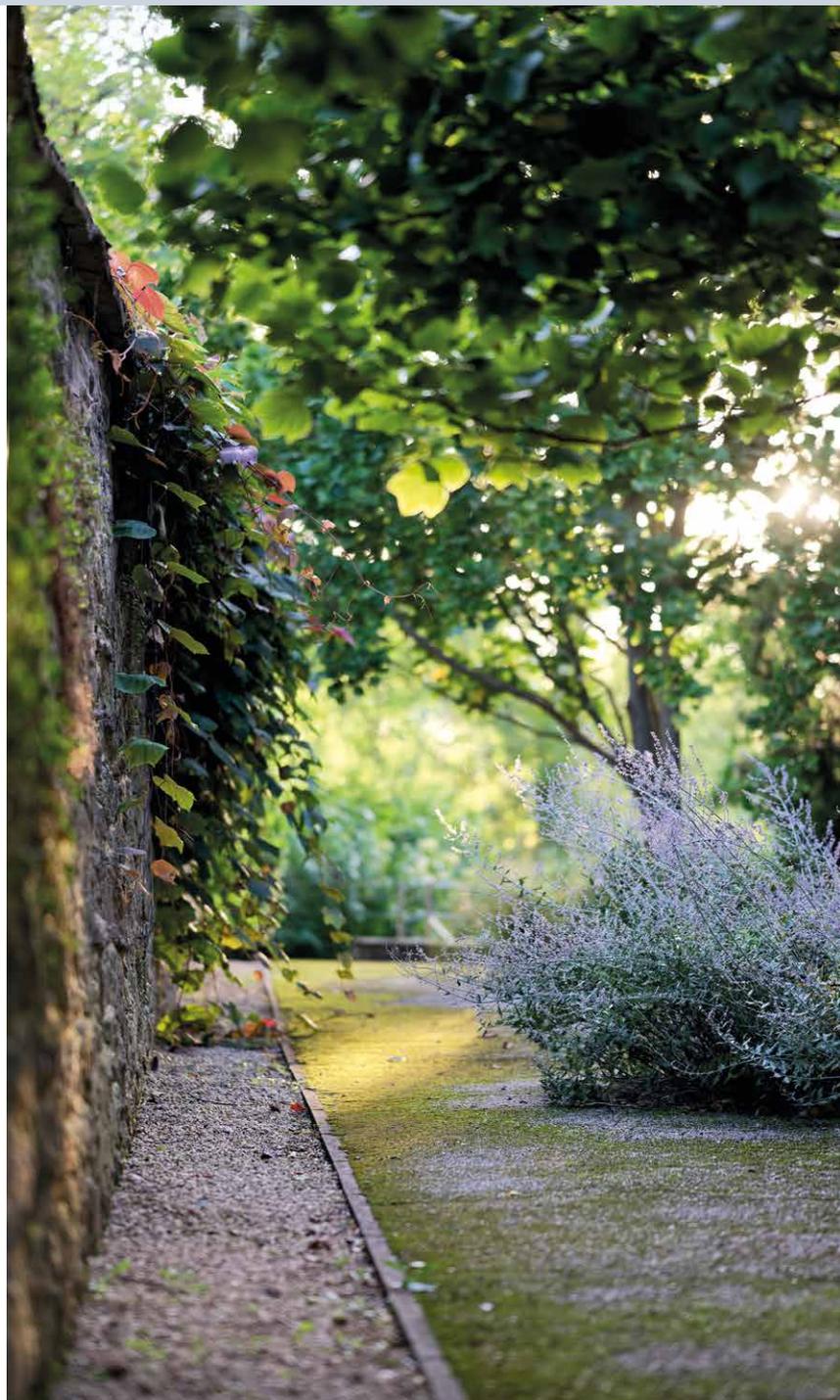
As a gifted speaker, Paul was able to speak to, and bring together, different audiences using debate and humour. His commitment to evidence was recognised and deeply appreciated by collaborators and policymakers alike. He was an active member of the Department of Health's independent expert advisory Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants (COMEAP), which he joined in 2013, making a huge contribution to its work on a wide range of topics and, in

particular, to developing its thinking regarding methods to quantify the effects of air pollution on health. He also worked for many years with the World Health Organization.

Paul was a passionate and engaging teacher who inspired future generations at LSHTM and elsewhere. His lectures were always warmly appreciated by students. When one student (now a prominent academic) began their studies late in the academic year, Paul sat with the student every week teaching them all the basic epidemiology they had missed. He also helped to build capacity within the public health service by teaching environmental epidemiology to public health staff. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, Paul led summer schools on epidemiology and public health in Prague and later in Kraków. Apart from organising these annual events, giving lectures and stepping in to cover the lectures of others, he engaged socially with and was adored by the students – one year reportedly giving a street-side performance of Gene Kelly's famous *Singin' in the Rain* number.

More than anything, Paul will be remembered by his friends and colleagues for his kindness, generous spirit, warmth and sense of humour. He was an inspirational leader and wise mentor, working long hours in spite of a diet that at times seemed to consist only of yoghurt! He also practiced what he preached, walking and cycling to events as often as possible, no matter the distance, whatever the weather. Despite his prodigious talents and achievements, Paul was unfailingly modest and self-deprecating. He wore his brilliance lightly. Never chased the limelight. We have lost a leading voice and brilliant mind in our efforts to inform decisions for a healthier world.

***Adapted from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine website:  
<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/newsevents/blogs/2022/obituary-paul-wilkinson>***



# Deaths

**Since the 2022 issue of the *Record* went to press, we have been made aware that the following Fellows, Honorary Fellows and Old Members have died:**

## Fellows and Honorary Fellows

Heilbron, Professor John L, died 5 November 2023, aged 89, Honorary Fellow 2005-2023

- 1951 Sargent, Professor John Richard, died 14 March 2022, aged 96, Fellow 1951-1962
- 1953 Curtis, John Gilbert, died 14 October 2022, aged 90, Honorary Fellow 2002-2022
- 1957 Brown of Eaton-under-Heywood, The Rt Hon The Lord Simon Denis, Kt, died 07 July 2023, aged 86, Honorary Fellow 1993-2023

## Old Members

- 1940 Strong, John died 16 August 2010, aged 88
- 1942 Suggit, The Reverend Canon John Neville, died 30 July 2023, aged 101
- 1943 Clarke, Patrick Arthur Tremayne
- 1943 Symcox, Peter John Fortune, died 26 April 2022, aged 96
- 1944 Batt, Edward Gordon, died 2022, aged 96
- 1948 Champion, Antony died 6 November 2022, aged 94
- 1948 Kennedy-Cooke, Julian died 4 August 2022, aged 94
- 1948 Ruck, Dr Colin Stuart Kenneth, died 14 February 2023, aged 93

- 1948 Sainsbury of Preston Candover, The Rt Hon Lord John Davan, KG, died 14 January 2022, aged 94
- 1949 Foster, John Michael, died 22 October 2022, aged 94
- 1949 Payne, Basil Vernon, TD, died 13 April 2023, aged 94
- 1950 Stacey, Thomas Charles Gerrard, died 24 December 2022, aged 92
- 1952 Johnson, Thomas Kenneth, died 31 December 2022, aged 90
- 1952 Cave, Robin John, died 21 March 2022, aged 89
- 1952 Fallon, Terence Joseph
- 1952 Fletcher, The Reverend David Clare Molyneux, died 31 January 2022, aged 89
- 1952 Gurney, Gerald Nicholas
- 1952 Kitchin, Mr Michael Everard, died 07 June 2022, aged 90
- 1952 Leane, Dr John Bryant, died 17 April 2023, aged 90
- 1952 Taylor, Professor Charles Patrick Stirling
- 1953 Adam, Dr Richard John, died 15 March 2023, aged 88
- 1953 Corner, Richard Malcolm, died 11 September 2022
- 1953 Daniels, Charles Graham, died 18 January 2023, aged 89
- 1953 Ogilvie Thompson, Julian died 11 August 2023, aged 89

- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1953 | Payne, Keith Barry, died 20 December 2020, aged 88             | 1957 | Edwards, John Robin Gordon, died 02 November 2023, aged 86                                   |
| 1954 | Collingridge, Thomas Harvey, aged 87                           | 1957 | Kedward, Professor Harry Roderick, died 29 April 2023, aged 86                               |
| 1954 | Ellis, John Yvo, died 07 April 2023, aged 88                   | 1957 | Rackham, James Jeffrey, died 18 June 2023, aged 89   |
| 1954 | Hodgetts, Michael William, KSG, died 12 December 2022, aged 86 | 1957 | Saunders, David William, CB, died 07 July 2021, aged 84                                      |
| 1954 | Marr, Donald Alexander Cameron                                 | 1957 | Wedgwood, Dr Francis Alan, died 16 November 2022, aged 85                                    |
| 1955 | Barrett, Professor Peter John, died 28 June 2022, aged 88      | 1958 | Bliss, Ian Gibbs, died 13 October 2022, aged 82  |
| 1955 | Whicker, John Hayes Clayton, died 23 February 2023, aged 87    | 1958 | Buchan, Dr Jon died 25 June 2022, aged 81  |
| 1956 | Gee, Fred died 22 January 2023, aged 87                        | 1959 | Heyhoe, David Charles Ross, CB   |
| 1956 | Howard, Ronald Lionel, died 09 February 2020, aged 84          | 1959 | Perry, Christopher David Wilson, died 31 March 2022  |
| 1956 | Lang, Jeremy John, died 25 January 2022, aged 86               | 1959 | Roberts, Simon died 1 October 2023, aged 85  |
| 1956 | Mills, Roger Edwin Stuart, died 05 May 2023, aged 86           | 1959 | Wilkinson, John Leonard, died 14 October 2022, aged 82                                       |
| 1956 | Nixon, Paul Morris, died 07 January 2022, aged 86              | 1960 | Hyams, Paul Raphael, died 4 December 2022, aged 82   |
| 1956 | O'Shaughnessy, Hugh Anthony, died 01 March 2022, aged 87       | 1960 | Power, Christopher Michael, died 17 December 2022, aged 83                                   |
| 1956 | Pearson, Frederick Edward, died 11 October 2022, aged 87       | 1960 | Southby, Richard Henry Alexander   |
| 1956 | Sandys-Renton, David Sandys, died 18 January 2022, aged 85     | 1960 | Sudeley, The Right Honourable Lord Merlin Charles Sainthill, died 05 September 2022, aged 83 |
| 1956 | Shenton, Charles Gordon, died 23 December 2022, aged 86        | 1961 | Brueton, Theo  |
| 1957 | Edwards, John Drydon, died 26 January 2022, aged 83            |      |  |

1961	Mundy, Professor Peter John, died 03 February 2023, aged 81	1970	Barnard, Michael Russell, died 27 August 2023, aged 71
1961	Sells, Graham David, died 25 October 2022, aged 80	1972	Huq, Khondaker Muzammel, died 10 August 2019, aged 74
1964	Rogister, Professor Jean Marie Julien, died 07 September 2022, aged 81	1972	Wyatt, Ashley John Valentine, died 26 May 2023, aged 69
1964	Woods, Mervyn William Anthony, died 02 March 2023, aged 77	1973	Williamson, Robin MBE, died 4 September 2022, aged 67
1965	Palmer, Professor Nigel Fenton, died 8 May 2022, aged 75	1974	Atkinson, Paul Christopher, died 14 January 2023, aged 67
1965	Sclater, Henry David, died 2 January 2023, aged 76	1974	Doemling, Vincent Anthony Dominic, died 29 January 2023, aged 67
1965	Taviner, James Leonard, died 3 November 2022, aged 76	1975	Jerrome, Neil Anthony, died 4 January 2023, aged 66
1966	Jones, Peter William, died 8 September 2023, aged 76	1978	Wilkinson, Professor Paul Daryll, died 11 September 2022, aged 62
1968	Davis, Malcolm Richard James, died 16 January 2023, aged 73	1983	Gillingham, Paul Martin Theodore
1968	Gendle, Dr Nicholas died 12 January 2023, aged 77	1984	Philp, Dr Bruce Malcolm, died 15 November 2022, aged 60
1968	Guthrie, James Dalglish, KC, died 10 January 2023, aged 72	1986	Nolan, Hugh Dominic, died 30 April 2023, aged 54
1968	Kime, Robert David, LVO, died 17 August 2022, aged 76	1996	Henderson, Dr Frances Margaret Stewart, died 29 April 2022, aged 88
1968	Weatherford, Professor Michael Stephen, died 9 January 2022, aged 75	2007	Braund, Elizabeth died 31 January 2023, aged 34
1969	Lawson, Hamish Kirkwood, died 18 December 2022, aged 71	2017	Cheung, William Wai Lun, died 23 March 2023, aged 23
1969	West, Canon Jeffrey James, OBE, died 4 December 2022, aged 72	2019	Quadri, Oluwatoni Omolabake, died 20 October 2023, aged 22
		2022	Bhagat, Aryan died 28 May 2023, aged 19



# Examination Results

October 2022 – November 2023

**128 took Schools in 2023**

**37 got Firsts, 8 Distinctions\*, 3 Merits\*, 1 Pass\*, 73 II.i, 4 II.ii, 1 III, 0 Fail  
(1 result still outstanding at the time of going to press)**

**\* 4th year of Mathematics/Computer Science and associated joint schools  
are now classified as Distinction, Merit or Pass**

**Students opting out of appearing in publicly-displayed lists are not listed below**

## Firsts in Final Honour Schools

*Biology:* Alana Halpin, Mary-Jane Woodward

*Chemistry:* Thomas Bithell, Paul Gellersen, Scott Harrington

*Economics & Management:* James Lloyd Williams

*Engineering Science:* Mihnea Constantin, Catherine Ning, Nian Tan, Sophie Taylor

*English Language & Literature:* Joseph Bardsley, Rebecca Smith

*European & Middle Eastern Languages:* Caitlin Hennessy

*Geography:* Grace De Souza

*History of Art:* Nicole Kitsberg

*Jurisprudence:* Arya Nagwani

*Jurisprudence (with Law in Europe):* Jack Cernoch

*Literae Humaniores:* Clementine Sagar Scott, Edward Thomas

*Mathematics (4th year classification):* Alasdair Casperd (Distinction), Daniel Claydon (Distinction), Patrick McDermott (Distinction)

*Mathematical & Theoretical Physics (4th year classification):* Orin Varley (Distinction)

*Medical Sciences:* Toby Brown, Daniel Hains, Ananya Kannan, Tabitha Preston

*Modern Languages:* Yousra M'Barki (French & Portuguese)

*Molecular & Cellular Biochemistry:* Xin Zhen

*Philosophy, Politics & Economics:* Eleanor Beswick, Noah Hudson

*Philosophy & Theology:* Arshiyah Inayat

*Physics:* Zakary Milstein, Samuel Newton

*Psychology, Philosophy & Linguistics:* Paula McGechan

*Theology & Religion:* Clara Marks

## Distinctions in Modern Languages Oral Exams

Caitlin Hennessy (*Arabic*)

## Firsts in Honour Moderations

*Classics*: Nicholas Romanos

*Classics*: Catherine Tickell

## Distinctions in Moderations

*Law*: Ashna Chaturvedi, Nanditha Dileep,  
Salma Kafafy, Hazel Peters, Wong Yi Xuan

## Distinctions in Preliminary Examinations

*Chemistry*: Bradley Beck, Ariana Kitten,  
George Smith, Samuel Waite

*Earth Sciences*: Nuchthita Khongbua,  
Peter Webster

*Economics & Management*: Emma Higginson

*Engineering Science*: Zhiyuan Tang

*Mathematics*: John Chambers, Cayen Wang

*Mathematics & Computer Science*: Igor Klimczak

*Mathematics & Statistics*: Zhaoxing Hu

*Modern Languages & Linguistics*: Rachel Suss  
(French)

*Philosophy & Modern Languages*: Louis Hodge  
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## Distinction in First BM Part II

*Medicine*: Divya Ganesh, Dorothea Stark

## Other Degrees

Students opting out of appearing in  
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*Astrophysics*: Laurel Kaye

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*Physical and Theoretical Chemistry*:  
Gabriele Meizyte, Aurora Guerrini

*Politics*: Shai Agmon, Elle Pfeffer

*Systems Approaches to Biomedical Science –*  
*Mathematics*: Giulia Laura Celora

*Theology*: Lyndon Drake

**MPhil**

*Economic and Social History:* Zeqin Hou (Merit)

*Global and Area Studies:* Florence Lappin (Merit)

*International Relations:* Joel Battle (Distinction)

*Music (Musicology):* Anna Vlasenkova (Distinction)

*Politics (Political Theory):* Louisa Cowell (Merit)

**BPhil**

*Philosophy:* Yiyang Shu

**MSc**

*Advanced Computer Science:* Evan Caton (Merit), Aleksandra Kulbaka (Distinction)

*African Studies:* Charden Pouo Moutsouka (Distinction)

*Applied Linguistics & Second Language Acquisition:* Yijia Cui (Merit)

*Biodiversity, Conservation and Management:* Jingxuan Cao, Lila Stewart-Roberts (Merit)

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Chen Xi Lee, Bali Parmar, Jack Woodward

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