

Pembroke College
CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY

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ANNUAL GAZETTE

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*Anna Lapwood conducting the Pembroke College Choir
in her arrangement of Bob Dylan's 'Make You Feel My Love'
(image from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rEYNoXwA6Qk>)*

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EDITOR'S NOTE

A College that is notable for its staff and Fellows' long continuity of service is about to go through a large number of changes. The next *Gazette* will see us welcome a new Master, a new Bursar, a new Director of Music, and our first Head of Communications. But correspondingly this *Gazette* sees us bid some fond farewells to Chris Smith, Andrew Cates, and Anna Lapwood – none of whom need any introduction from me. The Frontispiece of the *Gazette* shows Anna conducting the Pembroke choir in an immensely moving performance of Bob Dylan's 'Make You Feel My Love', which you should most definitely check out on YouTube if you have not done so already. And I hope the tributes to Chris and Andrew contained herein will make them feel our love, for who they are and all they have done for the College in the remarkable times they have been here.

We also bid a more permanent farewell – though, God willing, still temporary – to one of the true Pembroke greats: our beloved former Dean, Brian Watchorn. This *Gazette* contains the tributes that were paid to him at both Brian's funeral and his memorial service. But it also pays a more hidden tribute to Brian. One of Brian's bugbears about the *Gazette* ('one of' may be unfair to the *Gazette*; 'his only' is probably more accurate) was the presentation of the list of Fellows of the College, which was never quite right in adhering to the rules that should govern the list. We have made a big effort this year to get the list of Fellows up to Brian's standards, and think that he would be happy with what we have produced. The 'we' in the previous sentence is no royal 'we', but reflects the crucial role played by Andrew Morris in identifying the infelicities in last year's list of Fellows, as well as the Master's Secretary Debbie Brown's role in updating and correcting the list. Andrew has also contributed a beautiful obituary for Brian to this year's *Gazette* (see p 195).

Chris's last year as Master was marked by many wonderful occasions – his farewell Dinner in the College will linger long in the memory, as will a subsequent High Table (his last but one occasion of presiding at High Table) that coincided both with Chris's birthday and the news that he had been elected Chancellor of Cambridge University – and this *Gazette* commemorates two of the most wonderful: the celebrations of 40 years of women at Pembroke, and the official opening of Dolby Court. The photographs marking the divisions between the different sections of the *Gazette* are taken from the second event, and the 'Writings and Talks' section of the *Gazette* give a flavour of some of the events held in the College over the course of the academic year to celebrate the admission of women to Pembroke in 1984.

As usual, this *Gazette* could not have been put together without the help of a large number of people. Moira Hassett was, as usual, a huge source of support and (as has been acknowledged at various points in this *Gazette*) played a much larger role than normal in contributing content for this edition. Sally March provided a lot of the photographs that grace this year's *Gazette* and she and David Franks did their normal excellent job of recording the various official PCCS dinners and receptions held this year. Andrew Morris' contributions to this year's *Gazette* have already been acknowledged, as should be those of Becky Coombs,

Dee Kunze, Matthew Mellor, Nami Morris, Alligan Bundock, James Gardom, Loraine Gelsthorpe, Mark Williams, Wendy Elias, and Chris Smith. Special thanks go to Mark Wormald, our new President, whose imprint is on various different sections of this *Gazette* and ensured we obtained permission to reproduce a number of images in this year's *Gazette*, including the brilliant Martin Rowson cartoon presented to Andrew Cates on his retirement – I am very grateful to Martin and Andrew for giving their permission to allow all of the members of the PCCS to share in the pleasure of seeing Andrew's gift.

Sharp-eyed readers will have spotted that next year's *Gazette* will be the 100th issue of this August publication. It will also be the last under my Editorship. Sixteen issues – one-sixth (just about) of the total number of *Gazettes* ever produced – is enough, and it is time for someone else to take on a responsibility I first shouldered in 2010. I hope we can go out on a high note. Again, no royal 'we' is intended as this is ultimately your *Gazette* and you determine its quality and future. To that end, I would repeat the plea made in previous *Gazette*'s that Members (particularly those who matriculated in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s) contribute their memories of Pembroke for the Members' Corner section of the *Gazette*. I end by thanking those whose memories make up the end of this year's *Gazette*.

N.J.M.

FROM THE MASTER

Ten years have gone in a flash. I cannot quite believe that it was in October 2015 when I was being admitted to the Mastership in the Chapel, with Fellows and Emeritus Fellows and Honorary Fellows all around me, and everything of course done in Latin. The decade has been an eventful one. Not just Brexit and Covid and various changes of government, but three Senior Tutors here in College, and above all of course the transformation of the physical fabric of Pembroke with the creation of the Dolby Quarter, running along Mill Lane down to the back of The Mill pub.

I was very proud to be here when we celebrated the opening of the whole of the new site on 10th May this year, when the nine members of the entire Dolby family came simultaneously to cut a ribbon and declare the project open. It looks stunning, and I'm very glad that we said to the architects at the outset that we wanted the new buildings to be handsome and contemporary, but we wanted them to be in brick and stone and to fit in with everything around them. Our architects have truly delivered on this. The choice of plants and trees complements the buildings, and each courtyard flows into the next in exactly the same way as happens on our historic site. It was very telling when King's College began talking with the planning authority about their own proposed development on the other side of Mill Lane, the planners apparently said: 'If you do it as well as Pembroke has done on the south side of the Lane, it'll get permission.' And of course we even managed to bring the whole project in under budget.

Now of course the next challenge will be to make the very best possible use of the spaces we have created. The whole project has transformed the possibilities for our students and our educational purpose, and we now have to realise those possibilities. Already the café in Milstein House is buzzing with life. It serves the best coffee in Cambridge, and our students were crowding in to sit with their laptops beavering away in the run-up to exams. The seminar and meeting rooms are being used regularly. The student rooms have been occupied since the winter. And the Auditorium has hosted a series of remarkable events. We had Ian McKellen who came to do an "in conversation" with me on the stage, and he insisted on finishing by going up into the pulpit to declaim Shakespeare. We had Julia Gillard, former Prime Minister of Australia, who came as part of our series of talks celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the admission of women students to Pembroke. And in May Week we had Eric Idle and Brian Cox talking about the universe and galaxies and being joined by the Pembroke Choir on stage.

The Choir has indeed been reaching audiences far beyond our walls. They are regularly on Radio 3 and Classic FM, and this summer they have been touring Canada. They are undoubtedly now in the premier league of College Choirs, and that is largely down to the leadership over the past nine years of Anna Lapwood. Anna has enhanced the musical life of Pembroke immeasurably, but very sadly she is also stepping down this summer, in order to pursue her new role as resident organist at the Royal Albert Hall and her performing career around the world.

Not only are we losing a Master and a Director of Music this summer, but Andrew Cates, our long-serving Bursar, is also leaving us, retiring at the end of September. We have however ensured that he remains with us for four more months, on sabbatical, in order to write up a full record of everything that happened with the Mill Lane project, that he has overseen so spectacularly well. We have appointed Sian Nash as our new Bursar, and she will start at the beginning of September. Her last role was as Director of the West Innovation District in Cambridge, and she brings lots of financial, organisational and leadership experience to her new position. One of the wonderful things about my successor being Polly Blakesley, who has been a Fellow of Pembroke for 22 years, is that we were able jointly to chair the process of selecting our new Bursar. I couldn't be more thrilled that the Fellows have chosen Polly to take over as Master on 1st October. She will be terrific.

I do want to pay tribute to the principal College Officers who have helped to make the past ten years so enjoyable: Mark Wormald, Dan Tucker, and Robert Mayhew, who have served successively as Senior Tutor, shepherding the academic and pastoral life of our students and ensuring academic success that we couldn't have dreamed of, as a College, in my day as a student; Matthew Mellor, who must now be regarded as the most successful and experienced Development Director in the whole of Cambridge, and who has been a joy to work with; and Andrew Cates, who has so skilfully managed the College's finances and organisation, and above all has delivered Mill Lane with such aplomb.

I'm afraid I did also seize the opportunity of the election for Chancellor of the University happening at almost exactly the moment I was leaving the Mastership, to throw my hat into the ring for that election. To have won is a deeply-felt honour, and I hope that over the next ten years I may be able to serve the University as devotedly as I have tried to serve Pembroke. Defending academic freedom and freedom of speech; reminding everyone, including Government, of how important an educational and economic international asset we have here; and helping the Vice-Chancellor to bring the University and Colleges increasingly closer together: these are the principal things I will be trying to do. It's an exciting period ahead.

I will be incredibly sad to leave Pembroke. Whenever I've been asked 'Do you enjoy being Master?' I've said, 'Look, I'm living in a very beautiful place, I'm surrounded by supremely intelligent people, and I'm surrounded by young people at the outset of their lives: what is not to like about this?' I think it's the 'young people' bit that means the most. One of our students wrote me a card just before he graduated, at the start of July this year. He wrote: 'I just wanted to write to say thank you for all you've done for this College and to make everyone's experience here so special. I will never forget my matriculation dinner, listening to your speech, tipsy on College wine, and thinking "This is where I'm supposed to be"... I cannot wait to get my degree from you on Wednesday.' That's what it's all about.

A. WRITINGS AND TALKS



Lord Chris Smith – A Tribute

Mark Wormald

After dinner on 15 July 2025, the President of the College, Mark Wormald, delivered the following tribute to our outgoing Master, Chris Smith.

I am, I have to say, not really sorry to interrupt your conversation this evening. It's my honour and delight to do so. As ever, though, and in the finest Pembroke tradition which it's far more often been the Master's role to uphold, I want first to thank everyone in our brilliant catering and Steward's and Development teams, and Debbie Brown, as Chris's PA, whose expertise and professionalism and care we sometimes take for granted, but which have already made this evening so special. Please join me in thanking them.

Like a good number of those gathered here this evening, I have vivid memories of my first awed meeting with Chris, when as a relatively recent former Cabinet Minister, celebrated as Secretary of State for Culture for achieving free access to Britain's leading museums, and as an even newer Honorary Fellow, he came to give a Master's Seminar in the Old Library on the markedly different styles to cabinet government demonstrated by two recent Prime Ministers. First there was the Thatcher model: in which after one strong exchange of views around the cabinet room table, every single member of cabinet having backed one position, the Iron Lady the opposite position, the Cabinet Secretary was reduced to recording the outcome of the discussion, and 'the view that prevailed'. Then there was the Blair-Brown model, of the really crucial conversations happening not round the cabinet table at all, but on sofas, between an elite, informal but supremely powerful inner circle. It was clear both that Chris knew the advantages and disadvantages of both, but also that he was a good deal more judicious in the expression of his views, enjoying life as he then was out of the fray, than a subsequent Old Library speaker from about that time, one Alastair Campbell.

By the time Chris hove into view again, with the second shortest letter of application for the Mastership I've known (the first, understandably, was his predecessor Richard Dearlove's) but one of the most succinctly powerful – 'I love Pembroke' – he had moved from his founding directorship of the Clore Foundation in Leadership in the Arts and was Chair of the Environment Agency. And what with one thing and the other, including Somerset floods, and the rather volatile rise and fall of moods and minds here on the Fellowship, he needed to display considerable resilience and patience to keep his head above water during a messily protracted election process. Perhaps it was keeping his head high and focused on what he was about to say in the first round of filmed interviews our shortlisted candidates endured that led to him entering that fray bloodied but still not unbowed, even if he was concussed; the door frame responsible in the passage past the screens has ever since worn a slightly guilty look. I suspect they have kept a wary distance from each other, that door and Chris.

But it was a long way north west of Cambridge, about a month before his admission as Master on 1 October 2015, that I saw Chris at his energetic and hospitable and quietly defiant best. Very generously indeed, but perhaps also with a view to assessing my own strengths and weaknesses, he invited me as his first

Senior Tutor to spend two or three days with at Inveralligan. Torridon is simply magnificent, and Chris was a magnificently, indeed at one point perversely generous host. Through floor to ceiling windows onto the shore and the loch, we watched otters playing out in the Loch as we breakfasted. That day I saw him in his element as the Munro Bagger that he has always been. He led me – I had brought my fishing rod – first up at astonishing speed across the mountain side towards a lochan he had in mind for me to try. En route he leapt across a roaring burn. I attempted, in something less than mountain goat style to follow and heard a sickening tear as my overtrousers split around the crotch. But at least I caught a beautiful Arctic char from that lochan.

But Chris had more ambitious plans. The following day he had arranged for us – that is, for me to fish on the renowned big trout water Loch Damph. D-A-M-P-H. I have to say – and I know from a recent conversation with a fly fishing head of house that Chris remembers that afternoon as vividly as I do but for slightly different reasons – I have to say that the H in Damph was silent that day. Which is more than can be said for the wind that hurtled down that loch, flinging squall after squall of rain into the boat, in which Chris insisted on sitting in the stern beside Alastair the Ghillie at the oars – Alastair bore a striking resemblance to Bill Grimstone, but without the charm – and me the incompetent flailing angler, for many more hours than was good for either of us. Alastair was less than forthcoming about the secrets of that loch, or about anything else. The trout kept their own counsel too, or laughed underwater, as I got into tangle after tangle in that wind and could not give up, because Chris had insisted on paying for all this.

Well, he did pay. I at least had the right pair of over-trousers for the purpose and Wellington boots. Chris, as he sat there in gaiters and magnificently sturdy alpine leather walking boots, felt the water deepen inexorably in the washes of the boat, and thoroughly and I fear probably irreversibly through the prime leather of those expensive boots. We were both cold; Chris must have been frozen. He was certainly well and truly damp by the time we got back. For years afterwards – and there have been ten of them – amid and after some rare squalls of argument in the College Meeting, we have quietly confirmed that even those long and difficult hours were as nothing compared to that afternoon with Alastair on Loch Damph.

But of course it wasn't just College Meetings Chris has had to endure, and steer, calmly, capably, giving colleagues their head but then steering his and our way to newly found consensus in a way that I suspect neither of those two PMs would have had the patience and diplomatic skills to manage. The qualities that he brings to every single college meeting as Chair are rare indeed. He never closes down debate; he hopes for consensus, even for unanimity where possible, because he believes in the collegiality of Pembroke. But where there isn't, he has an unerring instinct for framing a formula of the way forward which satisfies people on both or indeed every side of the argument that is a rare gift. Chris has never imposed his view on the Fellowship. He has listened and led by listening and by choosing when to speak at the right time in difficult time. He doesn't act first and consult later; and when there have been disagreements, in private, in my experience he always listens, never angers, never pulls rank.

How many Masters of a Cambridge College outside wartime – and of course since 2022 we're not outside wartime, with all the challenges that steeping energy costs and contractor uncertainty and fluctuating, indeed bucking, markets – have had to lead in such times? It's not just the once in a college's history scale of what has been achieved over the road. We have already thanked Andrew for his own brilliant management of what we have been used to think of as the Mill Lane Development, or Site, but which is now surely settled in all its glory as the Dolby Quarter. But when Chris was thanking him, he gently reflected on the fact that leaving the Bursar to deal with the myriad technical and logistical questions of a major building project left Chris to lead on aesthetics. Triumphantly. You've just seen how triumphantly. With humility, yes, as you've just heard on that short video celebrating the 10th of May, but also with entirely justifiable pride at a job magnificently done.

But that transformation of Pembroke, and I think of the city, is all the more remarkable when you consider the other challenges during these extraordinarily turbulent times, globally, nationally, even at times more parochially, that have required every ounce of the skills Chris has built during a lifetime of public service in politics and culture. It began of course before his first year was out with Brexit, and a result which Chris, as a committed European, had spoken out against with characteristic eloquence. But in fact it didn't begin with the vote, as that beautiful luminous portrait of Jo Cox MP, the victim of violent politically motivated extremism, reminds us. The result itself was of course another blow. It came at dawn on the day of our Barham dinner for our notably international cohort of postgraduates. That June evening in the Old Library, Chris stood up after dinner and began by saying as he always does firstly and most importantly thank you to our catering team. But then he said he turned to them and said: 'I want you to know that you will be always welcome in in Pembroke. Pembroke will always be your home.' Those statements were so manifestly meant, so deeply felt and brilliantly expressed, and they meant then and mean now as much as they do, because one of the defining features of Chris's Mastership has been that he has occupied the Lodge so generously, made it feel like the centre of our community, and occupied the Parlour so many evenings a week, with astonishing stamina and joviality. What's his secret? Well, he might have a superpower, but it also might just have something to do with a word that's easier to voice than to spell which he's introduced to our desserts and afterparties: it sounds like an Indian dish, Bhuna-haven, but is much more Scottish. Bunnahabhain. So, Chris, here is something to say we have noticed that. Enjoy it in company or solitude as you prefer.

It's difficult to over-estimate the importance of Chris's presence here. To read the anonymised feedback from the Junior and Graduate Parlour Presidents as I did a couple of weeks ago for what turned out to be Chris's first ever appraisal, on the afternoon after the night before, when he had clearly excelled himself on the Dodgems at the May Ball, and to hear his delight at how he'd lost count of the selfies students had asked him to pose with them for, is to realise quite how far we've come since the fraught meeting we had, in his first Michaelmas, after a row about a beginning of term bop and cultural appropriation – to sombrero

or not to sombrero – with students who found themselves polarised by social media messages leaked to the local press then picked up by the nationals. Chris’s advice was calm, wise, experienced. Stay in the room. Keep talking, in person, to each other. Disagree in person. Talk it out. Those selfies three weeks ago told a story: the love Chris has felt his whole life for Pembroke is richly reciprocated.

And then there was the pandemic. Even for a man who had finished his PhD on Wordsworth, Coleridge and solitude, even for a man who had ingeniously managed to ensure that, as we’ve just seen and heard, Pembroke is no longer Broke and has its own lime-tree bower to boot, lockdown must have felt at times like prison. And then there was the frustration of slipping on wet grass somewhere on the slopes of his beloved Beinn Alligan and being confined with a broken ankle all over again.

But he saw us through. Aspect after aspect of College life has seen Chris keep throwing himself into everything, limping or not. The enduring success of our Corporate Partnership Programmes, our William Pitt Seminars, our Fireside Chats, have owed so much to Chris’s presence, advice, leadership, to the warmth of his welcome to all our visitors. Chris, thank you from all the Corporate Fellows and the Partnership Team.

In Chapel, has the Master’s seat ever been so regularly filled? Has there ever been such support for music, in an era of dazzling success for Pembroke? It’s no accident that members of Pembroke’s brilliant choir were happy to offer their favourite grace for him this evening. Earlier this evening, Flavia reminded us how constant and well judged his support during this fortieth anniversary – ‘only the fortieth anniversary’ – of our admission of female undergraduates has been, not least when the only non-woman at the event. Our brilliant staff find him as approachable as he is to everyone. His energy is inspiring, infectious. And for a man who has lived so transparently, whose sexuality and whose health he has always been completely open about, to lead a College community has been to ensure that a college always regarded as friendly now feels like home to anyone and everyone, however they define themselves. As a Senior Tutor who lost some of his last year to debates about signage on the loos by the Junior Parlour, and some of his last term to an investigation into reports of sexual assault and harassment, I know how valuable it has been to have a Master who knows from his own lived experience how crucial it has been to set the right tone.

And if the last eighteen months have brought more local squalls tearing down the loch, and stinging a number of faces, well, Chris’s gentle and open leadership us through this has meant that we are, I think, as Fellows, as Trustees, less complacent, more aware of our responsibilities to each other, to the law, to our students than I can remember in my time here as a Fellow.

Ladies and gentlemen, might I ask you to join me in offering a toast. Chris, thank you for everything. Let’s raise our glasses to him, and wish him a very happy retirement, or Chancellorship, or both.

After Mark's tribute, Chris was presented with a number of presents, including a copy of Adam Nicolson's *The Making of Poetry: Coleridge, The Wordsworths and Their Year of Marvels* (with an inscription by the author for Chris) and a framed copy (reproduced overleaf) of Coleridge's 'This Lime-tree Bower My Prison' (which poem first surfaced in a letter written to Thomas Poole almost exactly 228 years previously, on Monday 15 July 1797). Careful readers will see that two changes have been made to the last nine lines of the poem.



Andrew Cates – A Tribute

Lord Chris Smith

After dinner on 24 June 2025, the Master paid the following tribute to our outgoing Bursar, Andrew Cates.

Andrew Cates has been our Bursar for twelve years; and we want to take this opportunity, when we are celebrating his record of service to Pembroke, to say a very big and grateful “thank you”. He has stewarded the College’s finances, and has overseen its administration and staffing, with great skill over the years. There are four things which particularly stand out for me, over these twelve years.

The first is that when Covid first hit us, in 2020, we had to put a number of staff onto the Government’s furlough scheme. Most of our students had headed home, and International Programmes simply couldn’t happen, so we needed a ‘skeleton’ staff to keep things ticking over. (I vividly remember the Head Porter mowing the lawn and the Head Chef pulling weeds out of the garden.) The Government’s programme provided 80% of normal salary, and that is what most employers around the country offered their furloughed staff. Not Andrew. He immediately decided that all furloughed staff should be paid at 100% of their normal salary. It was a typically humane and generous gesture, and it was noticed by our staff. We have a remarkably loyal staff in Pembroke, and it is thanks in large measure to Andrew’s leadership, and instinctive decisions like the Covid one, that this is the case.

The second is that – some seven or eight years ago – Andrew noticed that there was a slice of agricultural land near Linton that the College owned, and where there was the possibility of securing planning permission for housing development. Andrew immediately set about finding advisers, applying for planning permission, receiving it, and then disposing of the land to a developer for a profit to the College of some £5m. This was promptly added to the endowment.

The third moment was a similar seizing of an opportunity. When interest rates were at their very lowest, the opportunity arose to make a ‘private placement’ – taking out a long-term loan at a very low rate of interest, providing the College with the chance to invest the funds received, attracting income way above the debt repayment provisions that were required. It was an instinctively astute and successful deployment of College assets, to enhance Pembroke’s investment income and position.

But the fourth and greatest achievement has to be the way in which Andrew has shepherded the whole Mill Lane project to such a successful conclusion. Just six weeks ago we were celebrating the official opening of what we are now coming to call the Dolby Quarter. The fact that it has been so spectacularly completed, and especially that it came in under budget, is in very large measure thanks to Andrew. Andrew and I made a bargain at the start of the project. He would do all the detailed oversight of what was happening, dealing day in day out with the builders, the architects, the project managers, the engineers, the neighbours, and the sub-contractors (we also had a lot of help from Chris Blencowe, our former Bursar, with the planners); he would leave the aesthetic decisions to me. I of course got the best of the deal, but I think both of us did pretty well in our respective roles.

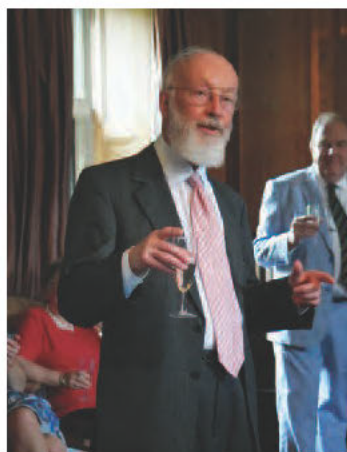
So, Andrew, we do want to say a very big 'thank you' for twelve years of exceptional service to the College. We are distinctively the better for your stewardship.

Andrew was then presented with a specially commissioned Martin Rowson cartoon, reproduced overleaf with the kind permission of Andrew Cates and Martin Rowson. The cartoon takes its inspiration from Andrew's enthusiasm for climbing, and exactly reproduces the layout of the new climbing walls in the tower of the Auditorium.



Brian Watchorn – Tributes

The Reverend Canon Brian Watchorn, who was Fellow, Dean and Chaplain of Pembroke College from 1982 to 2006, died on 27 August 2024. His obituary is on p 195 of this Gazette. We reproduce below tributes paid to Brian first at his funeral on 18 September 2024 (by the Reverend Canon Mark Williams (1991)) and then at his memorial service on 8 February 2025 (by Wendy Elias, James Gardom, Mark Wormald and Loraine Gelsthorpe). Both services were held in Pembroke College Chapel.



Fr Mark Williams

‘Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them.’

It is quite poignant for me hearing Loraine read that well-known passage from the Book of Revelation. The vision of St John the Divine of the new Jerusalem. When I saw Brian for the penultimate time at the end of July, one of the things we talked about was the biography of Clement Attlee that I had just acquired by John Bew. ‘Ah! John Bew – Pembroke man!’ – said Brian in his inimitable way – ‘and his father – a Pembroke man!’

Brian was born in the late 1930s, and grew up of course to experience those tremendous advances in society after the second world war – the creation of the NHS, the Welfare state, social housing – many folk at the time referencing, whether back to Scripture or to William Blake, the idea of the new Jerusalem. Attlee of course developed a lot of his thinking about the transformation of society during his time running the Haileybury School Mission – in the East End of London. The cause of our own College Mission, where I had the privilege to serve, was very dear to Brian’s heart of course, and if it were not for Brian’s good auspices, determination and tenacity with Pembroke House, that place which is thriving today, would very likely have closed 25 years ago.

Despite spending much of his working life in the academy – and there was no more proud a Pembroke man than Brian – Brian was also active as a priest in the national church, the Diocese of Ely, and of course as a parish priest in Chesterton, and a curate in Bolton.

Whether through his work as Dean with his interactions with young and old in college, or his work in other places, Brian believed in the transformation of society – and the power the individual and the collective have to do good, and make a difference for their fellow human beings. The kingdom of God is not just a future idea – the kingdom of God is also among us, is now. Building that kingdom – the new Jerusalem of justice, mercy and peace. ‘And God himself will be with them’.

Brian was not at all ostentatious in his religion – and as an undergraduate I found him rather ‘low church’. However, whilst I was organ scholar, I did

manage to persuade him that once in a while we should have a choral high mass in the chapel. He would engage with this with a certain impishness that was quite endearing, as we would trot over the road to Little St Mary's to borrow the lavish vestments for the three people who would wear them in chapel. Typically of Brian, he couldn't bring himself to say we were having high mass – but rather he'd say, 'we're having a three-some'.

Serious theological endeavour was clearly of huge importance to Brian – but at the same time he was also a very practical person. As a national selector for those wanting to be ordained in the Church of England, Brian was known for being fierce but fair, for having little tolerance for sloppy thinking – but also little tolerance for the egos of some, which he felt made them quite unsuitable for the graft and the pastoral work of a priest.

I often recall a story Brian told of a visiting preacher at Sunday Evensong here in chapel – no doubt some of you were present. The said preacher was rambling on about nothing very much – not mentioning the readings at all, no reference to God, Jesus, or anything else for that matter that you might expect to hear in a sermon. Outside the chapel a storm was whipping up, the rain was lashing down on the windows, there was thunder, there was lightening – the preacher was prattling on – and all of a sudden there was an almighty thunder clap right over the chapel – and Brian from the Dean's stall found himself calling out to the preacher – 'I think God is trying to get into your sermon!'

At the heart of St John the Divine's vision, we have the vision of the worship of heaven, and the choirs of angels singing continuously – and Brian's love of and support for the music in chapel, and in college more generally, was enormous as we all know. John's vision is also of the celestial banquet. In the new Jerusalem there will be fellowship and feasting. That idea of hospitality, of coming together as community, in fellowship – a pattern mirrored on earth by our gathering whether around the altar for communion or around the common table in Hall – both things which Brian not just valued, but sustained, and encouraged others to take seriously.

'And God himself shall be with them'.

Brian was a great one for the importance of tradition. And within that, that sense of the marking of time – like the liturgical year of the church I guess – that sense of acknowledging, even sanctifying the shape and the pattern of the life of a community. Brian appreciated that there was something almost sacred about marking the important times in the life of a community – not to look over one's shoulder to the past for the sake of it, but to say – this is something of our identity, this is who we are – and to allow that marking of time, that keeping of tradition to propel us into the future. There is something very incarnational about that – 'God himself shall be with them'.

We thank God for those who have supported Brian as his health has declined – not least Karen and Brian's family, but also Andrew Morris, Loraine Gelsthorpe, and Wendy and Patrick Elias.

We thank God for a life of distinguished service to the glory of God in this place and beyond. And we give thanks that Brian is now safe in the wide and loving arms of the one who is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and

the end – where he feasts in that heavenly banquet on another shore and in a marvellous light. Rest in peace Brian. To God be the glory!

Wendy Elias

It is difficult in a short address to do justice to a friendship which lasted as long as mine, and my family's with Brian. He baptised all of our children, married our daughter in this chapel, and took part in the ceremony when our son was married in King's.

I first met him nearly 60 years ago when he was the youthful Chaplain of Caius, and last saw him in the Manor Care Home just before I went to France, about 10 days before he died. The astonishing thing was that despite his declining health his wit and sense of humour were very much intact, and although he was suffering from a form of dementia associated with his Parkinson's Disease he used frequently to have long and erudite conversations, particularly with Patrick, about knotty problems of the Old Testament!

I expect most people here knew Brian as a Fellow of Pembroke. I hope to give you a brief account of his family background and his life outside the college. Brian was born in Nottingham in May 1939 to Amelia and Percy Watchorn. At that time his half siblings, Ivan and Freda were teenagers, and his brother David was two years old. David is the only one of them to survive Brian although in poor health. Throughout his life he was very proud of his family, particularly, his niece Karen, who, with her husband Chris, gave him so much practical help in his last years.

As Amelia and Percy were committed members of St Jude's church it was not surprising that Brian and David became choristers there, where Brian quickly became something of a star. His potential was spotted by the Archdeacon who encouraged him to enter for a scholarship to the prestigious Nottingham Grammar School, which eventually led to his coming up to Cambridge, to Emmanuel, to read Modern Languages... and to his brother nick-naming him 'clever clogs'!

After theological college, ordination, and a curacy at Bolton Parish Church, Brian was appointed Chaplain of Caius. He made strong friendships there, and a group of former choral scholars continued to visit him until his last days. One of these ex-choral scholars, Peter Chapman, was the cause of his conducting an unusual baptism in Caius Chapel. Always a dyed-in-the-wool Anglican, with more than a few reservations about the Roman Catholic Church, Brian was nonetheless persuaded to accommodate Peter's wishes, and those of his French Roman Catholic wife and hold a joint service for their son Ben with their Roman Catholic Parish Priest. Our first two children, James and Thomas, were also baptised at this service, which we think may have been the first service of its kind in Caius Chapel.

Another ex-Caius undergraduate, a Jewish schoolfriend of ours, wrote to Brian a few years ago to thank him for his wisdom and guidance. I should like to read to you from the email he wrote to me recently about it.

'As an undergraduate, I requested a meeting with Brian at which I asked him to admit me to the church. He asked me why I wanted to convert, and I told him

that I had had an experience that had made me aware of the possibility of a personal relationship with God. Having been taught a lot about the culture and practice of Judaism, but not much at all on the spiritual side, I had therefore gone to my Rabbi in Cardiff to seek his advice. He was from a rabbinic tradition that I subsequently learnt is highly sceptical about mysticism, and he told me that there is indeed a mystical tradition in Judaism, the Kabbalah, but a person is not allowed to study it until he is 40 years old.

'I also told Brian that Buddhism has a beautiful mystical tradition, but was too alien for me, whereas I felt at home at the church services I had attended, and Christianity also has a powerful mystical tradition. Poor Brian let me go on about this for ages, at least half an hour. It must have been difficult for him. I was 20 or 21, but Brian was only eight years older.

'Having listened to what I had to say, Brian said, "There is no way I would admit you to the church, because you have absolutely no relationship with Jesus Christ." Handing me a card, he went on, "Here is the address of the Lubavitch in Stamford Hill: Go and see them and they will show you that Judaism has exactly what you are looking for." (The Lubavitch are a relatively open minded Haredi community, one of whose missions is to bring lost Jews back to Judaism.)

'So I contacted the Lubavitch and spent two weekends in their community, staying with Rabbi Shmuel Lew and his family. I discovered, by participating for a while in their home lives, and their services, that Judaism can indeed resonate with the joy and spirituality that I was seeking, and I have remained a practising Jew ever since.

'I will always be grateful to Brian and Rabbi Lew for what they taught me.'

When Brian left Caius, he became vicar of St George's, Chesterton. Karen Brian's niece reminded me of a story that while he was there, the good ladies of the parish, as well as Brian's mother, used constantly to ask him why he was not married. His response was always that he was waiting for a rich French widow. (I think he was referring to a well-known Flanders and Swann malapropism, which spoke of a French widow in every room). When he came to Pembroke, Brian found his rich French widow, as he used to say, in the form of St Marie-de-Pol who founded this college in 1347!

At first, he lived in a small college house in Botolph Lane, where an incident occurred which caused him much embarrassment. He was upstairs when he heard noises on the ground floor, and came downstairs to catch a burglar red-handed. When the police arrived and asked him what he had said to the intruder, Brian, who was far from given to outbursts of expletives, was very embarrassed to have to give his answer. Suffice it to say, that the Burglar complied with this instruction and ran away. It would be inappropriate for me to repeat in the chapel what he actually said, but if you really want to know, you could try asking me later, after I have had a glass or two of wine.

It may surprise you to know that I was almost the cause of Brian's not coming to Pembroke. When the college was looking for someone to fill the dual roles of Dean and Chaplain, and Patrick wanted to recommend Brian, I said, 'You can't recommend Brian, he's a friend!' Luckily, I was over-ruled, to the benefit of Pembroke and to the great pleasure of Brian. And that's how we come to be here

today, in this chapel, to remember a man of integrity and wisdom, and a dear friend to many.

James Gardom

I wrote to a number of people, asking for memories of Brian as a priest and a chaplain. The responses I got were very evocative, so I shall start by reading some of the things they sent to me:

From Antony Evans (Caius, 1967): ‘Even to us callow youths coming up to Caius in 1967 – well, this one, anyway – it was obvious, on meeting Brian Watchorn for the first time, that here was a man, albeit not that many years older than ourselves, of a generous and gentle spirit who took his pastoral duties and concerns for us undergraduates seriously, but sensitively and unintrusively, and not without a sense of humour and fun. He was endlessly hospitable, the coffee and tea cups in his rooms never having a chance of going cold, and was not beyond participating (carefully) in the occasional quite wild party! As these often took place in rooms above his own, they were hard to ignore. As a young Christian man and priest he was not fiercely evangelical: he did not need to be. The depth and breadth of his beliefs were obvious from the way he lived and treated others and from his quietly spoken and thought-provoking readings and sermons in chapel. I know I will not be the only one to remember him with warm and affectionate gratitude.’

From the *Pembroke Gazette* volume 56: ‘COLLEGE NEWS. We extend a warm welcome to the new Dean of the College, the Reverend Brian Watchorn, who was elected Fellow in February 1982 and took up his duties in September. He has come to us from the parish of St George’s Chesterton, where he has been Vicar since 1975. Prior to that appointment, he was Chaplain of Gonville & Caius College for eight years; and his Cambridge life began in the late 1950s as an undergraduate at Emmanuel, where he read Theology. He is a bachelor, and we expect to see him as much about College as ever his distinguished predecessors – we expect, also, that undergraduates will learn quickly that if he is not to be found in his rooms on J staircase he may yet be discovered not a hundred yards away in the small house in Botolph Lane which will be his home.’

From James Drinkwater (2004, organ scholar): ‘His interviews with undergrads were a vital piece of intel for recruiting potential singers to the choir – how we would have struggled with Brian’s knowledge of the intake! His care for the Friday Plainsong group was a special joy. Singing from the ‘Manuels of Plainsong’ each week led to such especially refreshing and soul-restoring experience, the aim being to find that elusive unanimity of tone and delivery from all gathered to sing: a few verses from time to time we glimpsed what that might have sounded like. And those communion services on Sundays with Jayne Ringrose and other students in attendance, not least the chats over the toast afterwards with the beautiful views over both sides of the College. I vividly remember Brian’s cautionary advice which still remains with me – often incredibly granular – No last verse reharmonisations unless the hymns includes a doxology! Don’t, like Frankenstein, cobble together different section of the hymn to make a playover! Do count in between the verses! He had a detailed

memory of the best practices of former organ scholars, not least Chris Gray, what repertoire they had done, how they had practised and found success, which he passed on and which I learnt from. And also his inspiring memories of the legendary Sidney Kenderdine.'

From Richard Lloyd Morgan (Chaplain of Kings College until 2014): 'He used to help as an extra pair of hands at services of Evensong at King's when we were short of ministers. I remember him as entirely reliable, quiet, calm, unfailingly helpful and generous with his wisdom and gentle authority. I don't remember hearing him preach, but he was a joy to have as a colleague and his sober demeanour masked a profound, finely honed sense of humour.'

Last week Loraine brought back from Brian's flat his set of stoles – the coloured scarves that priests wear to indicate the mood of the service, and where we are in the church year. I have them here. These are the stoles of a traditional priest from the 1960s, clear, undemonstrative, and very specifically a man, or a priest, for all seasons. It is a complete set, carefully preserved and faithfully worn for a lifetime of ministry. Almost any Sunday school child from that era would have been able to tell you their meanings, but that memory is fading – so I would like to tell you about them.

Red is for the Holy Spirit. It is the colour of fire and blood. Behind Brian's gentleness, and expressed through Brian's gentleness there was a purpose and conviction fully informed by the awareness of the presence of God. What our Chapel and our prayer book and our music express were not, for Brian, a pleasing mood with an uplifting aesthetic – they were the central core reality of life. If you sensed a steeliness in Brian, under that gentleness, it was not about Brian, but about God.

Green is for Ordinary Time. It is the colour of gardens and flourishing and growth. Brian knew and showed over and over again that God must be shown in the ordinary things. Shared food, shared memories, shared stories, shared spaces. God is present and known in ordinary things and ordinary time, and in the ordinary lifetimes of ordinary people. God among the coffee cups. God in the garden. That was where Brian met us and met God.

Purple is for Penitence. Brian asked that his funeral and memorial should express penitence as well as joy. He knew the gap between the blazing fire of the red and green of our ordinary lives. He knew that it is bridged in Jesus Christ. He knew and thought and taught that we cross that bridge by coming in penitence, asking forgiveness, and receiving healing.

Black is for Death. We have stopped using it now, but more robust times this too was understood as a part of life. As a parish priest and Chaplain Brian visited the sick, and tended to those who were dying. He supported those who were grieving. Brian accepted his own mortality without fear or rancour, and so he lived and pointed to the end the hope into which he had been baptised.

White is for Joy. The blending of the red, green, purple and black in Brian's life and ministry come out together as white – the colour of joy, of hope, of Easter resurrection. Brian was a joyful man, a joyful priest.

It is good, at the end of his life, to have these five stoles, Red, Green, Purple, Black and White. Brian wore them faithfully through his lifetime, and he lived

and showed us their meaning. For us they represent his life and ministry of faith and hope and love. And so, we thank God for him. Amen.

Mark Wormald

Most of my memories of Brian are from Ivy Court.

In the Thomas Gray Room he was the wise colleague a new Tutor could ask for advice at our Monday lunchtime meetings. Downstairs in Parlour, he was unfailingly convivial company at Dessert, as kind as he was clever. We became vertical neighbours on J staircase. I loved the sound of the laughter of God coming through my ceiling. We shared a passion for Philip Larkin. I treasure Brian's copy of the *Collected Poems*.

Brian of course had many reasons to visit LL staircase, not least to feed Kit Smart, Colledge cat, who adored him. He directed studies with a real pride in his Theologians and their achievements, and as Tutor knew how to put his air of unworldliness to best use. One Friday during a particularly stressful exam season for us all, he came up to the Tutorial office for coffee. Meticulous as ever, he wanted to check all was in place for the following morning, when he'd be on duty alone. A student would need to save their typewritten script to disk. 'Now, where's my box of floppies?' Technology duly located, with heroically straight faces all round, Brian's work was nearly done: heading out with a cheery wave, he was heard to murmur, not quite under his breath: 'Well, my box of floppies...'

There were sterner moments. 'Might you have a minute?' Brian let you know when a decision had been rushed or a College notice had been placed in the Reporter without due care. After his retirement, he was a brilliant Acting Praelector, matriculating 'the young' and presenting them for their degrees with just the unshowy care he'd long brought to being their Rooms Tutor: doing things properly mattered, details mattered, because people mattered.

We adopted our two eldest sons when they were two and three, and had no way of knowing whether they'd been christened. No matter, Brian said, and baptized them both in the Colledge font, the magnificent silver ewer that sees more frequent service at High Table, adopting them into the family of Christ. They remembered that, when our youngest son was born: 'How will we adopt him into our family?' Out came 'the beardy man' and the silver ewer once again, gathering light, his smile gently radiant.

And of course he served Pembroke's family in moments of loss. When our dear colleague Mark Kaplanoff died suddenly in 2001 in his rooms on K, Brian led us all in our grief at the funeral. He particularly admired the poem, by Mary Oliver, *In Blackwater Woods* which I read then and which concludes that 'To live in this world / you must be able / to do



three things: to love what is mortal; / to hold it against your bones knowing / your own life depends on it; / and, when the time comes to let it go, / to let it go.'

Lorraine Gelsthorpe

A few days after the ceremony in Chapel that welcomed me into the College community as a Fellow in 1994, I came into to College to walk around the grounds and to get to know the lay-out. I met Brian near the orchard, he recognised me from the Tuesday ceremony, and immediately struck up a conversation, wanting to know where I was born, where I had lived, what research I was doing as a criminologist, what I had written, what I had read. We quickly discovered that we both came from Nottinghamshire, though from very different areas of the county. As we walked around the College he tested my knowledge of plants. Did I know the difference between an abutilon and an acanthus, a begonia and a Bergenia, for instance? I thought this must be a further examination of my fitness and suitability to be a Fellow. Little did I know at the time, that he was on the look-out for Fellows to join the Gardens Committee. That first meeting proved to be significant. As a new Fellow I was quiet and diffident, but Brian's interest, openness and warm welcome quickly cemented my relationship with the College and its community. Brian remained a close friend to the last.

In 1997, as Dean and Chaplain, Brian invited me to join the chapel choir tour that summer – to Finland and Estonia – partly to assist if the choir needed a whispering alto, partly to be a general factotum and first aider. My sense was that Brian enjoyed the choir tours as much as the students, and he took particular delight in observing 'the young' enjoying themselves. Almost a father figure at times – purchasing 22 ice creams for 'the young' – he insisted that the choir have dinner together every evening and presided over each occasion with generosity and humour. The tour to Finland and Estonia was memorable not only for the wonderful music produced, but for a number of incidents: the senior organ scholar's suitcase containing his formal clothes for services and concerts vanished into 'Finnair' on the way, we had numerous trips to hospitals because students cut their feet walking into lakes, and we had to leave someone in Estonia because their passport expired whilst we were there (they did eventually catch up with us back in Finland I hasten to add), but another student remained in Finland after we had left for the UK when his passport also expired.

But there were further challenges to come – when we arrived back at Luton Airport Brian and I found ourselves with 22 gowns, 22 sets of music, and 24 bedsheets – having been required to take bedsheets with us (blankets were provided for our stays in church halls and the like). Upon arrival, all the students on the tour cheerfully waved goodbye to us and said 'see you next term'. We were heavily laden. The problem was that when we arrived back in Cambridge we were several sheets missing – seven if I remember rightly. Brian thought that we could perhaps explain that we had had to use some sheets as bandages for all the cut feet. We arranged delivery of the surviving sheets with Mrs Raynham, the housekeeper at the time (affectionately described by students as the headmistress), and before I knew it, Brian announced to her that 'Lorraine has something to tell you' – I muttered something about 'blood

everywhere', 'had to use sheets', 'cut feet'. Needless to say, Mrs Raynham quickly saw through our ruse.

Brian's mischievous streak also emerged a couple of years later when the 'neff' (a silver ornamental model ship made specially for the dinner table with a mast, sail, rigging) was going to be on display the evening of the commemoration of benefactors. Brian had frequently indicated that he thought that Fellows were inobservant and unappreciative of the College's precious silverware and he thought we should place an item on the neff to see if anyone noticed. I was duly tasked with finding a suitable 'item' – which was a small Lego figure – when it came to placing it on the neff during dinner Brian insisted that this was my role, as junior fellow that evening. No-one noticed it – and the mischief remained our secret – until today. Every now and again he would chuckle about it.

Mischief aside, Brian's serious side as Dean and Chaplain was ever present. Another choir tour – September 2001 – to Switzerland. A day off walking in the mountains. The 11th. We were at the top of a mountain when news came through on someone's mobile 'phone of the four coordinated terrorist attacks; passenger jets were flown into two skyscrapers. There was panic, distress, alarm... Brian calmly gather all of us around him and said very clearly, we can do nothing to help in practical terms, but we can pray. Everyone there, of different faiths and none, prayed, and prayed. Brian was the father figure holding us together.

James has talked about Brian's ministry and churchmanship – I want to add that students found Brian very easy to talk to; he often claimed to be unworldly and not to understand modern life, but he very often knew more than he let on. He was also very easy to talk to about faith, or undulating faith, and doubt. He had an easy conversational way of probing deep issues; he revealed something of his own undulating journey at times. He introduced me to Paul Tillich's work *The Courage to Be* and the notion that knowing self, knowing one another, and knowing God might just be one and the same thing, and that every day would present an opportunity to grow in faith with this in mind. He also introduced me to John Keats' concept of 'negative capability' which revolves around suspending judgment about something in order to learn more about it – as vital now as it was in the early 1800s we might say. Inspired by Shakespeare's work Keats described 'negative capability' as 'being in uncertainties, mysteries, doubts, without any irritable reaching after fact and reason... so negative is not perjorative, but rather it implies the need to develop capacity to resist explaining away what we do not understand... and to adopt a position of humility and openness. So Brian had a gentle, conversational way of getting people to think and to explore the meaning of faith, and uncertainties, by talking about what we know and don't know, with the notion that false certainty can cloud understanding.

Brian also had a strong sense of community, seeing everyone in the College as a member of the community, students, staff, and fellows alike, and sometimes their children, and grandchildren. He had an amazing postcard system for recording details of students and their interests, from his very first meeting until the last – as they graduated. In his neat, meticulous handwriting, he would record where their family lived, where they had been to school, their course of study, their interests, their likes and dislikes – he felt it was part of pastoral care to

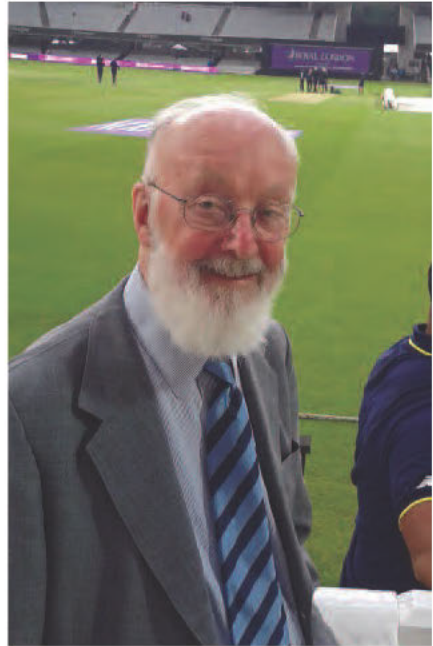
record such details and he would remind students of early likes and dislikes when they were graduating. Instead of asking them what job they were going to/or hoping to go to, he would ask them whether they had had opportunity to become the person they wanted to be and what they had learned about themselves from living in community.

His pastoral care was extensive. He visited staff who were off sick for extended periods, he baptized the children of staff and fellows, and quite simply took an interest in everyone. Indeed, in our bi-termly outings to a local pub, or if we had saved up enough – to the Garden House Hotel (now Graduate by Hilton) he introduced me to gin and tonic – not any old gin, it had to be Bombay gin!

When visiting Brian in the Cherry Hinton Care Home and then the Manor Care Home, following his fall, and the development of Parkinson's Disease with concomitant dementia, life was challenging for him. He was often in pain. When very ill, he sometimes thought that he was living in College, and on more than one occasion when he complained about noisy students in the corridor, I would pretend to go out and quieten them. But in lucid moments – as Andrew Morris, Wendy and Patrick Elias, John Bell, Moreed Arbabzadah, and other regular visitors know, he would ask about people in College, and about College news, whom we had seen in College, and about the gardens.

Finally, one of the tasks I have had following Brian's death has been emptying his flat of books in preparation for the flat to be sold. Hundreds and hundreds of books ranging from poetry and various bibles to 'Beer and Skittles'; to biographies and autobiographies of significant clergy, popes, priests and country parsons, and deep theological tomes: biblical interpretations; world religions; tomes on forgiveness, anger, justice; numerous books on the Quaker Foundation, on the rise of the meritocracy, on the development of Sunday Schools and more generally the quest for 'education for all' in the 1800s. Many of the books contain his handwritten notes on significant features of the writings or book reviews written for the Church Times. Brian read very widely, but wore his erudition lightly. Never boring or pompous, always curious and conversational.

A man of principle and integrity, a quiet scholar, a man of warmth and openness, a man of tradition, a pillar of the College community; a keen observer of life, a good friend to all. We loved you Brian.



Celebrating 40 Years of Women at Pembroke: International Women's Day

The following montage of images was taken by Keith Heppell on 8 March 2025, International Women's Day, which day marked the near-culmination of a series of events held in the College over the academic year 2024–2025 to celebrate 40 years since the admission of women to Pembroke in 1984. The celebrations on 8 March began with a speed networking event for Pembroke women, allowing current Pembroke students to connect with our inspiring alumnae. This was followed by a 40th Anniversary Lunch, for alumnae, students, Fellows and staff. After lunch, a talk was held on 'Breaking barriers – women leaders in public health' with Baroness Scotland, Dame Cressida Dick, Dame Marina Warner, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, and Bel Trew (2004) participating; Polly Blakesley chaired the discussion. The evening saw the opening of 'Memories and Martlets: An Exhibition Celebrating the Admission of the First Women Students in 1984'.







Celebrating 40 Years of Women at Pembroke: the 40th Anniversary Distinguished Lecture

Julia Gillard

As the capstone on its celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the admission of women to Pembroke, on 26 March 2025, Pembroke was honoured to host the Honourable Julia Gillard AC, who was the first (and so far only) woman to become Prime Minister of Australia, serving as its 27th Prime Minister from 2010 to 2013. Julia Gillard delivered the 40th Anniversary Distinguished Lecture to mark the admission of women to Pembroke; the lecture was followed by a conversation with Polly Blakesley. With the kind permission of Julia Gillard, we reproduce the text of her address below. A video of Julia Gillard's speech, and the subsequent conversation with Polly Blakesley may be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrfxZh5Jcw4>

Good evening. I'm so pleased to be with you all this evening to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the admission of women at Pembroke College. This College is steeped in so much history: it's quite incredible to contemplate that it was founded in 1347. Meaning – of course – that for more than 600 years of its existence, the college was a men's only place of learning. And then, finally, the historic decision to admit women.

But not until the merits had been debated. After all, there were big issues to consider. Would women be too much of a distraction for the hard-working male scholars? Perhaps they'd be a bit too emotional for the rigours of an education here. Apparently, and I quote from an account of the events leading up to women being admitted to Pembroke: 'The days of anxious debate over exactly how many undergraduate rooms ought to be fitted out with long mirrors, and to what extent Fellows should be equipped with boxes of Kleenex when interviewing young ladies for admission, passed rapidly into folklore.'

Of course, it's easy for me to generate a laugh with these lines all these decades later. However, back then the debate was serious. Indeed, in 1974 a working group investigated existing mixed colleges and ended up arguing a major problem was an apparent shortage of women with a demonstrably high enough standard to match the perceived standard of the existing male entrants. I'm pleased and unsurprised to say, as is so often the case, statistics showed the women were being severely underestimated. There was no significant difference between the standards of the more than 2000 men and around 450 women attending the other Cambridge Colleges at the time. And it also became clear there was a huge pool of untapped talent. Hundreds of young women sitting entrance exams who were achieving admission standards but were nevertheless not being admitted, not to mention all the women who were simply not applying because they knew how exceptionally difficult it was to get in or weren't allowed to stay on long enough with their earlier studies. Which should also leave us aghast at how much human potential was wasted in the centuries before.

Once admitted, as usual, women got on with the job, and in the forty years since, Pembroke has produced so many incredible women alumni who are now taking the skills that were nurtured here, into their professions in countries across the globe. From sporting successes like cricketer Elspeth Fowler and rower Catherine Bishop, to diplomat and former Ambassador to Myanmar Vicky

Bowman and Hollywood actress Naomi Harris. Doctors, lawyers, scientists, filmmakers, journalists: Pembroke women on every continent are doing this College proud. And as of October this year another milestone for women at Pembroke. I want to extend my congratulations to Professor Polly Blakesley on being appointed the first woman Master of Pembroke. I know a little about the honour and challenges of being the first woman to step into a role. Polly, I regret to advise you it isn't all good news.

From my own experiences, and from research work done by the Global Institute for Women's Leadership at Kings College London, I have the honour of chairing, we know barriers still exist. For women, there tends to be a disproportionate focus on appearance because images of leadership have been male for so long, a different look jars. There also tends to be more interest in family structures. Even the newest female political candidate knows that there is no right answer to the question 'do you have children'. If you don't, then that raises suspicions about whether you are a cold person. If you do, then heavens who's looking after them? A question not asked of young male candidates with children because no-one assumes they have the major caring responsibilities. This is just one manifestation of what research studies constantly tell us, namely that all of us, every one of us, including young people, have embedded in our brains gender stereotypes. And we have very specific stereotypes when it comes to leadership.

We associate competence and command with men and tend to see male leaders as likeable, whereas women are associated with empathy and nurturing and we tend to see female leaders as nasty, because being in charge is counter intuitive to our stereotyping. On the competence point, a very persuasive study was conducted at North Carolina State University, which had a wholly online course taught to four different classes by a male lecturer and a female lecturer. As a result of the particular way this course was delivered, students never met or saw the teacher. This enabled the male teacher to teach one class disclosing his true identity and the female teacher to teach another class disclosing her true identity. But for classes three and four they effectively switched genders, with the woman teaching the course pretending to be the man and vice versa. When the male teacher's performance was evaluated by students, he was marked down by those who believed him to be a woman compared with those who believed him to be a man. The female teacher scored better with those who believed her to be male compared to those who thought she was a woman. Obviously, the calibre of his and her teaching did not change; the only thing that did was the students' perception of their gender.

On the stereotypes of empathy and nurturing, a study of the male-dominated field of engineering found that a confident male engineer would gain influence in his organisation, but for a woman to do the same, confidence alone was not enough. She would need to be seen as competent and caring as well. Academic researchers Laurie A. Rudman and Peter Glick have conducted experiments on attitudes towards women and men and have shown that a nice, considerate woman is just seen as conforming to expectations, so her behaviour does not generate a positive reaction from her employer, whereas a man will get a good response because he will be seen to have gone above and beyond usual

behavioural norms. Indeed, being seen as a helpful colleague has been shown to correlate with employment promotions for men but not women. But it is important to note here, that while the research I am citing now focuses on women, the fact we don't have gender equality has negative impacts on men too. Other research has shown that men also pay a price when they are in a counter stereotypical occupation. For example, a male nurse has to do more to prove his competence and his caring attributes because – instinctively – he is not who we expect to show up.

Yet, if we look around the world today, we see plenty of evidence that gender equality is not viewed as a shared and positive agenda for all. I can give you some numbers to support that assertion because each year the global polling company IPSOS in partnership with the Global Institute for Women's Leadership looks at attitudes to gender equality. Released earlier this month, this study was based on a survey of nearly 24,000 people across 30 nations. It found that 44 per cent of respondents agreed with the statement that 'we have gone so far in promoting women's equality that we are discriminating against men'. That's an interesting insight but far more fascinating and disturbing is the age and gender breakdown behind that number. Six in 10 (60%) Gen Z men agree men are being expected to do too much to support equality, 22 points higher than the four in 10 (38%) Gen Z women who feel the same. The next biggest gap is among Gen X, where there is a 17-point difference in opinion between men and women. And it is the oldest generation surveyed – Baby Boomers – who are least likely to say men are being asked to do too much, with 44% of men and 31% of women in this group feeling this way.

Let's just pause for a moment and have that sink in. It means if you found yourself at a birthday party for a 70-year-old with the celebrating crowd largely in the same age bracket, you are statistically more likely to be with men supportive of gender equality than if you went to a 21st birthday party. And the worrying news doesn't stop there. Asked whether a man who stays home to look after his children is less of a man, 28% of Gen Z men agree or strongly agree. Amongst those ageing baby boomers, only 12 % of men express the same view. Our survey also shows that Gen Z is a divided generation. 53% of Gen Z women say they define themselves as a feminist, compared with 32% of Gen Z men – a gap of 21 percentage points. This is the biggest gender split among generations surveyed. And seemingly Gen Z knows they are a divided generation. In fact, Gen Z-ers are relatively united in their belief that there's tension between men and women in society today.

While tension between several other groups in society – such as between rich and poor – is felt equally across generations, there is a much clearer age divide in perceptions of tension between men and women in society. Six in 10 (59%) members of Gen Z across the 30 countries surveyed say there is tension between men and women today – the most of any generation surveyed. And majorities of both Gen Z men (55%) and women (62%) agree this is the case.

Let's turn now as to how these attitudes show up in the real world. In the US election which gave us Donald Trump as President, analysis presented in *The New York Times* shows that among voters who are younger than 26 years old, Kamala

Harris only gained more than 50% of support from voters who were women of colour. White men, white women and men of colour all supported Trump at rates over 50%. However, it is worth noting that in both race categories – people of colour and white – women more strongly supported Harris than men. When *The New York Times* dug into these figures, they found that the gender gap between women and men has been fairly stable among voters over 40, with women more strongly supporting the Democrats. The margin is around 10% and has historically been explained by women’s greater focus on social sector issues like health care where Democrats have a brand advantage. But in the election last November, if you look at people younger than 25, the generation gap doubles, to nearly 20 percentage points, with young men much more solidly supporting Trump. This phenomenon is not just happening in the US. Polling and election outcomes last year show this trend of gender polarisation in younger voters, in many parts of the world, including here in the UK.

I think *The New York Times* columnist, Ezra Klein, caught our collective reaction to these facts well when he said, ‘the thing I’m most shocked by in the last four years (is) that young people have gone from being the most progressive generation since baby boomers, and maybe even in some ways more so, to becoming potentially the most conservative generation we have experienced in 50 to 60 years.’ And, this is being especially driven by young men. Why? No one knows the full answer to that but there is now a huge drive to understand it. The acclaimed new series *Adolescence* is one way and shows that the creative industries are now trying to grapple with and invite us to reflect on what’s happening. At a more academic level, at the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership we are endeavouring to mount a major research project into attitude formation by young men. It is always dangerous to posit an explanation before all the data and analysis is in. But intuitively, I would posit three potential factors.

One, young men are doing it tougher today. The statistics on comparative educational attainment and income generation capacity are truly concerning. Indeed, here in the UK, for the first time, it is young men rather than young women who are more likely to be out of work and out of school.

Second, today’s generation has had more of their gender-based attitudes formed on-line with anti-women elements encompassing everything from early access to violent pornography, to the incel movement and the manosphere.

Third, today’s generation likely saw extra programs for girls when they were in school, an understandable response to the then existing educational disadvantages facing girls. Perhaps that has left them feeling undervalued. And maybe there is just some old-fashioned acting out against a more empowered generation of mothers who likely worked as well as cared for children and had a sense of their own equality.

But wherever the research takes us, as the Trump administration shreds diversity, equity and inclusion policies with ripple effects on business, universities and organisations throughout the world, we have to be prepared to act. In my own mind, I label this task Resist, Reflect, Re-energise. We have to resist when confronted with egregious claims like plane accidents are being caused by DEI policies or the most oppressed group is white South Africans. We

also have to uphold here, in my home country, Australia, and in other parts of the world the legal and practical efforts to improve equality. While many fashions start in America, this anti-DEI crusade is not one we should follow.

But we also have to deeply reflect and work out why the project of gender equality does not have greater support. We have to acknowledge that we have not done enough to include men and boys. That we have allowed the impression to settle that this is all about women and more for women will inevitably mean less for men. This is untrue in every sense. Eradicating gender-based barriers will be better for men. We also have to reflect on the widespread failure to pursue in businesses and other organisations DEI policies that actually work. For years now, at the Global Institute for Women's Leadership we have been sounding a warning bell about two things: the attitudes of young men and the wasted time and effort in gender equality programs that have no impact or even a negative impact. People can tell when they are being asked to do something that doesn't make a difference. We have to do better.

But even as we think through a more inclusive narrative and better tools for change, we have to be out on the field with energy and enthusiasm. While we might not yet have every answer, we can all find ways of pursuing change. This can be incredibly local, national or very global. Efforts at this College, in this university, in your family, in your community, in your future career, all matter and make an impact.

We wouldn't be here tonight if earlier generations hadn't fought for change. Without the tireless advocacy and often painful sacrifices of our foremothers and the forefathers who worked with them, the landscape of opportunities available to women would be drastically different. From the suffragettes who endured imprisonment and social ostracization to secure the right to vote, to the women who challenged discriminatory laws in the workplace, to those who had the burden and privilege of being the first to ever hold a position, each victory has chipped away at deeply entrenched systems of inequality. Similarly, the fight for reproductive rights and protection against gender-based violence have been and continue to be long and arduous battles, with each advancement representing a hard-won victory against societal resistance.

The cultural shifts that have redefined societal expectations of women are also a product of sustained activism. The challenging of traditional gender roles, the insistence on equal representation in media and politics, and the demand for respect and autonomy in personal relationships are all outcomes of generations of women refusing to accept the status quo. The progress is a direct reflection of the courage and determination of those who came before us, and a reminder that the fight for true equality is an ongoing process.

Tonight we focus on the hard-won access to higher education and professional careers. Women and supportive men who campaigned to gain entry into Cambridge University, building on the work of the so-called Blue Stockings who cultivated intellectual spaces in the 18th century. Their efforts laid the groundwork for today's female doctors, lawyers, scientists, and business leaders. The ability for women to pursue independent financial security and contribute to society on equal footing with men is not a given; it is a legacy built upon decades of struggle.

And tonight, while we celebrate forty years of women being able to study here at Pembroke, we do so knowing that tomorrow that struggle continues and we all have our part to play.



The Dame Ivy Compton Burnett Prize for Creative Writing 2025

This year the prize was judged by Peter Carpenter (1976), the distinguished author. His latest book *Bowieland: Walking in the Footsteps of David* was published in 2025 by Monoray. He writes:

‘There were twelve entries this year, several of them outstanding, wide-ranging in genre and tones, enjoyable to read and adventurous in approach. From, for example, the arch and sassy dialogue of Joshua Gallagher’s short story *It’s a Girl!* to the verbal sensuousness and formal experimentation of the poetic sequence *Sea Songs*, by Nikolas Boyd-Carpenter. Given such variety and accomplishment, especially when all the entries I read showed moments of high invention and outstanding potential, it is very challenging to choose one overall winner. The pieces that I enjoyed the most showed an honesty and daring in the use of language, leaving the reader with something resonant and memorable to enjoy and ponder. My message to all of the authors is simple: keep going.

‘Here are a few glimpses. From “An Teallach”, part of the *Sea Songs* sequence, lines that render experience in taut, condensed rhythmical units: “Violet perennial Moira leap goat-like,/Cannie bairn, scatter scree, gasping footfall”. From an untitled prose piece by Anthony Picton (“The heart of the queen was there...”), a flash of something special that leaps out: “eyes so small they vanish into the off-milk leather of his face, knifing the field”. From *Surfer on the Wave*, a short story by Serena Fernandopulle that shows great psychological insight and fine control of narrative perspective, a wonderful moment of ironic understatement: “Her father was a doctor, and he often felt the need to say things like to strangers”. And from the fine plotting of *It’s a Girl!* an anticipatory shift in mood is rendered in stark images and shortened sentences: “They looked into the sea. It had darkened and stilled; heavy, like oil. It seemed cold enough to peel skin.”

‘The winner of the prize this year is *Brother’s Brother*, an audacious and elliptical sequence. It charts not only an intense set of feelings, but simultaneously the relationship between the writer and the material [he/she/they]has/have to work with, language. ‘These fragments I have shored against my ruin’: it was T.S. Eliot’s line that popped into my mind when I had finished reading it. The writer displays a gift for metaphor and simile (always a telling sign); some of the imagery left me awestruck: ‘the Swedish sky/blushes at its spells/its warmth slowly fading./the forest’s mists/feels for our calves’. At its heart there is something vital here, serious yet celebratory, rewarding further study.’

The author of this year’s winning entry is Pierre Musa Halime Wessel (2024), a first year PhD student in Criminology.

ANTHOLOGY

Brother’s Brother – Fragments of a Relationship

here’s a boy that looks like me.
and talks like me and walks like me.
(probably)
and here’s a boy that seems to be
smiling at me happily.
from a photo that i keep
under my bed.

continued...

i'm a boy that couldn't be
 (no matter just how desperately he'd want)

a member of his family.
 but i own this photo. sent to me
 by some authority,
 the one that deals with boys like him,
 like we.

and there's a postcard
 (possibly)

written lovingly by strangers' hands.

kisses from your brother, kisses from me.
and kisses from habibi.

Untitled

Once, my brother held me tight
 rushing down a playground chute.

Swoosh

Again, again!

He was small, I was tiny,
 huddled in a warm embrace
 of cosy puffer anoraks.

Swoosh

Again, again!

Once I take my final breath,
 I will descend an endless slide.

Infinitely long

Infinitely wide

A never-ending soar

Ever faster, further down.

The slide is blades that slice
 into my brother's brother's back.

And hands. And knees.

Swoosh

Again. Again. Forever.

No anoraks.

Once more, my brother will be gone.

Untitled

the body knows and so do i
 i will never know you.
 brother's brother is to die.
 here's crossing paths. here's goodbye.
 the heart, it labours i love you.
 the body knows and so do i,
 i am a thought, a pleasant sigh,
 that stubborn instincts pulse through:
 brother's brother is to die.
 we're one, though time has passed us by.
 don't fear, it was above you.
 the body knows and so do i
 we've conquered, still cannot defy
 the heart. it whispers i love you.
 brother's brother is to die.
 i love you. i love you.
 i love you.
 the body knows and so do i
 brother's brother is to die.

midsommar

ripples across the lake.
 between banks
 the swedish sky blushes
 at its own spells,
 its warmth slowly fading.
 the forest's mist
 feels for our calves.
 for hours we sat waiting.
 throwing the thing and pulling it back.
 no luck.
 not yet again.
 (doesn't matter)

we brought crackers.
 but they sit forgotten under the hum of summer.

ripples across the lake.
 a pike!
 full of pride, my brother
 holds it in his hands.

continued...

we eat it on the porch,
lit just by fire.
fresh lemon, meadowsweet,
canned beer.
faces gleaming like coals,
telling stories.

hazy would be a good word.
hazy is good.

Untitled

I once wrote you a letter.
Words blindly assembled,
perhaps carelessly chosen.
(in a rush to reclaim)
And you hated it.

I once wrote you a letter
Pages of this and that
and the other thing.
(in a panic to rebuild)
You hated it.

This thing meant that,
and that thing this.
(doesn't matter now)
I wrote a letter
and you hated it.

Now I write poems.
Without rush or ambition.
Sparked just by chance,
I write poems.
(and I hope you love them)

B. COLLEGE NEWS



NEW FELLOWS

Four new Fellows of the College introduce themselves to the Pembroke College Cambridge Society in their own words:

EOIN MCKINNEY was admitted to Pembroke in May 2024 as a Professorial Fellow. He is the Versus Arthritis Professor of Rheumatology in the Department of Medicine at the University of Cambridge. He writes: Each year at school we were obliged to learn sets of facts. Over the course of each academic year these were stitched together with increasingly elaborate stories, woven into something approaching an understanding of the subject. However, we came to anticipate that on our return after the summer break, we would discover last year's threads to be a convenient web of half-truths that now needed to be swept up and replaced with more complex and, perhaps, slightly more accurate strands. The goal was probably a step-wise education that prevented us from being too daunted early on. The result – for some pupils in some subjects – was getting stuck in a comfortable explanation they couldn't or wouldn't go past. More surprisingly, this was also a strong foundation for an academic career: I am scarred with perpetual mistrust of established dogma, and naturally assume that everything I know now will be erased and replaced before long.



And so to research. My education in these principles of academic discovery came from Ballyclare, a small town in North-Eastern Ireland. Or Eastern Northern Ireland. At the time and place I left, this was a critical distinction that hinted at decades of simmering social unrest. Mercifully it is again more geographical than political. In any case, I moved to England and was shocked to find that few knew or cared about such things. I was free to study Medicine at Oxford where I discovered that my days of step-wise education were past and was first exposed to research and how knowledge came to be. After three years I moved through the University of Edinburgh and UCL before coming up to Cambridge for my PhD in Pembroke with Ken Smith, training in nephrology and transplantation before and afterwards. Here I was introduced to many life-long friends, colleagues and to working in scientific research.

I now work in computational and systems immunology, applying machine learning methods to genomic and clinical datasets trying to understand the heterogeneity of inflammatory disease and improve ways to diagnose and treat it.

I have spent time in different roles in Pembroke, from PhD student to postdoc to Fellow. Throughout, the kindness and consideration shown to me by everyone in college has been a constant. I feel a responsibility to continue that honourable tradition and, in teaching, to inspire the same respectful mistrust of established dogma that I developed and that is necessary for discovery.

ALICE RAW was admitted to Pembroke in October 2024 as the Mark Kaplanoff Fellow in History. She writes: Despite having held several lectureships in Oxford, I am sometimes a bit surprised that I am a Historian at all. Although both my

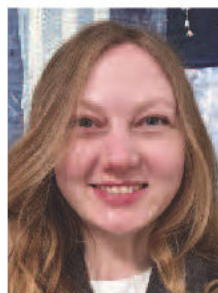
parents were lucky enough to be a part of the UK generation that benefitted from free university and polytechnic education, their own trajectories took them some distance from higher education. Given the freshly minted £9,000 tuition fees, and my predicted grades, it was certainly not an expectation that I would consider going to university at all.

Instead, I had planned to go into historic conservation. I liked old things, and I liked using my hands. I worked mornings and weekends in a bakery, and finished up my A Levels, ready to enter conservation training. Then I did better than expected in my A Levels. And so, as a joke (and if I'm honest, a fingers-up to my school) I applied to do History at Oxford. I picked Jesus College because it had a green badge, and green was my favourite colour. I picked History because I had always liked medieval history books from the charity shop – in particular a slightly mad conspiracy book about the Bayeux Tapestry.

Arriving at Oxford was like arriving on another planet. Here were people who trained me to use my voice instead of my hands, and slowly but surely, convinced me that I had something worth saying. While I rarely felt at home in my undergraduate degree, History became a language for talking about power and how to dismantle it. It was this that drove me to continue on to graduate study. As I began to teach, Toni Morrison's immortal words were never far from my mind: 'I tell my students: when you get these jobs that you have been so brilliantly trained for, just remember that your real job is that if you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else.'

I research gender and sexuality in late medieval Europe. I am interested in how gender and sexuality are historical categories: things that have a history, and are not a given. My first book, which I am finishing another round of edits on as I write this, will be titled *Reading for Pleasure: Women's Sexuality in Later Medieval England*. Medieval people had ways of imagining sex acts that were centred around women's pleasure. They sang about them in Women's songs, and wrote about them in medical tracts. This is exciting, but we have to simultaneously consider the weight of received wisdom in medieval society; that once women were sexually active, they had no capacity to control their sexuality. And yet, women were responsible for policing their movement through the world so as not to invite extramarital sexual contact. In other words, their sexuality was uncontrollable, but they should control it, and were to blame if they did not. In this landscape, where sex was learned through embodied experience without social protection, how could women reach a sense of their body being their own?

I am also curious about access to sexual knowledge, and particularly knowledge that not giving consent is an option. Alongside depictions of pleasure, we too find non-consent. These expressions are powerful, sometimes painful, but tell us that medieval women were imagined to have the subjectivity, capacity, and language to consent, or not consent, or consent to one sexual partner and not



another. That there was danger in sexual negotiation, but also opportunities for meaningful and pleasurable sexual encounters.

Medieval texts could teach women that their consent and pleasure were important. This is not to elide or disappear the oppressive forces that dictated women's relationships to their bodies and their sexuality, but to hold and speak that violence while also choosing to centre joy. By reading for pleasure, I offer an analytical framework that more precisely describes the operations of medieval patriarchy, while insisting on space for the expression of joy and fulfilment.

Which brings me to my current project, which has the working title 'Whose Commune'. For me, it needs no explanation that the sexual discourses of late medieval England are utterly enmeshed with the shaping of political language. Enmeshed both for me as their investigator, as my publishing record shows, and, I think, in their historical context.

At the heart of this project are questions of education and access. I identify the spectrum of activity which could variously fall within legitimate or established means of complaint, such as petitions, or be interpreted as extra-legal or illegitimate. I organise these questions around set pieces of women's public complaint, with attention to how their complaints are presented for maximum effect; some, for example, involve the seemingly spontaneous gathering of crowds crying out with one voice; yet we have evidence of stages of planning that lead to this outpouring, often within households, taverns, and sometimes in letters.

I take Sara Ahmed's book *Complaint!* (2021) as the theoretical starting point for employing a 'feminist eye' in examining medieval women's public activism. I want to explore ways of representing women that did not have their actions perceived as political by male authorities. What about political acts that are undermined, ignored, or otherwise diminished? How can we, as historians, be more expansive about what we define as political?

The historical questions that are common across my work are about how one finds ways to speak, and gain access to languages that gets one closer to a sense of subjectivity. But they are also, fundamentally, about the mechanisms of medieval misogyny. If we only read for exclusion, transgression, and exceptionalism in the ways women moved through their world, we only have half of the story. Analysing through the lens of misogyny is actually a limiting factor on what is a much richer and complicated view. We have underestimated and flattened medieval understandings of women's capacity for expression, whether in terms of sex or political complaint. To understand how misogyny works in the here and now, it helps me to start there.

LUCY WEINERT was admitted to Pembroke in October 2024 as an Official Fellow and is Associate Professor in Pathogen Evolution at the Department of Veterinary Medicine. She writes: The start of the summer signals ladybird season and my daughter and I go hunt pupae – the tiny cocoons that mark the transition from larvae to ladybird. She loves taking them to school, where she and her friends can watch the magical emergence. The reveal is always exciting because you can only vaguely guess from the colours of the pupa what the adult ladybird will look like. At her age, the world is still a wonder, and there's definite kudos in

bringing something unique to show and tell – most people would never even notice a pupa. But I have a strange and completely useless superpower: I can spot a ladybird, pupa, or larva from ten metres away. It's a side effect of spending weeks in the field driven almost to madness in my search for them during my PhD.

I never started my academic journey with a passion for ladybirds, though I've always been a nature nerd. Instead, it is their microbes that captivates me. They offer an incredible example of evolutionary logic, which is, without a doubt, my greatest passion. Consider this puzzle: many ladybird eggs carry a specific bacterium. If the egg is female, the bacterium divides harmlessly. But if the egg is male, the bacterium tragically kills both the egg and itself. It seems counterintuitive. Yet, through the lens of evolution, the logic becomes clear. The bacterium only ever transmits through the ovaries to the egg. This means that finding itself in a male egg is effectively a dead end, an eventual suicide, because it could never escape that male host. By sacrificing itself and the male egg early, the other female ladybirds in the brood can eat the male eggs. This gains the female ladybirds a crucial reproductive benefit, which by extension ensures better transmission for the suicidal bacterium's clonal counterparts. It's a remarkable and ruthless strategy for genic survival.

These days, ladybirds are mostly a weekend pursuit. My professional curiosity has completely and randomly shifted to a more lucrative research question: why do some bacteria want to kill us? Why not be friendly bacteria instead, living in a harmonious microbiota soup and eating our faeces? The answer most certainly lies in asking what's in it for the bacterium and how this can enhance their transmission, but it's often difficult to truly understand why. We know so little of a pathogen's natural ecology, which microhabitat they spend most their time in and what truly "irks" them on a daily basis – be it phages or competitors or immune systems. I try and learn this information second hand by analysing their genomes and making guesses about this. But then the real breakthroughs come through collaboration with people – molecular biologists, microbiologists, microscopists, histopathologists, and clinicians. There's an undeniable shared excitement, when diverse minds converge on a problem, and as someone who thrives on connection, it's the part of the job I love.

Now that my kids are getting older, my ladybird days are naturally starting to dwindle. There's a certain sadness in watching children slowly lose that innate wonder for the natural world. Of course, they're not losing their capacity for wonder; they're simply redirecting it toward other topics. Yet, I believe that what truly sets academics apart is precisely this unwavering wonder and curiosity. For me, having stepped into this world from a background where university was completely alien, it feels like an extraordinary, hard-won privilege to pursue this state of mind. And it's an even greater one to be surrounded by people who share it within the Pembroke fellowship. I look forward to many happy and wondering years among you all, and to exploring how we can spark that wonder in our students.



CONSTANTINE YANNELIS was admitted to Pembroke in October 2024 as a Professorial Fellow. He is the Janeway Professor of Financial Economics. He writes: I am a child

of the corn, having spent my formative years in Urbana, Illinois which is a small town nestled in the heart of the American Midwest. My father was a Greek immigrant and my mother was raised in New York, and primarily is of Spanish descent. I attended the University Laboratory High School, a selective admission state school. The renowned economist James Tobin is an alumnus, and is one of three Nobel laureates who attended my high school. It will thus be a Sisyphean challenge to attempt to become the greatest economist who attended my high school. I grew up in an environment characterized by rigorous intellectual inquiry as well as open and free exchange of ideas. My early life was blessed with generous mentors and friends who built a path for me to progress forward. I am profoundly grateful to my parents, teachers and peers for the interactions which shaped my intellectual development. They taught me to take rigorous thinking to important problems, and to appreciate viewpoints different from my own.



I stayed in my hometown for university, studying economics, mathematics and history at the University of Illinois. I then pursued a Masters in Applied Mathematics at the University of Paris I: Pantheon-Sorbonne. As well as acquiring useful mathematical skills, my time in Paris was quite productive as I acquired my wife. While my understanding is that many young people today meet their partners online, we went with the inline route, first meeting while queuing at the Musée d'Orsay.

Following my sojourn in France, I briefly worked at the Federal Reserve before entering doctoral studies in economics at Stanford University. All three of my committee members studied in the United Kingdom, at Cambridge, Oxford and UCL. While the main reason I am grateful to have spent time at Stanford is mentorship from leading academics and a brilliant group of peers, an unanticipated benefit is on scarlet days the Stanford academic robes go quite well with black tie. Before my appointment as the Janeway Professor of Financial Economics, I held positions at New York University and the University of Chicago. I am very pleased to now be in the fens and out of the concrete jungle of steel towers.

In my research I try to focus on applied problems that relate to policy and impact people's lives. My research uses empirical evidence and economic theory to study government intervention in credit markets, with a particular emphasis on student loans and financing human capital. When most people think of financial economics, they imagine plutocrats and oligarchs, and often forget that access to finance can help people escape from poverty and build wealth. The problem that interests me the most is the one that I view as the most fundamental: how do we invest in humans so that they can utilize their own talents for their own and social good?

For more than fifty years, human capital investments have been financed in different countries through a patchwork of student loans, parental cash transfers,

and public or private subsidies. These methods of financing provide little or no insurance against poor returns, exposing college enrollees to significant risk, and often have regressive distributional implications. How to finance education and investments in people is a vitally important question, as higher education is the single highest return investment that most individuals will make in their lifetime. A central goal of this research agenda is to understand incentive problems in these markets and inform policymaking, particularly in areas where information is limited or incomplete.

My view is that many of the notorious problems in the student loan market come from the misalignment of incentives between for-profit schools, students and taxpayers that is created by well-intentioned but poorly thought through policies. My earlier work largely focused on identifying problems in the student loan market, while my newer and ongoing work is focusing on solutions to correct market failures. My research on household finance and student loans was cited in my AQR Young Researcher Award in 2021, recognizing me as the top finance researcher within five years of PhD completion. This is the first year the award was given to a single individual.

While I take pride in my academic contributions, I hope ultimately for my research to have positive effects on the world. Government officials on different ends of the political spectrum have cited my research extensively and reached out to me for advice. For example, my studies were cited 11 times in President Obama's 2016 report on student debt. A paper of mine formed the basis for an op-ed written by Louisiana Senator Bill Cassidy, and Illinois Senator Dick Durbin cited my work on the floor of the United States Senate. Two of my papers were the basis for United States Congressional testimony. I testified about my student loan research before the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, and my co-author testified before the US House of Representatives Ways & Means Oversight Subcommittee regarding our joint paper on private equity. I also work with policymakers directly, in a non-partisan fashion. I held a Visiting Scholar position at the Congressional Budget Office, where I worked with staff on student loan modelling and we collaborate both on academic research and forecasting. I have also held visiting and short-term positions at the United States Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks of Chicago, Philadelphia and New York.

In my very limited free time, beyond spending time with my family I enjoy reading history. My love of history is only one of the many reasons that I am appreciative of being a part of Pembroke. It is an honor and privilege to carry tradition and be a part of an institution that has lasted nearly seven centuries, and which keeps ancient traditions yet remains deeply relevant to the modern world.

FELLOWS' NEWS

Trevor Allan was honoured with the publication of a book of essays on his work, *The Promise of Legality: Critical Reflections on the Work of TRS Allan*, published by Hart Publishing.

Assef Ashraf was made an Associate Professor by the University of Cambridge.

Arthur Asseraf won the 2024 Prix lycéen du livre d'histoire for his 2022 book *Le désinformateur, sur les traces de Messaoud Djebari*.

Barbara Bodenhorn co-edited (with Esther Newcomb Goody) a book on *Building Social Worlds: Thinking Forwards*, published by Berghahn.

Caroline Burt's book *Arise, England* was listed as one of the best history books of 2024 in the *Daily Telegraph*.

Albert Cardona was made an external member of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans (the Catalan Academy of Arts and Sciences).

Gábor Csányi was made a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Alan Dawson's book *The Lost War Diaries of Roy Lane* has been published by Pen and Sword Books.

Vikram Deshpande was awarded the Nadai Medal by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, in recognition of his significant contributions and outstanding achievements in the field of materials engineering.

Dagmar Dolby was made an Honorary Dame of the British Empire.

Katrin Ettenhuber was awarded the British Academy's Rose Mary Crawshay Prize (its oldest award) for her book *The Logical Renaissance*.

Andrea Ferrari was made a Knight Commander of the Order of the Star of Italy.

Norman Fleck was awarded the Timoshenko Medal by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, in recognition of his distinguished contributions to the field of applied mechanics. He was also awarded the IOM3 Platinum medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to a field of interest within materials, minerals or mining.

Clare Grey was awarded the International Society of Magnetic Resonance Prize (2025) for her superb and long-standing developments of solid-state paramagnetic NMR and pioneering applications of solid-state NMR to materials relevant to energy and the environment. She was also made an Honorary Fellow of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, awarded the Richard R. Ernst Gold Medal (2025) and was the Mildred Dresselhaus Lecturer at MIT (2024).

Geoff Hayward was appointed an Honorary Professor at Baoding Financial University and was made a Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University.

Tony Hopkins' book *American Empire: A Global History* was translated into Japanese and Korean. His new book, *The Land Where Nothing Works: How Britain Lost its Way* will be published by Princeton University Press.

Alex Houen's book *Sacrifice and Modern War Writing: Atavisms, Martyrdoms and Economies of Loss* was published by Oxford University Press.

Rebecca Kilner was awarded the 2024 Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) Medal, for her contribution to the science of animal behaviour.

Rebecca Laemmle was made a Professor (Grade 11) by the University of Cambridge.

Matt Mahmoudi's book *Migrants in the Digital Periphery: New Urban Frontiers of Control* was published by University of California Press.

Flavia Mancini was given the 2024 Leading Researcher of the Year Award in Computational Neuroscience by Women in Neuroscience UK.

Torsten Meissner co-edited two books: a book of essays on Cretan Hieroglyphic, published by Cambridge University Press; and *Ko-ro-no-we-sa: Proceedings of the 15th International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies*, published by the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Crete.

Stephen O'Rahilly was awarded the Berthold Medal by the German Society of Endocrinology.

Jonathan Parry's book *Liberalism* was published by Agenda Publishing.

Angkur Shaikkea was appointed as an Assistant Professor at Caltech.

Chris Smith's book *Pembroke College, Buildings and Gardens* was published by Scala Arts & Heritage Publishers.

Ken Smith was appointed to the Lorenzo and Pamela Galli Chair in Medical Biology at the University of Melbourne.

Keith Sykes was made an Officer of the Order of the Star of Italy.

Max Sternberg was made a Professor (Grade 11) by the University of Cambridge.

Dan Tucker was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. He was also made President of the UK Pig Veterinary Association.

Ashok Venkitaraman was made a Fellow of the American Academy of Cancer Research.

Steven Ward was made an Associate Professor by the University of Cambridge.

GIFTS TO THE COLLEGE

From –

Piers Brendon, a copy of his book *Tom Sharpe: A Personal Memoir* (Paech Publishing, 2024)

John Campbell, a copy of *The Campbell Letters* (2022)

Nicolò Crisafi, a copy of *The Oxford Handbook of Dante* (OUP, 2021)

Godfrey J. Curtis, a copy of his book *Three Cambridge gentlemen in North Wales* (2018)

Dagmar Dolby, a copy of *Dolby Laboratories in the News: 1966–2013* (Dolby, 2025)

Adrian Ely, copies of three of his books

Jean David Eynard, a copy of *Factual Fictions: The Origins of the English Novel* (University of Philadelphia Press, 1996)

Marc A. Feigen, a copy of his co-authored book *A Century of Friendship: A History of Cambridge Philanthropy in America* (Cambridge in America, 2022)

Renaud Gagné, copies of *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Greek Epic* (CUP, 2024), and *Athens, 403 BC* (CUP, 2025)

Ray Hsu, a collection of nine rare first editions of 20th-century philosophy

The Honourable Robert Lloyd George and John Armitage, a copy of *Thomas Gray's Naturalist's Journal and Commonplace Book* (Roxburghe Club, 2024)

Nick McBride, some textbooks on tort law

Charles Melville, a copy of *Select Index of Manuscript Collections in Oxford Libraries Outside the Bodleian* (Bodleian Library, 1991)

Luisa Passerini, a copy of her book *Autoritratto di Gruppo* (Giunti, 2008)

Ben Riley-Smith, a copy of his book *Blue Murder* (John Murray, 2024)

Geoffrey Samuel, four copies of his books

David Stocker, six modern first editions

Anthony Strazzeria, a copy of *Facing up to Jesus in the Gospels and Paul* (Connor Court Publishing, 2023)

Robert Torrens, a copy of *Poems by Mr Gray* (J. Murray, 1786)

Brian Watchorn's estate, a copy of *The Four Gospels*, illustrated by Eric Gill (Golden Cockerel Press, 1931)

Selena Wisnom, a copy of her book *The Library of Ancient Wisdom: Mesopotamia and the Making of History* (Allen Lane, 2025)

Gill Woon, from the library of the late Christopher Woon, a copy of *The Treasure of Auncient and Modern Times* (1613)

Publications mentioned in the Fellows' News section of the *Gazette* were donated by:

Barbara Bodenhorn, Matt Mahmoudi, Torsten Meissner, Jon Parry

Publications mentioned in the Members' News section of the *Gazette* were donated by:

Bernard Adams, Chris Adams, Tony Allen, Peter Bradshaw, Ambrogio Camozzi Pistoja, David Corfe, Roger Kinns, Eric Middleton, Martin Rowson

Gifts to the College Archive were received from –

Pat Aske, a photograph of Ted Hughes by Tony Othen

Piers Brendon, correspondence between Brendon and Tom Sharpe

Andrew Davison, material relating to the admission of women to Pembroke

Henry Fitch, a 650th anniversary College plate and an engraving and watercolour of the College, belonging to his father HJL Fitch

Caroline Holmes, 1949–1951 May Ball cards belonging to Michael and Philip Holmes

Simon Lebus, a copy of *A Poet at Pem* (1955) belonging to his father JEL Lebus

David Llewellyn, a copy of *Rye Golf Club Roll of Honour – The Great War* (1914–1918)

Christine Rees, 1923 Honour Men photograph

Lady Judy Rougier, the Georgette Heyer Archive belonging to her husband, Sir Richard Rougier

Jo Scott, a Pembroke College scarf and tie belonging to her husband Robert Scott

Cliff Webb, historic College photographs

THE DEAN'S REPORT

Pembroke Chapel

The College kindly seconded me for a year as interim Priest-in-Charge at St Bene't's Church Cambridge, for the academic year (2023/24), to fill a specific pastoral need. I gained an enormous amount from working with that church, and the chaplaincy at Pembroke benefited greatly from the fresh perspectives and energies of our two interim Deans, Rev Devin McLachlan and the Rev Sophie Young.

Perhaps because I am writing in late July, I have a sense that this has been quite strongly a year of memorials and farewells.

Rev Canon Brian Watchorn, my immediate predecessor as Dean and Chaplain at Pembroke, died on 27 August 2024. Brian had been actively engaged with Pembroke for a number of years after his retirement, not least as Praelector, and he continued to receive many visits from friends and College members right up until his death. A moving address was given at his funeral by the Rev Canon Mark Williams, organ scholar 1991–1994, to a packed Chapel. His ashes were interred in the College Gardens he loved so much, in September. A memorial service was held for him on 8 February 2025, once again to a packed Chapel. He is greatly missed.

In addition to the annual farewells that we say to departing students, the chapel has also been saying farewell to Anna Lapwood MBE, who has been our Director of Music for nine years. Record chapel attendances, record size and strength of choir, a series of exciting CDs, singing opportunities in the Albert Hall and elsewhere – it has been an extraordinary nine years. We look forward to continuing to work with Anna, especially in relation to our musical link with Zambia.

The chapel also said farewell to the Master, Chris Smith, and he said farewell to the chapel with a fine address at the Leavers Evensong. Those who attend the leavers Evensong are given a Chapel Mug, with a prayer of Lancelot Andrews on one side and an image of the chapel on the other. The only way to obtain these mugs is to leave Pembroke, or to preach at Pembroke, and Chris Smith managed to be eligible on both counts. Chris has been a very valuable supporter and guide for the chapel during his Mastership, and we hope that we may also see a little of him now that he is taking up the Chancellorship of Cambridge University.

We are delighted to welcome Luke Fitzgerald as our new Director of Music, and Polly Blakesley as our new Master. The College and the Chapel are constantly renewed and the coming year is full of new possibilities.

Pembroke House

These are difficult times for urban community organisations like Pembroke House. Central government seems constantly to load responsibilities onto local government, while denying or withdrawing funding. Affordable and social rents

are disappearing, breaking up established communities. The Covid surge in funding has come to an end, leaving many sources of charitable funds depleted.

Pembroke House has responded with characteristic energy and imagination to the challenges faced in Walworth. St Christopher's church is gaining momentum, has restarted its youth work, its Lunch club, and is quietly growing. The Walworth Living Room project is now running successfully and flexibly in All Saints Hall, providing a basis for community growth and identity. The proximity to the Surrey Square Primary School is crucial.

With its strong local reputation and 140 years knowledge of the locality Pembroke House is frequently asked for advice and sponsorship for local initiatives. The difficulty is not what to do, but how much we can manage.

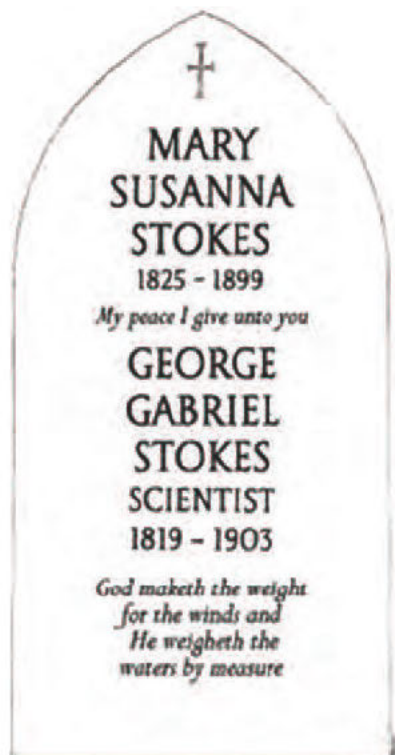
Meanwhile a number of Pembroke students have served internships within Pembroke House, where they have learnt a great deal, made very valuable contributions, and formed the basis of a renewed relationship between Pembroke House and the Undergraduate body which originally founded Pembroke House.

One of the key strengths of Pembroke House is its subscriber base – Members of Pembroke College who contribute to its work. If any readers of the *Gazette* would wish to become subscribers (or indeed to increase their subscription) please contact the Dean at jtdg2@cam.ac.uk.

Stokes Memorial

On Saturday 14 June, Pembroke College fulfilled a long-held ambition to put up a memorial to George Gabriel Stokes in the Mill Road cemetery. Stokes was Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, and was one of the world's leading scientists in the great generation of Lord Kelvin and James Clerk Maxwell. He was President of the Royal Society and a Master of the college. Nonspecialists can get a sense of his scope and importance as a scientist from the Wikipedia 'List of things named after George Gabriel Stokes', with crucial contributions to Physics, Fluid dynamics, Optics and Mathematics. Stokes gave the Gifford lectures on Natural Theology in 1891.

An enthusiastic group met in the Mill Road cemetery to hear a brief exposition of Stokes' significance from Prof Mike Payne, and of his contribution as a Christian in science from the Dean. The memorial to George Gabriel Stokes, and



his wife, Mary Susanna, was beautifully carved from Kilkenny blue limestone by Pippa Westoby.

College of Sanctuary

The College Community has continued to be very engaged with the forced migration and refugee community throughout this year. Our Ukrainian Researchers at Risk visiting scholar obtained an extension from the British Academy, allowing her to remain as part of our Academic Community at least until December 2025. She has been active in research, and we are working with her to consider the next steps.

Cambridge University is applying to be a University of Sanctuary within the City of Sanctuary movement, and Pembroke has been at the forefront of this effort, presenting the importance of the College role in financing, housing, teaching and supporting refugee and forced migrant students and scholars. We hope that the University will receive its accreditation at the beginning of the academic year 2024/25, and we are working with the University Committee to set up a robust accreditation process for Colleges of Sanctuary within the University.

Meanwhile I am delighted to say that Pembroke has set up an internal working group to build on our experience and commitment in this area. This is led by Dr Matt Mahmoudi. We will continue to focus, in a very difficult time, on the challenges faced by students and academics, around the world, and the ways in which we can offer support. At a recent meeting in Pembroke, Bishop Rowan Williams reminded us that academics and academic institutions are among the first targets of authoritarian regimes and governments around the world, and that we have a strong interest in supporting them. He also pointed out the enormous gift that the presence of refugees and forced migrants are to an academic community – they keep us real, bring a real energy and enthusiasm, and are a constant reminder of our need to make good use of the freedom we are given.

J.T.D.G.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE REPORT

From the Development Director

On 10 May, at the formal opening of the Dolby Quarter, I addressed those present in the auditorium and there made a number of personal ‘thank you’s. I noted that I felt that the achievement, supported generously by so many of you, in creating these magnificent spaces was a historic moment for Pembroke, but really the ‘end of the beginning’ rather than the other way round.

In other ways, though, numerous eras have indeed come to an end, as you know, and I want to use the start of this piece to pay a special tribute and say an especially big ‘thank you’ to someone who has been a very close, and very valued, colleague for a long time now. Their contribution to Pembroke life has been immense, and my only regret is that they will be one step removed from me and my colleagues henceforth. They’ve been a familiar face and name to thousands of Pembroke members, be they alumni, students, staff or Fellows, and an embodiment of the warm and welcoming presence that I hope you feel when you come to the College.

The coyness of my using the ‘they’ pronoun was for rhetorical, not politically correct, effect, to build a modicum of suspense about the person in question. I am of course talking about Sally March. She is, thank goodness, not leaving Pembroke – the whole place might collapse without her – but she is leaving the Development Office to begin a new chapter in the College and in her career, by becoming Pembroke’s Communications Manager, and in 2026, she will be joined by a Head of Communications to lead this new and important department. I am sure you will wish to join me in recognising the immense contribution she has made to the relationship between the College and its alumni, and the extraordinary capacity to go the extra lightyear in support of Pembroke, and thank her for it. She has met, recognised and greeted so many of you, kept you good company, handed you your badge, recorded your events, been at the end of a phone to fix problems or help in other ways. In latter years, she has concentrated above all on managing communications with alumni and other Pembroke friends, and she has carried out these duties with incredible energy, care, good will and attentiveness. For someone who is, ahem, a Trinity alumna, it is fair to say that she is a Pembroke convert, and more Pembroke than any of us – her excitement as she realised, before most others, that Lord Smith had been elected Chancellor, was palpable, barely contained, and infectious. Thank you, Sally, for being such a great colleague, and for not leaving the College entirely...

One or two other minor departures (!) ought also to be noted. My team and I have enjoyed a decade of working with Lord Smith so closely on Pembroke’s progress: since its inception, the Development Office has been lucky to work with Masters who are committed to supporting our role in the way a college works, and Chris has been an exemplary, dedicated and diligent ally of our work, and a leader within it. Even now, in these latest few hours of his residency, we are seeking his advice on dealing with tricky and sensitive matters and he is offering his counsel with the same willingness, insight and acuity as he did in 2015. Thank you, Chris/Master/Chancellor – whatever you now are!

For a little time longer than this, we have worked closely with Andrew Cates, who also retires over this summer after a dozen years as Bursar. I/we have have long been grateful for his understanding and insight and support of our work: it has made things so much easier on the fundraising front that he has taken the attitude ‘why not?’ far more often than ‘why?’. To be able to get on with our work with such empathy, and a light managerial touch, tough when necessary, but relentlessly encouraging and supportive, has been key to a brilliant few years; and the way the College currently looks and feels is a magnificent testament to him.

I have mentioned elsewhere that my team and I will also very much miss the extraordinary dynamism of Anna Lapwood – music means so much to a very good number of the Development colleagues, and it has been an untrammelled pleasure to work with someone not just with Anna’s profile, but with her absolute commitment to helping us when we have asked. She has moved mountains to support us and we trust she will continue to move mountains – not least thanks to the shuddering and magnificent reverberations of the Royal Albert Hall organ – beyond her days as a resident member of Pembroke.

But with departures come arrivals.

Our team warmly welcomes Claire Pope as a Development Officer for Communications, to focus all the more so on ensuring that Pembroke alumni remain as well-informed as we can make them about what’s going on in the College, and in the lives of its people. To mix metaphors horribly, she is filling some big shoes, but standing on the shoulders of giants too: exciting times. Claire joins a team that will have a bit of a new look and feel, after an extraordinary year of activity by anyone’s standards, and we look forward to great and new things together.

We are also very excited to be welcoming Polly Blakesley as our next Master: her care for and deep appreciation of Pembroke are palpable and we are inspired by her mission to ensure that the next chapter for the College is about the people of Pembroke, and what we can do to support them, and what we can do to encourage them to make the world a better place. Her centrality to the 40th Anniversary of women students at Pembroke was a brilliantly encouraging portent. Again, exciting times and I can assure you, Pembroke is in great hands.

By the time you read this, the College will have also welcomed Sian Nash as Bursar. As with Polly, you will be able to read about her elsewhere in this publication, but having met her, I feel absolutely confident of a strong, critical friend in our next phase of work. For a third time: exciting times!

The Campaign Board, led by Marcus Bökkerink (1983) and Jo Prior (1984) have continued to be strong, critical friends themselves and while we are sad that Ranald Spiers (1977) and Meena Lakshamanan (1994) are stepping down, the next iteration of this vital cog in the Pembroke wheel will enjoy exciting times as we shape the content and messages of Pembroke next chapter.

So what do these ‘exciting times’ hold?

For next year’s intake of undergraduates and new postgraduates, the Dolby Quarter will be in its second year, already(!), of functioning. It has been really rewarding to hear student feedback about the quality of the experience on that

site, and to be part of what is, frankly, an incredibly buoyant atmosphere across Trumpington Street.

But, to paraphrase, ‘with great facilities comes great responsibility’. We have to make sure that the students, staff, Fellows, alumni and many visitors to Pembroke ensure that the enhanced College we have created together lives up to the expectations we set it. There are huge challenges for the world and we want to use our famed and perhaps even unique (in Cambridge terms) spirit of openness to send a message out there: if you have the moral ambition to improve the lot of the world, we want you here and we want to work with you.

This could be in a more parochial sense: LEAP, our tremendously valuable programme for student personal development, runs on a “hand-to-mouth” basis and we need to place it on a solid footing. We have, thanks to a small number of very generous donors, created a Head of Student Wellbeing post, with a wide remit to foster a student body with robust mental and physical health. We want to ensure that this is funded fully and perpetually – the need will not be going away any time soon. PCBC, emphasising as it does now the strong principles of “healthy body healthy mind”, is itself running on fumes and needs an injection of your support: its importance is not just about a few students having a good time – everybody knows the importance of sport, of team/crew camaraderie, in strengthening the bonds of community in a place like Pembroke.

And then what about what we contribute outside? Our Fellowship is not just committed to the research it does, but also to the value of education as a whole – you might say that this should be a “given”, but in a time of increasingly esoteric focus, it is so rewarding to work with a Fellowship that is unwaveringly dedicated to sharing their discoveries and their knowledge, intergenerationally and internationally. In times of real crisis like most of us have not known for decades, their work and their networks are making a huge difference, and we will be looking to ensure that they are properly supported in doing so.

In short, the College will continue to support its people, and to remain a warm and friendly, but equally purposeful community of students, researchers, staff, alumni and other friends and collaborators. Pembroke is so grateful for all you have done to contribute financially, with your time, with your advice and in spirit, and there is no letting up now. We have a job to do!

And if the editor will indulge me a PS of sorts, I would like to pay a strong tribute to the whole team who this past year have made me so proud and feel so lucky. It would be invidious in a way to single out any individual, and I have already taken up too much of your time, but thank you so much for everything you’ve done in creating and supporting everything that we’ve achieved this year. Tiring though it has been, it has been the most rewarding year of my working life, and I owe that to you!

M.R.M.

The Matthew Wren Society

The 29th meeting of the Society was on Saturday 19 October 2024. Seventy-six members of the Society, and their guest, were entertained to lunch in the Hall, following a reception hosted by the Master in the Senior Parlour and the Inner Parlour.

Membership of the Society is open to anyone who has notified the College of an intention to benefit the College by a bequest. Matthew Wren (1585–1667), undergraduate, Fellow and President of the College (1616–24), and Bishop of Ely (1638–67), had been a notable benefactor (his body is interred in the crypt of the Chapel, which he had built as a gift to the College, in 1665). The Society has a membership of 456. The names of those who have consented to be identified – together with a number of recent bequests received – are listed below. To all, the College is extremely grateful.

1944	Mr C A Price FRICS	Mr M A A Garrett	Dr J P Warren	
1950	Mr P C Flory	MBE FCI	Mr J B Wilkin	
1951	Dr A B Carles OBE	Mr T J Harrold	1961	Mr N C Grose-
	MBS	Mr J W S Macdonald		Hodge OBE
	Mr J L Dixon	Mr J B Macdonald		Dr S Halliday
1952	Mr J J Fenwick CBE	Mr D W H		Dr R S Maurice-
	DL	McCowen		Williams FRCP
	Mr R N Field	Mr R B Wall		FRCS
	Mr T J Milling	Mr P J Yorke		Mr J S Nicholas
	Mr P J Pugh	1958		Mr J C Robinson
1953	Mr R B Carter	Mr R A C Berkeley		Mr M C Stallard
	Mr I D McPhail	OBE		FRCS
	Mr R M Watson	Mr O C Brun		Mr R M Wingfield
	Mr J M Whitehead	Mr R J M Gardner	1962	Sir Richard Jewson
1954	Mr M J Flux	Mr J D Harling		KCVO
	Dr G F Fooks	Mr J Lawrence		Dr M J Llewellyn-
	Mr A H Isaacs MBE	Mr J G G Moss		Smith AM KStJ
	Mr I Meshoulam	Professor G Parry		Mr R C Sommers
	Mr R J M Thompson	FSA	1963	Mr H R Burkitt
1955	Sir Michael Bett CBE	The Rt Hon Sir		Dr R N Cuff
	Mr G J Curtis	Konrad		Mr A W Gunther
	Mr D W Eddison	Schiemann PC		Mr I G A Hunter KC
	Mr J D Hind	Mr J Sutherland-		Mr R J Kellaway
	Mr N M Pullan	Smith		Professor A D May
	Mr J M P Soper	Mr W R Williams JP		OBE FREng
	Mr R J Warburton	Dr J N Woulds JP DL		Professor K A
1956	Mr P W Boorman	1959		McEwen
	FRSA	Mr S H Duro ARCM		Mr J A Stott
	Professor B M Fagan	FRCO		Mr E R Tibbs
	Mr K E Piper	Mr M G Kuczynski		Dr W C Airey
	Mr M A Roberts	Mr D P Robinson	1964	Dr J C D Hickson
1957	Mr C M Fenwick	1960		Mr S F Kelham
	MBE	The Hon Justice Ian		Mr D J Shaw
		Binnie CC KC		Mr H J Shields
		Mr J C D Field		
		Mr R E Palmer		

	Mr E M F Temple	Dr J R Deane	Mr P C Nicholls
1965	Mr P Bann	Dr W S Gould	Mr C P Robb
	Mr N I C Brocklehurst	Mr A J C Graham	1977 Mr N J Brooks
	Mr R P Edwards	Mr N A MacKinnon	Mr D R Miller
	Mr M L Greenwood	Mr J P McCaughan	Mr J E Symes- Thompson FRICS
	Mr C R M Kemball MBE	Mr A McDonald	1978 Major General S M Andrews CBE C Eng FIET
	Mr S R Lawrence	1971 Mr P Bowman	Revd Father J C Finnemore
	Mr J J Turner	Mr W C M Dastur	Mr M K Jackson
	Dr J G Vulliamy	Mr R H Johnson	Mr M Russell-Jones
	Mr C J B White	Dr R Kinns	Mr C D C Savage
	Mr M A White	Mr M H Thomas	Mr D S Walden
1966	Dr J G Williams	1972 Mr S C Lord	1979 Mr P S J Derham OBE
	Dr R G H Bethel	Dr J W Lumley	Dr L J Reeve FRHistS
	Mr J V P Drury	Mr C D Newell	1980 Brigadier W J F Kington
	Mr B R Goodfellow	Mr A G Singleton	Mr J P Snoad
	Dr E M Himsworth	1973 The Rt Hon Sir Patrick Elias PC	1981 Mr M E Bartlett
	Mr A D Jackson	Dr P R D H Greenhouse FRCOG	Mr W J Cowan
	Mr R I Jamieson	Mr K J Russell	Dr I M McClure
	Mr D A Salter	Mr S J N Shepherd	Mr S D Morgan
	Mr R C Wilson	1974 Mr M T Adger	Mr A Rahman
1967	Dr D J Atherton	Dr M H Barley	1982 Mr I C Carter FRSA
	Mr C R B Goldson OBE	Mr A L C Byatt	Mr D J Hitchcock OBE
	Mr M Goodwin	Dr K A Foster FRSB	Mr C S Teng
	Mr C R Webb	The Rt Hon Sir Charles Haddon- Cave PC	1983 Mr D N Pether
1968	Mr I C Brownlie	Mr A S Ivison	Mr M J Pollitt
	Mr I P Collins	Dr A J Makai	Dr S J Rosenberg
	Mr G N Horlick	Dr C V Nowikow JP	Mr L R Somerville
	Mr P d'A Keith- Roach	Mr S G Trembath	Dr P Wilson
	Mr D E Love	1975 Mr P W Blackmore	1984 Mr J R Baker
	Mr P D Milroy	Mr J V Canning	Ms V J Bowman CMG
	Mr A J Murdoch	Mr S E de Somogyi	Professor I S Buick
	Mr J P Wilson MA F Coll P	Dr R A Hood QVRM TD DL	Mrs C F Holmes
1969	Mr R Braund	Sir Richard Jacobs	Mr A D Marcus
	Mr P G Cleary	Mr A J V McCallum	Ms J M L Prior
	Mr N I Garnett	Mr D A Rew QVRM TD	Dr D S Richardson MA FRCP
	Mr B C Heald	Mr P R Sanford	1985 Mr G B M H du Parc Braham
	Mr T E D Heining	Mr R B Sloan	Mr J M Furniss
	Dr C J D Maile	1976 Mr M N Armstrong	Mr C M F Viner
	Mr I C Melia	Mr M C Bullock	1986 Mr J P Johnstone
	Mr M G Pillar	Dr M J Burrows	Mr R D R Stark
	Mr W R Siberry KC	Mr N P McNelly	
	Professor J R Wiesenfeld		
	Mr N S Wild		
1970	Mr N Carter		

	Mr J M Wolfson	1992 Professor J P Parry	FTCL ARAM
1987	Ms C M Thomé	Dr V A Pugsley	2001 Miss V A Robinson
	Mr A E K Vanderlip	Mrs C E Stanwell	2003 Mr G R I Llewellyn-Smith
1988	Mr N K C Chan	Professor A M R Taylor	Mrs H J Williamson
	Dr B J J Dent FRGS	Sir Roger Tomkys	2004 Mrs J A Gore-Randall
	Mr D L Gilinsky	KCMG DL	Mr J Mayne
	Mr A T McIntyre	1994 Mr M A Bagnall-Oakeley	2006 Mr M R Mellor
	Mr A R Read	Dr A Guha	2009 Mr G O Ulmann
	Mrs J L M Till-Dowling	Mr H P Raingold	2011 Dr C L Sutherell
	Mr B J L Wilkinson	Ms H E M Walton	2018 Miss S J Bakker
1989	Mr R W Bayly	1995 Mr J P Jackson	
	Miss L Rice	1997 Mr A R Danson	Mrs A Beckley
1990	Dr C L Hansen	Mr A R B A Mydellton	Mr W F Charnley
	Dr L J Walker	Mr G F Watts	Miss C A Hammersley
1991	Ms D Batstone	1998 Ms J A Davies	Mrs M Quinn
	Mr B J S Bell	Mr H R Perren	Mr M A Quinn
	Mr N A Datta	2000 Mr A W Morris	Dr A G V Strazzera
	Dr S A Heise		
	Dr G P Shields		

The College apologises for any inadvertent omissions and invites members willing to see their names listed in future to write accordingly to Janette Skinner or Mariola Thorpe at the College.

Bequests

The College acknowledges with gratitude the following bequests which were received between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025:

1945	Mr P B Mackenzie Ross	£30,000	1955	Dr H J F McLean CBE	£2,500
1946	Professor M C Lyons a further	£14,000		Mr J S Tucker	£100,993
	Dr M C Thornton	£500	1958	Dr D A McIntyre	£5,000
1948	Mr A M Joyce	£20,200		Mr A H Wakeford	£10,000
1949	Mr P D Hirst	£100,000	1959	Mr D H Davies	£1,000
	Mr M Mackintosh	£27,077	1960	Mr T S Roberts	£5,000
1950	Mr M J C Annand	£10,000	1963	Dr G B Houston a further	\$1,047
			1970	Mr D A Walter	£10,000

The College also received £4,323 from Mrs P A Beckley, wife of Mr J R Beckley (1949).

A Gift to Pembroke in Perpetuity, helpful information on making a legacy, can be obtained by telephoning Janette Skinner or Mariola Thorpe on (01223) 339079, writing to the Development Office or emailing do3@pem.cam.ac.uk.

J.C.D.H.

Master's Society

The 23rd meeting of the Master's Society was held in College on Saturday 15 March 2025. One hundred and thirty-nine guests were entertained to an enjoyable lunch in the Hall following a drinks reception in the Parlours. The Master thanked all those present for their generous support.

Membership of the Society is open to anyone who has made gifts totalling £2,000 or more to the College in the financial year prior to the event; invitations are also sent to donors for the two years following a gift of £5,000 or more, and for five years following a gift of £10,000 or more. Donors of £50,000 or more will be granted indefinite membership of the Society. To all, the College is very grateful. Among those attending this year's lunch were:

Professor I C Abbs (2012)	Mr C M Fenwick MBE	Mr A H Isaacs MBE (1954)
Mr G P Balfour (1960)	(1957) &	& Mrs J Isaacs
Dr R G H Bethel (1966) &	Mrs P Fenwick	Mr R J H Isaacs (1986) &
Mrs P James	Mr J J Fenwick CBE DL	Mrs A M Isaacs
Sir Michael Bett CBE	(1952) &	Mrs W E Jackson &
(1955) & Lady Bett &	Mrs J Fenwick	Ms C Holloway
Mr R Jones	Mr D J Figures (1955) &	Sir Richard Jacobs (1975)
Mr S Bhatia (1989)	Mr T Figures	Mr G F N Martin (1978) &
Mr M P H M Bökkerink	Revd Father J C Finnemore	Ms C Lewis
(1983)	(1978) & Mr P Quinn	Mr P N Mayes (1953) &
Mr R A Bourne (1964) &	Dr W R J D Galloway	Mrs A Martin
Mrs S Bourne	(2012)	Mr N P McNelly (1976) &
Ms V J Bowman CMG	Mr M Goodwin (1967) &	Dr A S McNelly
(1984) &	Ms C de Marco	Mr A R H Meier (1962) &
Ms L Johns-	Dr S Halliday (1961) &	Mrs S P Meier
Shepherd	Mrs J Halliday	Mr I C Melia (1969) &
Mrs J Buckingham &	Mr A J Handford (1970) &	Dr R J W Melia
Mr M V	Mrs A Handford	Mr S K Moore (1984) &
Buckingham	Mr G St G Hargreave	Dr J C Moore (1984)
Mr J V Canning (1975) &	(1967) &	Mr S D Morgan (1981) &
Mrs A Canning	Ms F Palmer Reavley	Mrs H L H Morgan
Mr G M N Corbett DL	Mr W S Hartree (1982) &	Mr C D Morrish (1979) &
(1972) &	Mrs S Christmas	Miss B Knight
Mrs V Corbett	Mr M I Haslett (1976) &	Mr A R B A Mydellton
Mr C D Daykin CB (1967)	Mrs L Haslett	(1997) &
& Mrs K R Daykin	Mr N C Henderson (1987)	Mr K Robinson
Mr E C de Waal (1985) &	Mrs A R Hewitt (1967) &	Mr J M Nevin (1991) &
Mrs E H L de Waal	Mrs S I Hewitt JP	Ms D W Batstone
Mr F C F Delouche (1957)	Mr H Howard (1953) &	(1991)
& Mrs D C Delouche	Miss H Whittaker	Mr P A O'Leary (1961) &
Mr H N Edmundson	MA	Mrs V O'Leary
(1964) &	Mr J D R Howard (1980) &	Mr C Ottey (1989)
Mrs C H	Mrs C Howard	Dr R J Parmee (1970) &
Edmundson	Mr D M Hurt (1974) &	Mrs S Parmee
Revd P D Evans (1972) &	Dr G Hurt	
Mrs T A Evans		

Mr J R H Pattinson FRSA (2002) & Mr I R H Pattinson (1970)	Mr N F Regan (1987) & Miss R Regan	Revd S F Shouler (1972) & Mr M Shouler
Mr D J Paul FCA (1969) & Mrs M R Paul MBE	Mr D P Robinson (1959)	Mr A H C Stirling (1954)
Mr C A Payne (1979) & Ms A D Payne	Mr G W F Rynsard (1971)	Mr D A Streatfeild (1964)
Mr W J N O Pencharz (1963) & Mrs M S Pencharz	Mr G M Scarcliffe (1975) & Mrs B A Scarcliffe	Mr K G Sykes (1965)
Mr A G Prior (1977) & Ms K Emerson	Mr I C N Seaton	Mr B G Taylorson (1975) & Mrs D Taylorson
	Dr R Seeruthun (2018) & D J Ratnasothy	Dr J Y Whiston (1993) & Mrs M Whiston
	Mr J A Selfe (1985) & Mrs M Selfe	Dr R K T Williams & Dr E Williams
	Mr J R Selway (1990) & Mrs B Selway	

The College was represented by:

The Master	Mrs S H Stobbs	Mr R O Bance
Dr M R Wormald	Professor S Huot FBA	Mr T R L Mack
Mr M R Mellor	Professor L R R	Miss S A March
Sir Roger Tomkys KCMG DL	Gelsthorpe FRSA	
Mr M G Kuczynski	Ms N Morris	Ms S Fuhrmann (2021)
		Mr B B Lakämper (2022)

Invitations for the next meeting of the Master's Society, to be held on Saturday 14 March, will be sent out early in 2026.

THE VALENCE MARY (1997) ENDOWMENT FUND

The value of the Valence Mary (1997) Endowment Fund stood at £3,420,669 on 20 June 2025, compared with £3,341,913.43 in June 2024. It is largely invested in equities.

A copy of the accounts is available from Matthew Mellor (Development Director). The College, and trustees, thank Mrs Chiyo Rimington of Navera Investment Management for her stewardship of the trust's investments.

COLLEGE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

BADMINTON

Committee 2024–2025

Men's I Captain and Co-President:

Di'Mario Downer

Women's I Captain and Co-President:

Darshana Marathe

Men's II Captains: Pasidu Perera,
Chenyang Li

Treasurer: Katherine Wang

Social Secretary: Shreeya Jha

Committee 2025–2026

Men's I Captain and Co-President:

Tomas Richardson

Women's I Captain and Co-President:

Melissa Moss

Treasurer: Ysaswi Malladi

This year has been incredibly exciting and successful for Pembroke Badminton. Thanks to the hard work of Pasidu and Katherine, we were able to host badminton dinner and alumni matches. This is an annual tradition where PCBC invites alumni back to celebrate the success of the club with some intense but friendly badminton and food afterwards. The alumni beat the students this year so I hope my successors will learn from my failure. Thank you to all the alumni who returned to celebrate the club with us this year!



This year we did not have a large intake from freshers, but we were able to welcome many exchange/semester students. Even when they didn't join the team or the training sessions, they contributed to the liveliness of our weekly social session. Those who did join the team (shout out to Prom, Kerry, Jason and Nuttasit) proved to be invaluable to their respective teams because of how seamlessly they integrated with the members. Alongside the incoming freshers, this raised the talent and competitive spirit of all teams; I believe this can be seen in the performance of each team in the college leagues.

College League

Men's 1st Team. Thanks to the efforts of my predecessors, the Men's 1st team started the Michaelmas college league season in division 1. The quality of matches during this term was high, however we were able to bring our best to

each game. Out of even games, we won 5 (3 games we won 7–0), finishing the term at the top of the league with 40 points (just ahead of Downing and Clinical School who both finished with 39 points). I'm personally proud of everyone in the team because they were not shaken by our losses. Instead, they picked themselves and tried their best in the next game. The Lent league was even more difficult, and we tied with Perse and Darwin for the lowest position in the division. I'm not disappointed by our Lent performance because we gave our all in each match. I'd like to thank Dhruv and Prom for being the team's dynamic duo and the backbone of our doubles pairs, to Percy for never failing to make me realise how insufficient my backhand is on the court, to Simon and Maxwell for showing up and showing out when it mattered the most, and finally to Vyas for driving the team to the most remote location in Cambridge (Chesterton Sports Centre). It has been a pleasure to lead the team this year!

Men's 2nd Team. The Men's 2nd team started the Michaelmas college league season in division 6. Before starting the league, I was able to promote one member of the second team. The overall quality of games in the second team has definitely increased and this is reflected in their performance. They finished second in their division, only one point behind the winning team. This trend continued in Lent where the second team finished in first place and will be promoted to division 4. Thanks to their dedication, Pembroke will have two teams in the top four for the college league at the start of the next academic year. I would like to acknowledge and celebrate the resilience and flexibility of Chen and Pasidu who managed to organise all of the matches together.

Women's Team. Darshana Marathe writes: Being women's captain this year has been an utter pleasure and privilege, with the sheer calibre of all team members as inspiring as the constant willingness to improve. I made some of my closest friends in the women's team, finding kindred spirits in people equally obsessed with the sport. Beautiful traditions have been born, like the 'swifties' sneaking as many Taylor Swift songs as possible onto the training playlist and my personal favourite: post-training boba runs spearheaded by Katherine; long may they continue! Training has undoubtedly drawn us closer together, translating into an exceptional performance in both league and cuppers this year (a special shout-out to my doubles partner and our next captain, Melissa, who is everywhere on the court all at once and will no doubt do an exceptional job next year!!). The commitment to the team has been evident in every single member of the team, but I would especially single out a trek in the snow to Catz courts sharing a single pair of gloves with Xinpeng, braving the bitter cold for a measly league match! Xinpeng – an institution in the women's team and our honorary coach – will be sorely missed when she leaves us next year post-graduation, but



we wish her the very best of luck with all her future plans! I personally can't wait for another 3 years of badminton (until the NHS steals me away...) and all the memories with incredible people yet to be made.

Cuppers

This year Pembroke had three teams participating in cuppers (open team, women's and mixed). The format of this event, contrary to the college league, means that colleges can use university players to form a team. Pembroke only has one player of that calibre, and he is part of the University's development squad. Despite this, the open and the women's team were able to shine.

Open Team. This year the open team was able to make it to the semi-finals, and I believe this is uncharted territory for the Pembroke open team. The competition was tough during the group stages, but we were able to win all of our matches against Girton and Clare. The match against Clare was a joy to participate in and watch. I was already familiar with the playing style of my doubles partner Dhruv thanks to the training sessions earlier on in the year. As pair three, we were able to secure the win against the Clare pair. Percy and Vyas were pair two and it was a delight to watch Vyas' defensive capabilities; his resilience alongside Percy's signature backhands secured us the win. Finally, Simon and Maxwell were pair one and they were facing a player from the university team. I want to commend their determination because they were able to persevere and secure our position in the quarter finals. Finding a team for the quarter finals was slightly difficult since we only had five people available on the day and we needed six people. The hero of the day was Chen who stepped in last minute and paired up with me to play as the third doubles pair. We were almost knocked out but because our first pair lost their match. However, Chen and I were able to win our match. The following match against Wolfson was difficult and we were knocked out at this stage, but we left the University Sports Centre feeling satisfied. We were able to fight our way through to the semi-finals and we left the venue that Saturday afternoon feeling exhausted and sweaty but mostly proud.

Women's team: The Women's team has had an incredible run this year and were able to make it to the semi-finals in cuppers. Every single member of the team has been so passionate about the sport and entirely committed to showing up for training and giving their best.

Mixed Team: The mixed team faced strong competition early on against Fitzwilliam and St Catherine, so we were not able to make it past the group stage, but every player now has a better sense of the strategy needed for mixed doubles. It has been a joy to grow and train alongside my peers.

Di'Mario Downer writes: I'm very grateful that I've had the experience of leading Pembroke Badminton alongside Darshana and seeing the community grow. I have very fond memories that I will cherish as I prepare to handover my captaincy and leave Cambridge. This club has been one of the constants during my time at Pembroke and I can't imagine who I would be if I never stepped foot in Kelsey Kerridge. A final thanks to everyone who keeps the club going by attending the social and training sessions. I have no doubt that Tomas and Melissa will be amazing cup captains and bring the society to even greater heights.

BOAT CLUB

2024–25 Captains

Overall: Omer Elchanan

Men's: Toby Lovick

Women's: Giorgia Brigatti

2025–26 Captains

Overall: Finlay Evans

Men's: Alex Drane

Women's: Abigail Jackson

Pre-season

Following on from the 2023–24 season, we were eager to build on last year's hard work and push back up the river. Work for the Men's side started with 99's Autumn Regatta and later Milton Keynes Regatta, where some of last year's M1 raced in a IV and a pair.

The club picked up this momentum in September, when PCBC set off on a 9-day training camp in Budapest. This camp is a fantastic opportunity for the rowers to start to focus on the upcoming year, improve their fitness, develop their technical ability, and bond with their squad. Camp is structured around three coached sessions of water and land training a day. During our time on the Danube every individual made remarkable improvements, and the Club was now ready to hit Michaelmas running.

A special thanks goes out to Bálint Homonnay and his family for allowing us access to their amazing facilities, and for all the help with organising and throughout the duration of the camp!

Michaelmas

In Michaelmas the focus shifted towards recruiting more novices, and training for University IV's and the Fairbairn Cup. The term started with our annual BRD organised by the Lower Boats Captains. This year we recruited an impressive number of new rowers, enabling two novice crews on both the Men's and Women's sides. We were also lucky enough to recruit several experienced rowers into the squad, helping propel the club forwards. The novice boats developed a solid foundation over the term, and showed great potential for the challenges ahead. Emma Sprints was unfortunately cancelled this year in the face of bad weather, so our novices instead took on a 500m erg relay competition against Emmanuel. The novices lay down some impressive times, with <5s separating their time from Emma's winning time.

University Fours saw Pembroke encounter some strong boats all round. On day one, M1 laid down the second fastest racing time, but were sadly knocked out as they came up against the fastest boat of the day (such is the nature of the draw). M2 were also knocked out on day one racing against Queens, the eventual winners of the M2 division. W1 beat Sidney Sussex on day one but were knocked out by First and Third on day two, with First and Third going on to win the W1 division. Fairbairns arrived quickly after University Fours, and saw some good racing from the Club. The Women's Senior squad raced Fairbairns in two IVs and an VIII. The two IVs finished second and sixth, and the VIII finished 13th. The Novice Women laid down some very impressive times, finishing sixth in Division 1, and third in Division 2. The Men's Novices ran into some struggles

with last-minute drop-outs and subs, but all enjoyed themselves and were keen to move into the Senior squad. The Men's 2nd VIII also had a series of last minute changes, but laid down a very respectable time nonetheless. The Men's 1st IV finished 10/22, with only a 1 split gap to 4th which they would work to close ahead of the Lent Bumps.

Overall, this term saw a great step forward from last Mays, with the Club growing in numbers and garnering good results across several races.

Lents

Moving into Lents we kicked off our term of rowing with the 1st VIIIs travelling down to London to compete in Quintin Head. Both crews performed well, with W1 and M1 placing 2nd and 3rd in their respective categories. Four of our crews raced in Winter Head this year, with some highlights being W1 placing 2nd in their category (only 2s behind first), and M1 placing 4th.

The 42nd Pembroke Regatta took place on the 15th of February this year, allowing an opportunity for side-by-side racing, and a chance for some of our alumni to return to the Cam. The day saw some cold weather but the event largely ran smoothly, though the final round of the last division had to be cancelled owing to an incident which took place on the day. It was great to see many alumni return for the regatta this year, with two crews facing off against Caius. While our alumni crews came away from this clash empty-handed, the Regatta Dinner saw club members past and present in high spirits, celebrating together.

Newnham Head rounded out the season pre-Bumps, and saw more success for the club. Both W1 and W2 won their categories in the race, with W1 being the fastest Women's crew of the day by almost 20s. M1 also saw good results, laying down the 5th fastest time of the day.

Lent Bumps saw five crews racing. W1 cemented themselves as one of the fastest crews on the Cam this term bumping up every day, never having to row past Ditton corner finishing +4. We're so proud to award the crew blades! M1 kicked off the campaign with some tough row overs behind Emma, finally securing a bump on Trinity Hall on day three to finish +1. W2 finished their campaign +3, catching crews rapidly on days two-four. W2 were given a technical row over in a disputed decision on day and so weren't able to finish +4 (which they were certainly fast enough to do). M2 came up against hard competition this year, finishing down six after being over-bumped on day one. Following this campaign M2 resolved to hit training harder, a decision that paid dividends when Mays came around.

M3 got on to the Lents for the first time in the past few years, many congratulations to the crew. While W3 did not get on this year, they went on to win their division in the Talbot Cup. The strong progress shown by the ex-novices coming up in the Club this term certainly fills us with optimism as we look forward to the coming year and years to come.

Pembroke had three representatives in this year's Boat Race: Arden Berlinger raced with the Women's Lightweight boat for the second year in a row, Jack Nicholas coxed the Women's Blue boat, and Matt Morgan raced with Goldie. All three crews emerged victorious against Oxford!

We also want to commend Molly Foxell for her work with CUBC this year. As a Club we were very disappointed by the Boat Race committee's decision to not let Molly race due to her status as a PGCE student.

Mays

Mays was a term busy with racing, with many commendable results across the board. Starting off with some Off-Cam racing, W1, M1, and W2 went to race at Bedford Regatta. W1 had a series of fantastic races, going on to win the Women's open 8+ division after a race against First and Third in the finals! 99's Spring regatta saw both W1 and M2 winning the cup in their division, with M3 winning the plate. This success on the Cam was built upon at XPress Head with M3 and M2 winning their categories, M3 laying down the fastest M3 time on the river. This term we were lucky enough to have a W4 and M4, and while the crews did not get on for Bumps both crews put on a great showing for the Getting-on-Race, laying down some very respectable timings.

Pembroke had six crews racing in the May Bumps this year. M1 had a series of difficult races with some quick crews behind. Going into day four down -3 the crew laid down their fastest start time yet, rowing away from Queens' and securing a row over (and in doing so, denying Queens' blades). W1 continued to assert their dominance over the Cam this term, with quicker and quicker bumps throughout their campaign. W1 smashed through the competition, ending the week with a bump on Maggie to finish the season +4,



securing blades for a second term in a row – huge congratulations to the crew on this remarkable achievement! Proving their step on from Lents, M2 had a series of excellent races, bumping Jesus, Homerton, and Corpus Christi over the first three days, all bumps taking place before first post. On the last day M2 had a tough row-over behind Emmanuel finishing +3, a really solid campaign. W2 had a remarkable first day, managing to over bump Caius W2. Already +3 on day two the crew raced to get away from Hughes Hall (a crew overflowing with Blues), and in doing so secured another bump. With row overs on days 3 and 4, the crew finished +4, an excellent result. W3 had a challenging time amongst several college second boats, finishing -3. M3 laid down rapid starts day after day, bumping their way up through various second boats before bumping Caius on day four to finish +4 and secure blades! Well-earned congratulations to the crew.

Outside of the excellent racing this term, we were also happy to welcome many of our alumnae back to College this term for our '40 years of Women at PCBC' Dinner. It was lovely to see so many of our alumnae return to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women to the Club over the years, and we hope to see many more of them down at the boathouse in the years to come.

To finish, I'd like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to Sir Richard Dearlove, who is now retiring from his position as President of the Boatclub. Sir Richard has held this post for 21 years, and over that time has done so much for the Club – none of our successes would be possible without this continuing support.

I'd also like to thank our wonderful committee, our head coach Chris Radbone, our external coaches, and of course Kevin Bowles for all of their hard work and time. It's been a pleasure working with you over this past year.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of our rowers and coxes! Everyone has put in a real shift this year, and the work has certainly paid off. There have been some amazing achievements across the board, and all of our members should be very proud of themselves. With this in mind, I'm very excited to see what next year brings for the Club, as we continue pushing onwards and upwards: Row on PCBC!

Omer Elchanan

FOOTBALL

Committee 2024–2025

Co-President and Men's I Captain:

Ross Harrison

Co-President and Women's I Captain:

Grace Martin

Men's I Vice-Captain: Brian Bo Lakämper

Men's II Captain: Nathan Herbert

Secretary: Tarkan Ates

Social Secretary: Katie Carter

Committee 2025–2026

Co-President and Men's I Captains:

Dan Jones & Theo Giddings

Co-President and Women's I Captain:

Annie Marstrand

Men's II Captain: Jonty Stoneley

Secretary: Greg Clarke

Social Secretaries: Irene Bermudo Báguena
& Aoife Mcgrath

The Men's 1st XI, having retained a strong spine of the previous season's team with many club stalwarts unexpectedly staying on at Pembroke for extra Masters' degrees, we began the season with a sense of optimistic expectation. An eager group of first-year arrivals contributed to an already-strong 1st XI, and indeed this promised to be a fantastic year.

Michaelmas Term started strongly, with a convincing 3–2 win against title favourites Girton allowing us to stake our claim early as league leaders. A narrow 3–2 loss against Fitzwilliam followed, in which the opposition were awarded a very unconvincing penalty five minutes from time, to our dismay. This defeat was used as fuel to boost the team through a remarkable set of results: a 12–1 win against Corpus Christi in the first round of Cuppers, defined by a four-goal haul from veteran Ollie Reed, helped us gain momentum. We backed this up with a 9–1 triumph over Downing, quickly establishing ourselves as the most fearsome attacking side in Cambridge. A special mention here is owed to Dan Jones & Theo Giddings (incoming co-captains) for their tireless goalscoring work, supported also by Greg Clarke, Sonny Mahendran and Felix Miller. A mention also for Redha Chaba, an exchange student who – despite having had the option to play for any college owing to his non-

collegiate position in the economics department – chose to play for Pembroke, very luckily for us.

Riding this wave of goalscoring excellence, we entered into perhaps our season's most defining match: a second-round Cuppers fixture vs Fitzwilliam. Eager to avenge our prior league defeat, the Blue Army fought tirelessly against their opposition in a match that contained a bit of everything for the neutral: strong – if reckless – tackles (resulting in many yellow cards on both sides and a Fitzwilliam red card), a Pembroke disallowed goal (with the Fitzwilliam linesman very sheepishly declaring an offside that no-one else saw!) and heaps of determination across both teams. With the score balanced at 0–0 going into the third minute of injury time at the end of the match, Josh O'Connell managed to score a winner for the mighty Pembroke with the last kick of the match, sending the team – and crowd – delirious. Onwards we marched through Cuppers. To see out Michaelmas term, we won 9–1 against Sydney Sussex, meaning we ended the term sitting top of Division 1.

On our return to Cambridge in Lent Term, our levels of success began to vary. An opening 1–1 league draw with Queens' was followed by a resounding 7–1 Cuppers victory against Clare to put us into the semi-finals. This was followed by a league loss to St John's. The most upsetting result of our season followed, a 2–1 loss to Trinity in the Cuppers semi-final. Despite meticulous preparation – including some members of the team arriving an hour and a half prior to kick off to set up our warm up – we were undone by counter-attacking goals and our Cuppers journey came to an end. This was followed by a narrow league loss against Jesus college. We soon bounced back in the league with a 2–1 win over a strong Darwin side, as well as a 4–3 win against Homerton, meaning we ended our Division 1 season in a very commendable third place.

The Men's 2nd XI had a similarly successful season. Highlights included an 18–0 triumph over Homerton 3s, as well as an 8–2 victory against Peterhouse 1s and a 5–0 win over Fitzwilliam 3s. However, a lack of a consistent team prevented any serious promotion push. Unfortunately, there was limited success in the Shield competition: a first-round bye prevented the embarrassment of an immediate exit but the team was then outclassed by a superior Fitzwilliam 2s side (with the aid of some of their CUAFC players). The team comfortably retained their status in Division 5, and look towards achieving promotion next season. A big thank you to Nathan Herbert for his time spent leading the 2nd XI this season.

With regards to the Women's side, Newbroke have gone from strength to strength this season, in both skill and in spirit. We started out the season with league matches against the two hardest teams in the league which proved to be a baptism of fire but a great learning experience. From this point, our season only improved. We played regular league matches almost weekly and finished a resounding 5th in the premier league. The Cuppers competition was where we reached highs never seen by the merged Pembroke and Newnham side. We won our semi-final against last year's champions Jesus 2–1 in a nail-biting match and went on to play Darwin/St Edmunds/Wolfson in the final at Grange Road Rugby Ground.

It was an honour to take part in the first joint Men's and Women's final in which both matches were played on one day and we were incredibly grateful for the support of all of PCAFC and the wider Pembroke community who showed up in record numbers, with drums and flags in hand to cheer us on. We clinched a 2-1 win and became Cuppers champions for the first time in Newbroke history! This moment was a true testament to the sheer amount of hard work and dedication the team showed all season. Next year we hope to defend our Cuppers title and improve on our league performance under the leadership of Natalie Ronco and Annie Marstrand.

Finally, our end-of-season tour to Porto was a particular highlight of the season. We played an enjoyable fixture against the Oporto British Club, attended a boat tour on the river – an activity quickly becoming a tradition of PCAFC tours – and visited the city's various famous landmarks. The relationship between the Men's + nb team and the Women's + nb team has been very strong this season, and we're sure that this will continue into next season. We'd like to thank this season's brilliant committee for their continued support; PCAFC has become a major social hub within the college, owing to the continued commitment of Katie Carter, whose work as social secretary has been hugely valued, as well as the social media expertise of Tarkan Ates, this season's secretary. Thanks also to Trevor Munns whose fantastic work at Pembroke pitches has contributed to much home success this season – indeed our sports grounds have been affectionately named "Fortress Pembroke". To conclude, this PCAFC season has been fantastic, and I'm sure that the incoming committee will help to steer both the Men's + nb and the Women's + nb teams towards continued success next season.

Ross Harrison and Grace Martin

HOCKEY

2024-25 Captain: Matthew Williams 2025-26 Captain: Matthew Williams

This year proved challenging for Pembroke-Christ's Hockey Club – Chrembroke – as the departure of several key players from previous seasons left the squad stretched for numbers. Nevertheless, the exceptional quality and efforts of the team over the year continued to yield the impressive results and performances that have become the hallmark of the club over recent seasons.

Michaelmas began strongly with an emphatic 8-6 win over St Catherine's – sweet revenge for our Cuppers final defeat of the previous year. Notably, goalkeeping Chrembroke (and CUHC) veteran Chen managed to get off the mark with his first goal for the club in his new outfield role, kicking off what would be a prolific season. A narrow loss to Trinity-Fitzwilliam followed but was then immediately rectified by a big 5-3 win over a Kings-Sidney-Homerton side, made even more impressive by only having five players on the pitch. That feat was nearly eclipsed in the next match, where a four-player squad came agonisingly close to beating John's II, only to be edged out in the closing minutes. Although the rest

of the term continued to be hampered by low numbers, a few crucial points late in the campaign secured a hard-earned place in Division I for another season.

Sadly, fielding a full team remained a challenge going into Lent. However, from this difficulty emerged an opportunity. To strengthen our prospects for the remaining fixtures, Chrembroke joined forces with a fellow struggling side – St Catz. After a rocky debut game vs Jesus, the alliance clicked in to gear magnificently against the old rivals, John’s I. Boasting a full CUHC outfit and a goalkeeper advantage, they posed our most difficult test yet leaving us as clear underdogs. The bookies clearly hadn’t seen us coming, and a brace from Chen, along with goals from both Matts, secured a resounding 4–3 victory. Performances remained strong up to the start of Cuppers, where we were handed a tough first-round draw against John’s I. Unfortunately, with their side reinforced by several Blues and hungry for revenge after the league loss, we fell to a narrow 2–1 defeat, bringing our campaign to a premature end.

Player of the Year was awarded to Chenyang Li, but I would like to extend my thanks to every single player to have represented us on the pitch this year. The fight and spirit shown in every fixture was truly commendable and it was such a pleasure to captain the side once again. As always, we’ll be back.

Matthew Williams

NETBALL

2024–2025

Ladies’ Captain: Rosa Pollard-Smith

Mixed Co-Captain: Francesca Evans

Mixed Co-Captain: Thomas Dixon

2025–2026

Ladies’ Captain: Zoe Willcox

Mixed Co-Captain: Martha Currie

Mixed Co-Captain: Harry Dalton

Ladies team

With an influx of skilled and committed freshers, women’s netball got off to a great start this year. Our first match of the year was a 22–3 win against Gonville & Caius. However, Downing and St Catz put up some tough competition, and we ended up finishing third in Division 3 in Michaelmas, just missing out on promotion. But in Lent we came back even stronger! Having all gelled as a team a bit more, we entered into my best term of Pembroke women’s netball ever. Back-to-back wins sent us straight to the top of Division 3, finally earning promotion. Only time will tell how we will fare in Division 2, but I am confident that it will be great. Cuppers was another great show – for the first time that I can remember we made it through the group stages, against some great teams.



Unfortunately, an unlucky draw for the quarterfinals meant that Jesus knocked us out before going on to win the whole thing. A great year overall, and lots of fun!

Mixed 1st team

In the league, the mixed 1sts had a very mixed time of it this year. In Michaelmas, we won three, drew one, lost one to finish in a very respectable 4th place in division 1. In Lent, we won two, drew one and lost three and were unfortunately relegated to division 2 on goal difference after being punished with a points deduction after not having enough players available against Jesus. On to more important things, in coppers, we managed to qualify for the finals after some very tense matches including a buzzer-beater to secure a draw and a brilliant performance against Clare College in the last game to clinch qualification to the quarter final. There, we played Trinity, and more drama followed. After regulation time, the game was an 8–8 draw, meaning 2 minutes each way overtime, after which we still couldn't be separated: 10–10. Following an incredibly tense next goal wins, with lots of chances for both teams, we eventually lost, and it was all over. With Trinity going on to win the whole thing, it's hard not to imagine what could have been. Overall, this was a really fun year for the mixed 1sts and I look forward to reading about how they get on next year!

Mixed 2nd team

Mixed 2nds have absolutely smashed it this year, proving that Pembroke netball can field not just one, but two incredibly strong and competitive teams across all year groups. We kicked off Michaelmas with a strong mix of freshers and returning players, laying down a solid foundation. By the end of term, we were sitting 3rd in Division 3 – a strong start, but the best was yet to come. As the year progressed, we welcomed more incredible beginners who brought some incredible natural talent to the court. With their energy and skill, the team climbed the ranks, delivering standout performances week after week. In a nail-biting end to the season, we knew we had to win our final matches against Christ's, Hughes Hall, and Jesus. After some tense, closely fought games, we emerged victorious, finishing the year 1st in Division 2! Whilst Cuppers didn't quite go our way – we won one match, narrowly lost another, and unfortunately fell short in the final – we showed great resilience and team spirit throughout. We are so excited to handover to our new captains, Martha and Harry, who will be leading Mixed 2nds into League 1 next season, and hearing about all the wins and new talent in PCNC!

RUGBY

Captains 2024–2025

Captain: Ben Watkins
President: Howard Raingold

Captains 2025–2026

Incoming Captain: Sasha Strigo
Incoming Vice Captain: Matt Jones

This year, Pembroke Rugby extended its partnership with Girton College to further include Churchill and Lucy Cavendish. Unfortunately, rugby has struggled

of late, seeing a decline in participation, both nationally and within Cambridge. A subtle silver lining of this, however, is that college teams are increasingly forming joint-college partnerships, such as ours, which have the benefit of allowing players to build a sense of community, both within their colleges as well across the wider University.

On behalf of all members of what is now known as ‘Purton LLC’ (with Pembroke proudly taking the lead in the name), I can say that this has been an exceptional partnership. We’ve achieved immense success on the pitch, both in our conduct and our results. Amongst all this, we have continued to preserve the fun of previous years off the pitch.

Our season kicked off in what has now become an annual tradition – the inter-collegiate Touch Rugby tournament. We did very well here, our pace and finesse seeing us move to the final undefeated. The final would see us play against our old rivals – St John’s. After the final whistle was blown, the score was tied, and it was decided that we would settle the matter with a golden point... a golden point that we scored! So that was that for the first bit of rugby of the year, and Purton LLC took home some silverware!

After this, the league began. With only ten college teams taking part this year, all teams now compete in just one round-robin event that takes course over Michaelmas. Our first game saw us play against a relatively dilapidated CCK (Clare, Corpus Christi and King’s). However, this allowed us to put our structures into place, and with the talent of the new intake, we won with a convincing 64–5 scoreline.

The next week saw a smaller cohort on our part, and this meant that several people relatively new to the sport were dropped very much in the deep end. They would start in two gruelling matches against Robinson/Selwyn (10–10) and St Catherine’s/Homerton (10–7 to us). The final fifteen minutes or so in this second match saw us defending our try line with every bit of effort we could muster, and despite a (perhaps unfair) yellow card, the brick-wall defence of Purton LLC in those final moments was unbroken.

This unbeaten run would continue: 24–0 against Trinity/Christ’s, 28–0 against the All Grey’s (Graduate Colleges), 17–0 against Fitzwilliam/Sidney Sussex/Emmanuel. Then came the long-awaited clash with rivals St John’s – a team we had never beaten in my time at Cambridge. We didn’t just beat them. We dominated: 57–0. Two more victories, (28–14 against Downing/Caius and 19–5 Queens/Jesus/Magdalene) sealed an undefeated league title and Purton LLC became the inaugural winners of the Austin Jessop Cup.

I find it truly difficult to put it into words how indebted I am to my players for their efforts throughout the Michaelmas term. The list would be too long to thank them individually here, but a special thank you goes to our social secretaries Ross Harrison and Rajan Allenby for their efforts in making sure that none of these victories went uncelebrated.

After a couple of friendly matches and the annual Old Boys’ fixture (what a fun evening that was!), the Cuppers campaign soon began. Our first match was against the All Grey’s, who were now equipped with three Blues players, including the captain of the University XV. However, this seemingly only made

our players more riled up, and the resounding 32–10 victory might well be our win of the year. Given that this was the team that we lost to in the final last year, the victory was just made that much sweeter. Alas, Cuppers success was not meant to be, and in the next fixture, in what was another tight match against St Catherine’s/Homerton, we lost 7–12. Suffering from a plethora of injuries, we also lost the subsequent plate final against Jesus College.

This was not the end of our successes, though. We soon found out that we had also won an award for having been singled out by all our referees as the college team with the most exemplary conduct. (I was particularly pleased with this as it meant I got to go to a formal with Wayne Barnes in attendance!) But I do think that this award should be treated as great a success as any other we had throughout the season.

Several thank yous must be given: to Trevor, for keeping the pitch in such great condition for us to play on in Michaelmas term, to Lord Chris Smith for the dinner he put on for Pembroke Rugby, to Tim Weil for the BBQ that he hosted for our team in Easter Term, as well as to Howard Raingold for continuing his spectacular tenure as President of the Club, and for his always highly entertaining hosting of some of the senior members in the team. We do hope he is able to come for the Rugby Dinner next year. I would also like to congratulate Pembroke’s Bethan Jones on captaining the Blues squad this year. This is the second year in a row a Valencian has captained the women’s Blues, another incredible achievement from a college that punches above its weight in the sport. I will truly miss this Rugby Club, and it has been an honour of a lifetime to have been given the privilege to lead as Captain for a year.

Ben Watkins

TENNIS

Current Captains: Harry Dalton, Nina Roddick

Incoming Captain: Abhiraj Jalagekar

Pembroke was again very fortunate this year to get a good number of highly talented and dedicated players. This was one of the major driving forces for our success this year, and prompted many large training sessions for both casual players, and those willing to compete in the college leagues.

Pembroke First Team

In Michaelmas, the Pembroke 1st team continued in the top flight of college tennis from last year, but this time we were back with a vengeance. We went undefeated throughout Michaelmas only dropping 4 sets across all matches, crowning us league champions for Michaelmas Term.

The success of Michaelmas Term was somewhat stunted during Lent, as our fixtures were plagued with bad weather and packed schedules meaning we were unable to secure the top spot once again, but had to settle with a respectable third place. Big thanks to all of the second team players who had to play up on occasion

to support the First team, they were instrumental in our success this year and the ability of the players truly highlights the incredible depth we have in potential players, with all those playing up putting in outstanding performances.

On to Cuppers, where we were drawn into a group with Girton 1st, Queens 2nd and Jesus 1st. Girton was a terrifying prospect, being the previous year's champions however, to our surprise, they were unable to field a team and so had to forfeit. We made quick work of the other two teams securing our spot in the knockout stage. Our first knockout match was against Clare, which we went into with confidence, prevailing comfortably. We then moved on to play against Queens 1st team who were out for revenge since we had knocked out their second team in the group stage. However, they were no match for our talented players, putting us into the semi-finals where we were up against Churchill. They had a very well-rounded squad with the potential to cause us problems, however another incredible performance from some of our newcomers this year rendered us triumphant, sending us into the finals. We made it to the same spot last time around, however this time was different, with half of the squad made up of first year students and a supreme desire to win (or desire for food as many of us were time-limited for dinner starting at 7). We emerged victorious winning the finals 4-2, bringing home some well-deserved silverware for the College.

I would like to give massive props to the dedication of all of our members and in particular, Abhiraj Jalagekar and Evan Baker, who were instrumental in the success we had this year.

Harry Dalton

Pembroke Second Team

Picking up from where we left off last year, Pembroke Second Team started the Michaelmas Term League in Division 4. As the temperatures dropped, spirits stayed high, and I was pleased to have consistent players forming a motivated team. The term featured a series of excellent, hard-fought matches with well-earned wins alongside tough defeats, so the league scores remained tight until the very end. Although we finished third in Division 4, we were lucky that an extra promotion slot was available and we slipped into Division 3 for Lent Term – making us one of the highest ranked second teams in the league.

As expected, Lent Term brought stiffer competition. Facing Emmanuel 1st and Selwyn/Robinson 2nd – our promotion rivals once again – we fought hard but fell short of securing our revenge. It would have been easy to be demotivated by defeat, but the team's enthusiasm and commitment remained unchanged, enjoying each game regardless of the scoreline. I was amazed when the team cheerfully chose to play through hail during our match against Jesus 1st. Although the term ended with relegation back to Division 4, we are determined to return next year to win promotion again.

For Cuppers in Easter Term, we were grouped with Emmanuel 1st, Trinity 1st and Hughes Hall 1st in the initial group stage. The weather could not have been more perfect for tennis, so despite how busy everyone was this term, I was glad to see the team making the most of it, taking a break from work. For the third time

this year we faced Emmanuel 1st and were defeated again... Still, some gripping sets taken to tiebreak made a short Cuppers season entertaining and rewarding.

I would like to thank Chris Chen, Tom Dixon, Sonny Mahendran, Zebedee Summerfield and Ben Pickwick for making an excellent team to play with this year.

Nina Roddick

PEMBROKE PLAYERS

Committee 2024–25

President: Sophia Orr

Treasurer: Anna Hipkiss

Secretary: Aoife McGrath

Artistic Director: Sanaer Madden

Comedy Directors: Toby Trusted,

Lily Butler

Technical Director: Jasper Harris

Marketing Director: Sophie Cleaves

Committee 2025–26

Presidents: Louisa Hailey and Flo Bullion

The Pembroke Players have truly achieved at new heights this year, both financially and, most importantly, creatively. It has always astounded me how many shows our society has helped bring to life, and this year we reached a new all-time best with 20 shows. But this was just one of the new heights we reached: we hosted the very first play in Pembroke Chapel ('Othello', in Michaelmas) to great critical success; we donated over £2k to various charities through 'Othello', 'Mind: the Gap', and our Bootleg Smokers (run by our Comedy Directors, Lily Butler and Toby Trusted). Moreover, our efforts to cement the Pembroke Players as one of the most significant theatre societies in the wider Cambridge theatre scene have proven hugely fruitful, through the success of our plays at the ADC, 'The Crucible', 'Bloody Poetry', and most recently 'Pride and Prejudice'.

Our treasurer, Anna Hipkiss, has led us through the year, resulting in a high overall profit across all our shows and smokers, and this year we have even garnered enough money to support the hugely acclaimed 'Managed Approach' in its Edinburgh Fringe run (8–24 August).

Our wonderful Marketing Director Sophie Cleaves has also begun the grand effort to rebrand the society, having re-coloured the Instagram and beginning the re-design of the Pembroke Players website, making the site more user-friendly and ensuring the information is accurate.

On the question of 'New Cellars' herself, whilst we continue to push for the walls to be repainted (preferably black), our Technical Director Jasper Harris has been working hard to update all of the New Cellars' equipment; next year in the New Cellars a brand new lighting rig will allow our lighting designers to enhance each scene with greater complexity and subtlety than the previous system.

Aoife McGrath (our Secretary) has also been keeping busy, kickstarting the Pembroke Players Newsletter once more, publishing twice a term with all the

upcoming show information, as well as working tirelessly on outreach alongside Sanaer Madden (our Artistic Director), to encourage more students to join PemPlayers shows each term.

It has, overall, been a marvellous year for the Pembroke Players. It has been an honour to lead such a wonderful team of people, and to get to enjoy the privilege of working with each and every one of our (20!!!) shows as they birth such incredible works of creativity in our humble Cellars. I am now, sorrowfully, signing off as President, and leave you and the Players in the incredibly capable hands of Co-Presidents Louisa Hailey and Flo Bullion. I am sure that they will usher in another, and an even more marvellous year.

With theatrical love.

Sophia Orr

STOKES SOCIETY

Outgoing Presidents: George Phillips and Archie Finney

Incoming Presidents: Abigail Jackson and Alex Germain

As is the case each year, the Stokes Society warmly welcomed incoming undergraduates, postgraduates and a whole host of exceptional academic researchers and industry professionals to weekly Monday night talks.

This year, an emphasis on encouraging students from other colleges to attend in addition to College members proved a great success. This helped to mix up the audience each week, providing fresh questions and new conversations after each talk, and helped reinforce the Stokes Society's strong reputation throughout the wider University.

We were delighted to invite Professor Claudio Castelnovo to kick off the year with an interesting talk on resonant valence bond liquids. Other highlights from Michaelmas include welcoming a handful of PhD students to discuss their work, providing an invaluable insight into the life of research. The Stokes Society aims to ensure talks cover a broad range of disciplines to cater for the wide ranging interests of our members. We invited Ana Olssen from Speechmatics to give an intriguing talk on addressing AI bias. An exciting talk on 'The Science of Marmite', given by Professor Ian Wilson, focused on complex fluids and manufacturing, which was a fun way to end the term.

More highlights came in Lent Term. Professor Todd Huffman gave a fascinating talk on the production of di- and tri-Higgs production events in the ATLAS detector at the Large Hadron Collider. Dr Sepiedeh Keshavarzi gave a talk on 'The Neural Basis of Spatial Orientation and Self-Motion Perception' which thoroughly engaged students from all areas of science. A brilliant talk, touching all corners of science disciplines, was given by Professor Beverley Glover on 'Nanoscale Structures Generating Iridescent Colour in Flowers', which touched on material science, evolution and diffraction methods all in one talk. A final talk from Professor Mark Wyatt on 'The Hunt for Exoplanets' was the perfect way to end a successful year of Stokes events.

Alongside our talks, The Stokes Society hosts social events which continue to be well attended and loved. There were opportunities for students to attend formal dinners at John's and Jesus, the famed Freshers Week Quiz, 'presentation roulette' and a Stokes pub crawl among other social events, which provided great environments for members to enjoy themselves and foster new connections. The Stokes Society also hosted its Annual Dinner which was well attended and enjoyed. This year marked the return of the Stokes Garden Party in May Week, which provided a great opportunity to unwind post exam season and catch up with fellow Stokes attendees.

We would like to thank the outgoing committee for all their hard work this year making the Stokes Society one of the most prominent academic societies within College and in the wider University. The Committee and Co-Presidents would also like to thank our new Senior Treasurer, Professor Nick Jones, for taking on this role. Finally, we would like to extend a warm welcome to the incoming committee, and the two incoming Co-Presidents Abigail Jackson and Alex Germain. We have no doubt that the Society will continue to succeed and thrive during your tenure.

George Phillips and Archie Finney

PEMBROKE PRATTLERS

President: Michael Bayen

Incoming President: Anna Kaufmann

The Pembroke Prattlers are the College's public speaking society. Michaelmas Term began with three lively Prattlers sessions, featuring speeches on topics as varied and imaginative as "Forrest Gump and the Portrayal of Evangelical Purity" and "How Extraterrestrial Life Could Look." These sessions helped lay the groundwork for a traditionally more eventful Lent Term.

Lent opened with the much-loved Masters' Workshop, with the public speaking veteran Chris Smith in attendance to offer thoughtful and constructive feedback to our speakers. Many of the speeches presented here had been developed and refined during Michaelmas, and it was rewarding to witness the growth of our members' public speaking skills. A new addition to the calendar this year was a public speaking workshop led by Denise Taylorson, who coaches students using under the LEAP framework. Her session was warmly received and brought a new dimension to the society's offerings – practical, skills-based, and interactive.

The highlight of the year, however, came towards the end of Lent: the Michael Horowitz Prize in Public Speaking. Sponsored and hosted by Michael Horowitz KC, this event celebrates the best speaker in College. This year's distinguished panel of judges included Eleanor Stiles, former Prattlers President and national public speaking champion; Denise Taylorson, professional speechwriter; author Guy Doza; and Mr Horowitz himself. Michael and I decided to give the event a fresh twist this year by dividing it into two segments: a debate and a speech showcase.

The debate – on the motion ‘No, the age of progress is not over; the best is still to come’ – featured Jonathan Liu and Isaac Marchant for the proposition, and Shrew Biswas and Anna Kaufmann for the opposition. I was deeply impressed by the speakers’ agility in responding to counterpoints and weaving rebuttals seamlessly into their arguments. After much deliberation, the £100 prize was awarded to Jonathan Liu, whose moving reflections on his parents’ journey toward a better life left a lasting impression on both the jury and the audience.

In the second half of the evening, we heard from three individual speakers: Nikolas-Boydt Carpenter opened with ‘A rugby apologia: in defence of a sport under threat’; Albert Koch followed with ‘Why we have to protect Classics as a school subject’; and Sebastiaan Hoek concluded with the irreverently titled ‘Dating advice’. While Albert made a compelling case for the humanities and Sebastiaan charmed the crowd with witty insights into the perils of modern dating, it was Nikolas’s heartfelt ode to companionship, courage, and rebellion that most captivated the jury. He was awarded the £150 prize – a thoroughly deserved recognition of a powerful performance.

Following the event, I was heartened to receive enthusiastic feedback from members of the audience, and I sincerely hope that Mr Horowitz and future presidents of the Prattlers will continue to build upon this tradition for the benefit of the College community.

Michael Bayen

PEMBROKE PAPERS

Committee 2024–25

President: Oliver Reed

Committee 2025–26

President: TBA

After a two-year hiatus, the Pembroke Papers Society has made a triumphant return this academic year, storming back with a brand-new format, fresh branding, and an improved refreshment selection. This revival has been a resounding success, breathing new life into intellectual discourse at Pembroke.

The key to this renewed success lies in the innovative format: each session now features three or four PhD students delivering concise, engaging talks on their diverse research topics. This approach was initially trialed at a Stokes Society event last academic year, where it showcased everything from shape memory alloys to plant genetics. The result has been a greater variety of topics within each session, significantly boosting audience numbers and general interest.

Since that pilot event, the Pem Papers Society has hosted four highly successful sessions this year. A strategic move to hold the talks before BA Dinners, coupled with serving pre-dinner drinks, has further maximised attendance and engagement.

The range of topics covered this year truly highlights the breadth of research happening within Pembroke. In Michaelmas Term, talks delved into Thomas Hardy novels, the fascinating intersection of gender and AI, and the intricate science of Huntington’s disease. Lent Term saw a deep dive into regional order

in Southeast Asia, the complexities of quantum physics, and pressing migrant policies in Europe. Finally, Easter Term's sessions have explored the biomechanics of brain injury, the evolving field of digital humanities, and the compelling topic of the decline of modern terrorist violence.

The enthusiasm from both presenters and attendees has been palpable. Students are not only excited to share their research but also eager to learn about the incredible work their peers are undertaking. This new, dynamic format, with its shorter talks, is perfectly poised to ensure the Pem Papers Society continues to thrive for many years to come.

Oliver Reed

TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY

2024–2025

President: Ishika Samanta

Vice President: Dhruv Trehan

Treasurer: Leon Srikantha

Secretary: Samuel Hinks

Project Manager: Parth Potdar

Publicity Officer: Monami Yoshioka

2025–2026

President: Samuel Hinks

Treasurer: Leon Srikantha

Secretary: Adam Kerbel

Project Manager: Yasaswi Malladi

This year Pembroke Technology Society (PemTech) completed its third year of running, continuing to meet its aims to make engineering accessible to everyone. Last year, we ran the first engineering teaching sessions for basic design and prototyping skills. We expanded on this further this year by having numerous oversubscribed events, allowing people to complete mini projects, which equipped them with various transferable skills whilst allowing the manufacturing of a final product they could take home. To focus on the reach of the society to non-engineers, we did not have a long-term project but focused instead on providing more frequent teaching sessions by running weekly events to increase accessibility to the society.

Projects run this year ranged widely in an attempt to target different groups and expand reach. In Michaelmas, we had events such as bridge building and making tensegrity tables (a collaboration with PemArt). In Lent, we ran a pygame tutorial and made 3D printed lithophanes, with severe oversubscription in the lithophane project. Students were able to take home a finished product they were proud of at the end of each of these sessions.

We also introduced society socials, talks and welfare events this year – we had termly week 5 movie nights, socials, and a formal swap with Downing College engineering society. We had numerous swaps with various other societies in Pembroke, such as the board games society, PemArt and PCMVS. Our swap with PCMVS involved the opportunity to use a robotic arm designed to play operation, coupled with a talk on the uses of technology in Medicine. We introduced regular technology-related talks, the highlight of which was one by Prof. Amanda Prorok, who gave an inspiring talk to celebrate 40 years of women in Pembroke.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being PemTech's first non-engineer president this year, so as to expand our reach to more non-engineering students. I am extremely grateful for the engagement and support of the community whilst we experimented with the introduction of increased teaching sessions. PemTech has grown in strength and numbers this year. I eagerly await seeing what will come next in this society, and I wish the new committee the best of luck next year. I have no doubt the team will continue to give their best to keep PemTech growing and reaching more students across a wider range of subject backgrounds. We look forward to a great year ahead and many more to come!

Ishika Samanta

LAW SOCIETY

Committee 2024–2025

President: Kate Lin

Vice President: Ryan Hogan

President of Pembroke Law Journal:

Shivraj Das

Master of Moots: Max Hennessey

Non-Law Officer: Fern Hay

Stash Officer: Anna Kaufmann

Committee 2025–2026

Incoming President: Louise Denjean

Incoming Vice President: Sophia Membery

Pembroke Law Society were pleased to welcome a new cohort of undergraduate and postgraduate lawyers to the College this year, and expand our relationships with other college law societies and law firms. This year, we implemented a 'Subject Sibling Scheme' – a program designed to ease the transition into the university's style of teaching, and pass down knowledge from upper years. We paired second years with incoming freshers, and organised a number of meetings between siblings throughout the year.

On the careers side, we began the year traditionally by attending a recruitment dinner hosted by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, attended also by Downing, Selwyn, and Clare colleges. Students heard about training opportunities from training principal Greg Norman, and networked with various partners and associates. Our particular thanks go to the graduate recruitment team at Skadden; Mathieu Pinto Cardoso and Katie O'Shea, for their organisation of the evening. This event was followed by a visit, organised in collaboration with Corpus Christi and Girton colleges, to Herbert Smith Freehills' office in London. Students attended a trainee panel and tour of headquarters, followed by a networking luncheon.

Mid-Michaelmas Term we invited applications for the role of Stash Officer, fulfilled by Anna Kaufmann. Anna created appealing quarter zips, pens, and stickers for members of Pembroke Law Society to purchase at subsidised prices, drawing in a good number of orders from students.

We were also delighted to restart the tradition of formal swaps between college law societies this year. We first attended Downing College in Michaelmas,

hosted generously by the Cranworth Society. The evening was enjoyed by all, and we look forwards to welcoming members of the Cranworth Society to Pembroke next year. Pembroke Law Society followed by hosting a formal hall for members of Selwyn College Law Society. These events were a great opportunity to build intercollegiate connections between lawyers, and we hope to expand this social initiative in upcoming years.

Later on in Michaelmas Term, Pembroke Law Society hosted a firm presentation and recruitment dinner in collaboration with our sponsors, Slaughter and May. We were excited to welcome back John Nevin, Kate Shirlaw, and their colleagues to the College, and introduce the team to a new generation of lawyers and non-law students interested in commercial law. This was followed by another annual event – a recruitment dinner with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, attended also by Emmanuel College Law Society. Both events were engaging insights into potential career pathways and the practice of law, motivating a large number of students to apply for opportunities with these firms.

Lent Term began with a firm presentation hosted by A&O Shearman, followed by a networking formal hall. We were delighted to welcome Richard Evans and his colleagues to Pembroke for the first time, and look forwards to their return in the upcoming academic year. We also enjoyed our annual commercial awareness workshop, kindly hosted by Logan Mair, Co-Managing Partner at Ashurst. The evening was filled with discussion of recent developments in the commercial and legal spheres, and challenged students to engage with current events through a critical lens.

In collaboration with Pembroke Politics Society, we expected to host Alex Chalk KC for an interview event in later Lent Term. Whilst this event was unfortunately postponed due to illness, we look forwards to welcoming Mr Chalk to the College in the upcoming academic year.

Our year ended in Easter Term with the annual Pembroke Law Dinner. All students reading law at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels were in attendance, as well as recent graduates and law fellows of the College. We welcomed our sponsors, Slaughter and May, back to Pembroke for the evening, in recognition of their continuing generosity and partnership with Pembroke Law Society. As is tradition, the incoming President and Vice President – Louise Denjean and Sophia Membership respectively, were announced following the President's toast.

Overall, Pembroke Law Society were pleased to expand upon the careers and social events on offer for students in 2024–25. New events were particularly well-attended by members, and we thank our community for their engagement. As outgoing President, I wish to extend my thanks to the committee of 2024–25 for their hard work, as well as the previous President and Vice President, Antonia Molnar and Mila Lo, for their continuing guidance and support. As always, our gratitude is also given to fellow Nick McBride for his sponsorship and counsel. The Law Society is excited to continue expanding the variety of its events next year, and nurturing connections with legal entities and other college law societies.

COLLEGE CHOIRS

In summer 2024 the Chapel Choir embarked on their summer tour to Zambia, which saw them working with over 1500 children in Livingstone and Lusaka. We would stay in Lusaka for a week, engaging in services at local churches, workshops and exchanges with local choirs and schools. On our first night in Lusaka they performed a joint service at one of the SDA churches with the Maita Basa choir, which really set the tone for the whole trip – it was wonderful to watch the jaws of the Pembroke singers drop when Maita started singing! They joined Maita the following day for a joint concert, which ended up being $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours long!! They were intrigued to learn more about how the Zambian choirs rehearse and perform to such a high level without sheet music, and they wanted to know how we pick up pieces so quickly from the score.

Rehearsals with the Lusaka Music Society for a performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria* were really eye-opening for the choir; Zambia was experiencing a drought which was having a huge impact on power as so much of their power supply relies on hydro-electrics. Zambia currently has 'load-shedding' (rolling blackouts) for 21 hours a day, so the rehearsal was spent largely in darkness, reading the music with the help of phone torches. It was quite a sound with over 100 musicians and a full orchestra made up of local Zambian instrumentalists. The concert itself was a really interesting experience, much of it in the dark again. There was a particularly moving moment where the lights turned back on just as a brass band reached the climax of Dvořák's *Largo* from the *New World Symphony*!

The next part of the trip was spent in Livingstone with mornings spent giving workshops in local schools and communities, and afternoons/evenings spent getting to explore the beauty of Livingstone, and giving performances at lodges. Highlights of that week included seeing the Victoria Falls for the first time, singing on a sunset river cruise while giraffe walked past, seeing a baby elephant on a game drive, and watching elephants crossing the river on a river safari. We seemed to be extremely lucky in our animal spotting; we had more close-up animal interactions in five days than I have had in eight years of trips to Zambia! Since our return to the UK multiple choir members emailed me to say it was the most memorable and transformative musical experience of their life, and there is a long list of choir members who want to join the next trip this summer. It was a truly amazing trip!

Michaelmas Term was the busiest I can remember! The Chapel Choir enjoyed various extra events throughout the term, starting with a visit to the Zambian Embassy to sing for their celebration of 60 years of independence. This was a great opportunity to build on the momentum from the Zambia tour, and it felt particularly poignant to sing a piece which was commissioned last year, written by Zambian composer Don Kaposamweo. It was also wonderful to be reunited with the tenor Chrispin Lindunda at this event.

In early November the Chapel Choir recorded the BBC Radio 3 Epiphany Carol Service, one of the station's highest profile choral broadcasts. The recording has tended to go to one of the more established choirs (e.g. Trinity or Clare), so it was a real honour to have been asked. This was the first Radio 3 broadcast for both of

the organ scholars who played exceptionally well, with special mention to Pembroke's Junior Organ Scholar, Sophia Membery, who played both the organ and the harp in the service! That same week we also recorded two services of Compline for Radio 3, featuring music by composers from within the choir. To celebrate 40 years of women in Pembroke all the introits chosen this term were written by female composers and the Compline services were 'round the world Complines', showcasing choral music from different cultures each week. The week finished with Remembrance Sunday, where the Chapel Choir sang Duruflé's *Requiem at the Eucharist* and then both choirs came together for a bumper Evensong later that day. This is definitely the busiest week they have had, but the Choir rose to the challenge admirably!

The Girls' Choir was delighted by the release on Sony Classical of their EP, 'The Waiting Sky', produced by John Rutter. The EP includes two pieces written by the girl choristers and received brilliant reviews across the board, including a 5* review from *BBC Music Magazine*: 'The recording showcases a choir operating at exceptional levels of musicianship. Under Lapwood's direction, their sound is characterised by immaculate tonal control, masterful dynamic balance, and phrase-shaping that would impress in any context, let alone from young performers.' At the end of the month we had our annual run of Christmas carol services – an Advent Carol Service on the Monday, followed by two Christmas Carol Services in the last week of term, one sung by just the Chapel Choir, and one by the combined choirs. These services were, as always, very well-attended. The Chapel Choir enjoyed singing for the end-of-term fireworks again, and it was particularly heart-warming to see such a huge group of students come along to the chapel for a sing-along afterwards – we didn't announce it and thought this might mean that people didn't come, but we ended up with about 150 people in the Chapel for an hour of fun singing, ending with Robbie Williams' 'Angels'.

The end of term Christmas concert in Chapel on 5 December (sung by the combined choirs) was a warm-up for two external concerts for the combined choirs at Snape Maltings & St John's Smith Square, performing Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* alongside a new companion piece that we commissioned, written by Kristina Arakelyan. It was particularly lovely to see the Chapel Choir working so well alongside the girl choristers, despite tiring days, long bus journeys, and emergency service station stops to deal with travel sickness! Both of the external concerts were sold out and received extremely positive reviews: 'This is how you programme new music: front and centre, unapologetic, championed both by the singers and in energetic on-stage introductions from Lapwood herself... Swept along by the performers' obvious enthusiasm and expressive delivery.'

We enjoyed our annual visit to Pembroke House to sing for their Advent Carol Service, which included the world premiere of a new piece written by Tara Mack. The service was well-attended and the choir enjoyed dinner with the Pembroke House community afterwards. After Christmas, members of the Chapel Choir came together for our January Cathedral residency, spending three days singing services at Gloucester Cathedral. As always, this proved incredibly popular with the choir, and was a good chance for them to sing in a much larger acoustic – as

well as a chance to show off their culinary expertise, taking it in turns to cook for each other in the evenings.

Whilst Lent Term looked somewhat quieter, it was still busy! We enjoyed hosting children from Pembroke Academy of Music for a day of music workshops. It was great to see so many children returning from last year, and even better to see that they had remembered all the songs we taught them! Members of the Chapel Choir took it in turn to lead elements of the workshop, and Molly Hord gave a brief organ demonstration before letting them all have a go. The Chapel Choir and Girls' Choir came together for their first joint service of term on 2 February, celebrating Candlemas and sang together for Ash Wednesday later on in the term. The end of Lent Term saw the Chapel Choir give the Lent Term Concert, including Finzi's 'Lo, the full, final sacrifice'. The end of term was followed by a busy day for both choirs, singing for the Director of Music interviews. Straight after the interviews, the Chapel Choir travelled to London for three days to record a new album for Sony Classical. The Choir really excelled themselves during this recording, and it was by far the best sound I've ever heard them make. They recorded a range of music that helps sum up the journey of the choir over the last nine years. Highlights include: a piece written by one of the altos, Maryam (a former chorister) who set a text written by one of the other altos; an arrangement of 'Somewhere over the Rainbow' written by one of the basses; and Lucy Walker's new setting of 'A Hymn for St Cecilia', commissioned by the College to commemorate 40 years of women in Pembroke. This album will be released in 2025 as a series of singles, culminating in a physical CD.

Easter Term started with both choirs enjoying high profile outings. The Chapel Choir sang at the Mill Lane opening on 10 May, performing Lucy Walker's *Hymn for St Cecilia* and the arrangement of *Somewhere over the Rainbow* mentioned above. Several choir members also performed in a solo capacity; Ailsa McTernan did an open rehearsal in the Ferguson Nazareth room, and Sophia Membrely performed on the harp as people were sitting down to dinner. A few days later, the Girls' Choir joined me for my headline concert at the Royal Albert Hall on 15th May, performing the choral parts for Max Richter's new organ concerto; they performed incredibly well in front of 5,500 people, receiving positive mentions in reviews from *The Guardian* and *The Times*! Other highlights of Easter Term have included both choirs coming together to sing for our Commemoration of Benefactors service on 18 May – a rather loud occasion! The end of term was particularly busy for the choirs; alongside the usual May Week Evensong and May Week concert, the Chapel Choir joined Eric Idle on stage for his event with Brian Cox in the Auditorium on 23 June. Both choirs sang for my final Evensong on 24 June.

By the time of publication, the Chapel Choir will have completed their tour of Canada from 21 July to 3 August, visiting Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston & Toronto; we plan to sing one service and one concert in each city, and to run choral workshops in Kingston and Montreal. Shortly after their return on 8 August, the Chapel Choir will appear at the Royal Albert Hall as part of this year's BBC Proms in 'From Dark till Dawn', an overnight Prom that I organised, performing a solo set for an hour alongside some of the other artists featuring in the concert. This will be the last time I perform with them, so I expect it will be rather emotional!

In September, Luke Fitzgerald will be taking up the post of Janeway Director of Music, joining Pembroke from Coventry Cathedral. Sam Barrett writes ‘He arrives at an exciting time for music at Pembroke with new possibilities afforded by the opening of the Auditorium and our choirs riding high on the back of recent high-profile recordings, media appearances and concerts. Luke brings a wealth of experience and a compelling vision for developing music across all aspects of college life.’ Straight after the BBC Proms, Luke will be travelling to Zambia with me, Molly and Sophia, to carry on our work teaching music in schools and communities in Lusaka and Livingstone. It will be a great opportunity for the organ scholars to get to know Luke better ahead of next year, as well as being a lovely chance to integrate Luke into the Zambia programme which he is keen to continue. I am certain that the musical life of Pembroke and its Chapel and Choirs will thrive under his direction.

Anna Lapwood, with very many thanks to Moira Hassett

MUSIC SOCIETY

President: Jack Marley

Secretary: Molly Hord

Junior Treasurer: Maryam Giraud

Incoming President: Molly Hord

Incoming Secretary: Maryam Giraud

The activities of Pembroke College Music Society (PCMS) this year focused particularly on utilising the wonderful range of spaces on offer across the old and new site of the College grounds. The spacious Auditorium, open since 2022, continued to facilitate a number of large and increasingly ambitious musical projects, whilst the beautifully wood-panelled Ferguson Nazareth Room proved to be perfect for more intimate chamber recitals. We also hosted events in the Chapel, Recital Room, and Auditorium foyer. The society was also keen to participate in celebrations for the 40th anniversary of Pembroke’s admittance of women. In both Michaelmas and Lent terms, the PCMS committee co-ordinated showcases of the College’s female musicians. As well as in these events, their presence throughout the year’s concerts demonstrated just how integral women have become to the Pembroke’s musical activity in the four decades since they were first admitted.

The Society’s activities began early in Michaelmas term when we celebrated another 40th Anniversary, namely 40 years since the founding of the Cambridge University Brass Ensemble (CUBE). A capacity audience of friends and family enjoyed music performed by an ensemble comprised of more than 40 past and present members, including the group’s founder Chris Lawrence and other founding members. The Auditorium’s rich acoustic was filled with a varied programme that began with a short fanfare composed for CUBE by the eminent Polish composer Witold Lutosławski in 1987, and featured music by Gershwin, Bliss, Barber, Greig, and Strauss, amongst others. The following week, Imaan Kashim, one of the winners of the 2024 Cambridge University Concerto Competition, presented Bruch’s Violin Concerto ahead of performing it at West

Road Concert Hall with the Cambridge University Orchestra. The society continued its tradition of welcoming new members of the College into its musical life with a third annual Freshers' concert on October 26, featuring students who all appeared in subsequent PCMS events this year, consolidating the next generation of College musicians to lead the way in future years.

The next concert was PCMS's first excursion out of the Auditorium this year, moving to the Recital Room in 4 Mill Lane for a hugely popular performance of music by Mozart, led by my predecessor in the PCMS presidency, the soprano Ailsa McTernan. The programme featured arias from *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *La Clemenza di Tito* alongside movements from Mozart's famous clarinet concerto, performed by Alvaro Hurtado with Matt Cresswell accompanying on piano. The audience were treated to a charming encore of the comic Papageno-Papagena duet from *Die Zauberflöte*, arranged for soprano and clarinet with some choreography added for good measure. The venue changed again the following week for a solo organ recital in the Chapel by the College's junior organ scholar Sophia Membery. She performed a wonderful programme mixing Baroque and contemporary music by composers Georg Muffat, Cecilia McDowall, Dieterich Buxtehude, Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, J. S. Bach, and Gaston Litaize. 23 November saw the first of PCMS' concerts dedicated to celebrating the 40th year of women in the College. Works by female composers were presented by a variety of individuals and ensembles, including an *a cappella* upper-voices consort composed of members of the College's chapel choir; solo instrumental performances by Maryam Giraud (one of the College's music students and PCMS junior treasurer) and Sophia Membery (junior organ scholar); and some chamber music by the all-female Pembroke Trio (piano: Sophia Membery, violin: Rosamund da Sousa Correa, Cello: Maria Loughlin). Two light-hearted and participatory events brought the term to a close. A Ceilidh in the Auditorium foyer led by melodion player and Pembroke music student Jonathan Bingham proved popular, with many Pembroke members and friends coming for a high-spirited dance. The next day, I led an open performance of Terry Riley's seminal minimalist composition *In C*, an improvisatory piece for any number and combination of instruments.

Lent Term proved just as busy as Michaelmas for PCMS. The first few concerts saw some of the most successful events of the previous academic year return: Matthew Cresswell curated the second instalment of "Reinterpretations", a choral concert of music in arrangement, with original sources ranging from contemporary classical compositions to pop, folk, and golden-age Hollywood songs. A highlight of this concert was the premiere of a new composition by Pembroke's own Maryam Giraud, setting a poem entitled 'Rain' by fellow Pembroke student and Chapel Choir member Cassidy McKinlay. A few weeks later was the second annual Kenderdine Competition, a prize for solo instrumentalists and singers in the College, named in memory of the late Fellow at Pembroke and President of PCMS, Dr Sidney Kenderdine. The adjudicating panel comprised of Ms Anna Lapwood MBE (Pembroke College, chair of the panel), Dr Edward Wickham (St Catharine's College), and Mr Tim Jones (St John's College, The Sixteen). After a series of impressive performances, Ailsa McTernan was ultimately awarded the first prize and Sophia Membery the second. The panel

elected to also recognise Sophia's skill as an accompanist to other entrants with an accompanist's prize. As with the previous year, this flagship event was followed two days later by a Pembroke College Music Society dinner in the Old Library, at which PCMS committee, Patrons, performers, and regular audience members could meet and celebrate together the successes of the Society.

As with the concert by CUBE at the beginning of Michaelmas term, Lent featured another ambitious concert exploiting the large space of the Auditorium. A group of past and present PCMS committee members organised a "come and sing" style performance of Johannes Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, amassing a chorus of between 60–70 singers to rehearse and perform the piece under the direction of last year's PCMS secretary, Rhys King. They were accompanied by a 4-hand orchestral piano reduction played by Matthew Cresswell and ex-Pembroke organ scholar Andreana Chan. The following two concerts took place in the Ferguson Nazareth Room, a new College space in Milstein House which the Society had not previously used. Its intimate, classy atmosphere was perfect for PCMS' second concert marking the 40th anniversary of women's admittance to the College, which featured a programme combining solo female vocalists from the popular and classical musical traditions. A week later, in the same space, was a spirited piano trio chamber recital by the aforementioned Pembroke Trio, presenting music by Clara Schumann and Joseph Haydn. Having welcomed back ex-president Ailsa McTernan for a recital in Michaelmas term, on March 14 it was now the turn of last year's secretary, Rhys King, to return to PCMS yet again. Rhys led a contemplative candle-lit concert of religious choral music on a Lenten theme which featured a number of his original compositions. This gentle evening concert offered a beautifully meditative and reflective moment for all in attendance, needed towards the end of another busy term. The society's final concert for Lent took a rather different form, with the strains of early-medieval bagpipe and recorder music filling the Auditorium, courtesy of two fine folk musicians in the College, Jonathan Bingham and Amy Keller.

As with many student societies, Easter Term was far quieter for PCMS come examination season. The Alarka Trio – a chamber group of flute, viola, and harp formed of musicians from around the University – gave their final-ever performance before disbanding on 1 February, ahead of graduation. A few weeks later the soprano Jess Folwell and pianist Sam Kemp gave a brilliant lieder recital in the Chapel. Unfortunately, various unforeseen circumstances led to the cancellation of a number of other proposed events in Easter Term. With a such a busy Michaelmas and Lent Term, however, it can still be confidently said that this was another strong year for PCMS. My many thanks go to the committee for all their hard work across the year; to Senior Treasurer Mr Andrew Morris for his continuous support with all things PCMS; to Sally March for generously filming and recording PCMS events on our behalf; and to the Dean and Master of the College. I wish incoming President, Molly Hord, and Secretary, Maryam Giraud, all the best for the coming year at the helm of the society, which I am sure will see the College continue to resonate with the sounds of its many talented musicians.

JUNIOR PARLOUR

President: Angus Ivory

Vice President: Alex Germain

Treasurer: Alfredo Ruiz-Resendiz

Women's Officer: Sophie Cleaves

Ethnic Minorities Officer: Hanna Shaikh

Access Officer: Harriet Ranson

Green and Ethical Affairs Officer:

Anna Langdon

Welfare Officer: Gabriella Sheward

JP & Bar Officer: Ryan Hogan

LGBTQ+ Officer: Mathieu Arnaud

Marginalised Genders Officer:

Anastasia Proudnikova

Disabled Students Officers: Emily Downer &

Camilla Edejo

Amenities Officer: Maddi Malpass

Sports & Societies Officer: Grace Martin

Class Act Officer: David Buck-Smith

Internationals Officer: Kristof Foldenyi

Ents Officers: Eliza Doran &

Anna Kaufman

Men's Officer: Henry Pawley

Publicity Officer: Matt Occleshaw

Michaelmas Term kicked off with a bang as officers of the Junior Parlour Committee (JPC) donned green jumpers and yellow Hi-Viz jackets to greet Freshers and their families on move-in day. That marked the start of a fast-paced schedule of Freshers' Week events, done as ever in the Cambridge spirit of fitting in a lot in a short period of time. A first test for the new Freshers, some would say! An introduction to College life is very important, as Cambridge differs from most universities in this regard. The JPC ran a varied range of events to facilitate this, including a scavenger hunt around Cambridge, subject lunches, college family events, karaoke night and a freshers fair for sports and societies in the new Dolby Court site. As university is new and maybe quite daunting for all freshers, our officers gave talks on welfare and on sustainability to complement professionally run workshops on health and safety.

As the ex-bar officer, I spent my time prior to presidency devising detailed renovation plans for the College bar in the hopes of revitalising an under-used space that could be central to student socialising. With the help of our current JP & Bar Officer, Ryan, several College departments, and a committee of undergraduate students, the JP and bar underwent major renovations through January and the first half of Lent Term. It has now been renamed from *Pembroke Café* to the *Old Lodge Bar* and features picture-adorned green walls, new blackboards, bar, and flooring, new furniture, a trophy cabinet and a new stage area for live music events. Ryan and the Ents team coordinated an excellent opening week of events, culminating in an official opening for which undergraduates crowded in to watch our Master, Lord Chris Smith, cut the ribbon and declare the *Old Lodge Bar* open.

Entertainment is a key facet of the JPC and we've worked hard this year to put on an exciting selection of events in and out of college. Our Ents and Bar officers took freshers punting, decorated the JP with 'wanted' posters of JPC officers for a Wild West themed BOP, and have run bar games Olympics in the bar space. We ran the fourth edition of the Mx Pembroke Drag Show in March, societies swap nights and a pub quiz. Now that Christ's has won University Challenge, Pembroke students have a job to do! The renovations have made the bar an

appealing place for casual pints and impromptu celebrations – a highlight of Easter term was the celebratory karaoke night after our Women’s Football team won their Cuppers league.

The JPC has been responsible for much aside from a new bar and entertainment events. In January, the JPC got the go-ahead to establish a foodbank scheme in college called the Community Cupboard. With huge thanks to our previous President, Emily, and at-the-time Class Act Officer, Alex, the cupboard stocks food and hygiene essentials in a place that is discrete and accessible to any member of college in need. It marks an ongoing commitment to accessibility and an effort to remove barriers to normal life in Pembroke.

In February, Our Green Officer, Anna, put on a fantastic week of events to bring the relevance of climate goals home to Pembroke students and to give us the chance to get involved in climate discussions and celebrations. Events included a Climate Convos session with tea and cake, a screening of David Attenborough documentaries and a nature walk, followed by brunch with free veggie sausages for anyone that fancied.

In March, Pembroke celebrated 40 years of women in Pembroke in conjunction with International Women’s Week. The Jo Cox Feminist Society is thriving and, led by our Women’s Officer, Sophie, the society ran an inclusive discussion on intersectionality and sign making for participation in the Reclaim the Night protest. The final Pem40 events at the weekend brought inspiring women, students, and alumni together to discuss and learn about each other’s experiences as women in Cambridge and beyond.

This academic year the JPC continued to work to improve the day-to-day lives of undergraduate students. The free menstrual cup and emergency contraception schemes are successful and ongoing; the gender expression fund, which reimburses students for gender affirming products and items, lives on and is valued within the community. We have had a strong welfare focus this year and this included spotlighting how we support LGBT+ students, driven by the impact of the UK Supreme Court’s ruling on sex. Our Access Officer, Harriet, led the charge on ensuring that both tutors and JPC officers are trained to deal with disclosures of harm or concern from students – many thanks to Jeannette Hurworth from HR for leading the JPC sessions.

We entered Easter Term with a full committee (21 members) and built on last year’s successes: our welfare team ran donut days every Friday outside the library to support and energise crowds of Pembroke students in the depths of revision; our Ents team organised a joint barbecue with the GPC which saw students relaxing together on New Court Lawn, enjoying food and drink with the option of visiting a henna stall organised by Hanna, our Ethnic Minorities Officer.

I’m proud to say that the JPC has achieved a lot this year, and I would like to thank all the people in Pembroke who have made our work possible. The staff in College – be they Catering, Library, Maintenance or Housekeeping staff, Porters, Fellows, Tutorial Office or from other places – have spent a huge amount of time listening our concerns and our ideas for change. The GPC and their president, Oliver Reed, have been wonderful to work with organising exciting collaborations in which the two student communities can interact. I would like to

thank all officers of the JPC for the unwavering dedication they have shown to making college better. They have been a joy to work with and not a week passes when I'm not excited by an initiative that an officer has come up with. I will extend a special thanks to my Vice President, Alex Germain, who has constantly been a source of support and wisdom to myself and others. Finally, I would like to thank Chris Smith, our Master, for being such a champion of the student body. As a friendly face in college and an attentive listener, we have always been able to count on his support. We will miss him dearly.

The JPC is looking forward to a busier Freshers Week than ever and a fantastic year with our incoming Master, Professor Polly Blakesley. My successor will be able to report back on how this goes!

Angus Ivory

GRADUATE PARLOUR

President: Oliver Reed

Vice-President: Megan Buckley

Treasurer: Joshua Nicholas

Secretary: Ellie Rieger

Events Officer:

Carolina Guinesi-Mattos-Borges

Swaps & Formals Officer: Raffi Schumann

Steward: Harry Taylor

Housing, Infrastructure &

Sustainability Officer: Joshua Yarrow

Welfare Officer: Gareth Morgan

Women and Marginalised Genders Rep:

Charlotte Brass

LGBTQ+ Rep: Jack Napier

Ethnic Minorities Rep:

Juveiriah Mohammed Ashraf

Disability Rep: Maisie Corkhill

Widening Participation Rep:

Mathew Wheeler

4th Year Rep: Aidan Reilly

The academic year 2024–2025 kicked off in spectacular fashion for Pembroke's postgraduate community, under the excellent guidance of Claire Carroll as President. With the committee initially slightly depleted, enormous thanks go to Harry and Carolina for stepping up to the plate to cover the roles of Steward and Events Officer, respectively. As with last year, two weeks of action-packed Freshers' activities set the tone, featuring everything from welcome drinks and quizzes to sports fairs, College tours, swaps, movie nights, and numerous dinners. This whirlwind was capped off with what was hailed as one of the best BOPs in years. The Freshers embraced every activity, setting a truly vibrant and optimistic mood for the year ahead.

November elections bolstered the Graduate Parlour Committee (GPC), filling all roles and building a formidable team ready to implement positive changes. Though these elections sadly saw Claire step down as President, Ollie, our previous Vice-President, was elected to lead. The new GPC wasted no time, throwing another exceptional party to conclude the term, with Carolina on decor, Harry on drinks, and Gareth on music proving to be a winning combination. Heading into 2025, the GPC outlined ambitious aims: a scheme of improvements for the Graduate Parlour (GP); continued delivery of fantastic events and Barlour nights; and fostering more initiatives, an aim first championed by Emily last year.

The GP improvements have been a resounding success! The Batcave has been transformed into a well-equipped, modern study space, complemented by a cosy reading room. Small but impactful touches to the GP lounge and bar, including a new printer, lighting, an iPad, and an abundance of new cushions and blankets, have given the GP a much more inviting feel. Events continued to draw great attendance and enjoyment, including a popular silent disco and a very successful joint garden party with the JPC. Speaking of the JPC, we've actively fostered greater collaboration on many of their ventures, including their bar renovation and community cupboard scheme. We've also unified all Pembroke Sports and Societies under a single funding pot, overseen jointly by the JPC and GPC, promoting greater synergy. Initiatives have flourished, bringing new board games to the GP, establishing a sewing club, and, much to everyone's excitement, purchasing Stand Up Paddleboards for all GP members to use. The Pembroke Allotment also continues to thrive after last year's renovation funding, currently yielding a diverse range of produce, including hops for future beer! The year also saw numerous fantastic events celebrating Pem40, marking 40 years since Pembroke began admitting women. The academic year culminated with the highly anticipated opening of the Mill Lane site by the Dolby family, an event graced by many notable figures and a palpable sense of goodwill.

The GPC's achievements wouldn't be possible without the tireless work of all its officers. Meg, as Vice President, kept my wild ideas in check and provided fantastic behind-the-scenes support. Ellie, the Secretary, patiently managed a barrage of my emails, took minutes of my ramblings, and confused me by using the American date format. Joshua, as Treasurer, meticulously managed the budget, ensuring funds benefited GP members, and championed initiative applications. Carolina hosted acclaimed bops and spearheaded the Batcave renovation. Harry, as Steward, ensured a never-ending supply of drinks and crafted some truly exceptional(ly strong) cocktails. Raffi probably filled up the University email cloud storage with the amount of emails he has sent to organise fantastic formal swaps for us, as well as doing a million other things to help the GP, notably the GP improvements. Josh championed numerous ideas to enhance College life. Gareth provided weekend tea and cake, unwavering support, and legendary music. Charlotte simplified complex disciplinary processes and offered invaluable advice. Jack was a strong voice for the LGBTQ+ community, advocating in College meetings and organising great events. Juveiriah worked on fantastic inclusivity initiatives, including themed formals and a peace and faith room. Maisie investigated support for disabled students and worked on a dedicated fund. Matt was a firm believer in the power of BOPs and Barlours. Finally, Aidan engaged fourth-years, ran events, and became the de facto environmental officer.

Beyond the GPC's efforts, the wider postgraduate community achieved remarkable feats. We celebrated numerous successes in University Sport, including multiple Varsity wins. A special mention goes to Calum Brown, nominated for sporting moment of the year for his goal in Hockey Varsity, and the triumphant Pembroke Women's Football team for winning Cuppers! We have also had tremendous success in Women's Rowing this year, with many

postgraduate members earning 'Blades', and Arden Berlinger rowing in the lightweight crew for the University. This is just a glimpse of the many other achievements and contributions from all members of our vibrant community.

Little of this would be possible without the unwavering support of the entire college staff. Our heartfelt thanks go to Lord Chris Smith, our outgoing Master, for many years of shared wisdom, experience, and camaraderie. We also extend our gratitude to Max Sternberg for his dedicated work as Tutor for Graduate Affairs, and to Becky Coombs for her steadfast support of the GPC and patience with countless postgraduate questions. Thanks also to Robert Mayhew for listening to our wild ideas and gently guiding us when needed. We are grateful to Andrew Cates and Catherine Rawlings for providing the budget to enact positive changes, and we wish Andrew the very best in his next endeavours. Our sincere appreciation goes to Kevin Arrowsmith and the Housekeeping team, and Robert Griggs and his team, for keeping us housed and warm, and for their invaluable help with improvements across College. To Nina Rhodes and the Catering team, thank you for keeping us fed and providing excellent dinners and events. We also acknowledge Tom Gowler and the Porters for their friendly faces and crucial assistance, and Jan Brighting, our nurse, for all her support. Finally, to Matthew Mellor, Sally March, Moira Hassett, Dee Kunze, Debbie Brown, Deki Hathorn, the IT team, and all others in College across every department, we are immeasurably grateful for everything you do to support our studies and enhance our lives at Pembroke.

Next year promises significant change, with a new Master, Bursar, and Tutor for Graduate Affairs. We're confident these changes will bring exciting developments while preserving the unique character of Pembroke that we all cherish. We eagerly anticipate the renovations of the old site and how the improvements to social spaces will benefit the postgraduate community. We also look forward to seeing the continued utilisation of the new Mill Lane site. Finally, to all in the Graduate Parlour and the Committee, I thank you all for your support and energy in making it a fantastic year. It has been an honour to serve you as President and I look forward to partying at bops with no consequences.

Oliver Reed

C. THE COLLEGE RECORD



Photos by Keith Heppell

THE MASTER AND FELLOWS 2024-2025

THE MASTER

The Rt Hon The Lord Christopher Robert Smith, Baron Smith of Finsbury, PC, MA (1977), PhD (1979)

FELLOWS

- 1964 **James Christopher Durham Hickson**, MA (1964), PhD (1966), Life Fellow
- 1982 **Norman Andrew Fleck**, MA (1983), PhD (1984), FREng, FRS, Professor of the Mechanics of Materials
- 1992 **Mark Roderick Wormald**, MA, DPhil (Oxon), College Lecturer in English
- 1993 **Donald Robertson**, MA (1987), MSc, PhD (LSE), Professor of Econometrics
- 1994 **Torsten Meißner**, MA (Bonn), DPhil (Oxon), Professor of Classical & Comparative Philology
- 1997 **Nicholas John McBride**, BA, BCL (Oxon), College Lecturer and James Campbell Fellow in Law
(2000) **Nigel Robert Cooper**, MA (1995), DPhil (Oxon), Professor of Theoretical Physics
- 1999 **Vikram Sudhir Deshpande**, BTech (Bombay), MPhil (1996), PhD (1998), FREng, FRS, Professor of Materials Engineering
- 2001 **Demosthenes Nicholas Tambakis**, MA (1993), MSc, PhD (Princeton), College Associate Professor and Pyewacket Fellow in Economics
Nilanjana Datta, MA (2008), BSc, MSc (Jadavpur), PhD (ETH Zurich), Professor of Quantum Information Theory
Andrea Carlo Ferrari, Laurea (Politecnico di Milano), PhD (2001), ScD (2013), FREng, Professor of Nanotechnology
- 2002 **Rosalind Polly Blakesley**, MA (1996), DPhil (Oxon), Professor of Russian and European Art
- 2003 **Alexander William Tucker**, MA (1989), VetMB (1992), PhD (1997), FRCVS, Professor of Veterinary Public Health
- 2005 **Simon Learmount**, MA (University of East Anglia), MBA (1996), PhD (2000), Associate Professor in Corporate Governance
Samuel James Barrett, BA (Oxon), MPhil (1996), PhD (2000), Professor of Early Medieval Music
- 2006 **Alexei Shadrin**, MSc, PhD (Moscow), Professor of Applied Mathematics
James Theodore Douglas Gardom, MA (Oxon), PhD (KCL), Dean and Chaplain

- Katrin Christina Ettenhuber**, MA, MPhil (2001), PhD (2005), College Lecturer in English
- 2007 **Matthew Robert Mellor**, BA (Oxon), MA (2010), Development Director, Steward
- Sir Stephen Patrick O’Rahilly**, MD (National University of Ireland), FRS, FMedSci, Professor of Clinical Biochemistry and Medicine
- Gábor Csányi**, MA (1994), PhD (MIT), FRS, Professor of Molecular Modelling
- Menna Ruth Clatworthy**, BSc, MBBCh (Wales), PhD (2006), Professor of Translational Immunology
- 2009 **Alexander Houen**, BA, MPhil (Sydney), PhD (1999), Associate Professor in English
- Renaud Gagné**, MA (Montreal), PhD (Harvard), Professor of Ancient Greek Literature and Religion
- Mina Gorji**, BA (1996), MPhil, DPhil (Oxon), Associate Professor in English
- Caroline Burt**, MA (1999), MPhil (2000), PhD (2004), College Lecturer in History, Admissions Tutor
- 2011 **Dame Clare Philomena Grey**, DBE, MA, DPhil (Oxon), FRS, Geoffrey Moorhouse Gibson Professor of Chemistry
- Maria Abreu**, BSc (LSE), MPhil (Tinbergen), PhD (Amsterdam), Professor of Economic Geography, Department of Land Economy
- 2012 **Stephen David John**, BA (2000), MPhil (2002), PhD (2007), Hatton Professor in Philosophy of Public Health
- 2013 **Andrew Thomas Cates**, MA (1991) PhD (1989), Treasurer and Bursar
- Paul Ross Cavill**, MA, MSt, DPhil (Oxon), Senior University Lecturer in Early Modern British History
- John Hay Durrell**, MSc (Imperial), PhD (2001), Professor of Superconductor Engineering
- Maximilian Jan Sternberg**, BA (KCL), MPhil (2002), PhD (2007), Associate Professor in Architecture
- Hildegard Gemma Maria Diemberger**, PhD (Vienna), College Lecturer in Human, Social and Political Sciences
- Sanne Cottaar**, BSc, MSc (Utrecht), PhD (California), Professor in Global Seismology
- Timothy Thomas Weil**, BSc (WashU), PhD (Princeton), Professor of Developmental Biology
- 2014 **Iza Riana Binte Mohamed Hussin**, AB, AM (Harvard), PhD (Washington), Mohamed Noah Fellowship and Associate Professor in Politics and International Studies
- 2015 **Paul Simon Warde**, BA (1995), PhD (2000), Professor of Environmental History
- Mark Charles Wyatt**, MSc (Queen Mary), PhD (Florida), Professor at the Institute of Astronomy

- Anil Venkata Sessa Madhavapeddy**, BEng (Imperial), PhD (2007), Professor of Planetary Computing, Department of Computer Science and Technology
- Guillaume Jean Emmanuel Hennequin**, BSc (SUPELEC), MSc (Edinburgh), PhD (EPFL), Associate Professor in Computational Neuroscience
- 2016 **Daniela Passolt**, MA (Hamburg), MSc (SOAS), PhD (LSE), Director of International Programmes
- Rebecca V Laemmle**, MA, PhD (Basel), Associate Professor in Classics (Greek Literature)
- 2017 **Nicholas Gwilym Jones**, MEng, PhD (Imperial), Professor of Metallurgy
- 2018 **Moreed Ahmad Richard Arbabzadah**, MA (2010), MPhil (2007), PhD (2012), FSA, Affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty of Classics, Praelector
- Michael Hulme**, BSc (Durham), PhD (Wales), Professor of Human Geography
- Johannes Kromdijk**, MSc (Wageningen), PhD (2010), Associate Professor in Plant Sciences
- Assef Ashraf**, MA, MPhil, PhD (Yale), Associate Professor in the Eastern Islamic Lands and Persian-Speaking World
- Amanda Prorok**, MSc, PhD (EPFL), Professor of Collective Intelligence and Robotics
- 2019 **Albert Cardona**, BA, PhD (Barcelona), Professor of Connectomics
- Hugo Andres Bronstein**, MChem (Oxon), MSc (KCL), PhD (Imperial), Professor of Functional Materials
- 2020 **Arthur Asseraf**, MA (Columbia), MSc (LSE), DPhil (Oxon), Associate Professor in the History of France and the Francophone World
- Rebecca Kilner**, BA (Oxon), PhD (1996), FRS, 1866 Professor of Zoology
- 2021 **Robert John Mayhew**, BA, DPhil (Oxon), FBA, FSA, Honorary Professor of Historical Geography and Intellectual History, Senior Tutor
- Renaud Morieux**, BA, MPhil (Paris), PhD (Lille), Habilitation (Paris), Professor of European History
- Steven Michael Ward**, BA (Tufts), MA, PhD (Georgetown), Assistant Professor in Politics and International Studies
- Nicolò Crisafi**, BA (2008), MA (2015), MA (Rome), DPhil (Oxon), Research/Teaching Fellow in Italian Studies/MML.
- 2022 **Zenon Toprakcioglu**, MSc (London), PhD (2021), Ron Thomson Research Fellow in Alzheimer's Disease
- Lorenzo Di Michele**, BSc, MSc (L'Aquila), PhD (2013), Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering
- Flavia Mancini**, BA, MSc, PhD (Milan), Assistant Professor in Innovative Computational Methods
- 2023 **Daria Vladimirovna Ezerova**, BA (Lomonosov), MPhil, PhD (Yale), Assistant Professor in Slavonic Studies

Thies Lindenthal, BSc, MPhil, PhD (Maastricht), Grosvenor Professor of Real Estate Finance

Carl Henrik Ek, MEng (Royal Institute of Technology Sweden), PhD (Oxford Brookes), Docent (Royal Institute of Technology Sweden), Professor in Statistical Learning at the Department of Computer Science

Narine Lalafaryan, LLB (Yerevan State University), LLM (2015), PhD (2023), Assistant Professor of Corporate Law

Kaoutar Ghilani, BA, MPhil (Sciences Po Paris), DPhil (Oxon), Abdullah Al-Mubarak Research Fellowship in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies

Angkur Jyoti Dipanka Shaikkea, BTech (National Institute of Technology, India), PhD (2022), Assistant Professor in the Department of Engineering

2024 **Eoin McKinney**, BA (Oxon), MBChB (Edinburgh), PhD (2014), Versus Arthritis Professor of Rheumatology

Lucy Weinert, BSc (Bristol), PhD (Edinburgh), Associate Professor in Pathogen Evolution

Constantine Yannelis, BA (Illinois), MA (Paris), PhD (Stanford), Janeway Professor of Financial Economics

Javier Antorán, BEng (Zaragoza), MPhil (2019), PhD (2024), Research Fellow in Molecular Modelling and Probabilistic Machine Learning

Alice Raw, BA, MSt, DPhil (Oxon), Mark Kaplanoff Research Fellow

EMERITUS FELLOWS

Colin Gilbraith, MVO, MA (1975)

Antony Gerald Hopkins, PhD (London), FBA

Ian Fleming, ScD (1982), FRS

John Ryder Waldram, MA (1963), PhD (1964)

Sir Roger Tomkys, KCMG, MA (1973)

Robert Joseph Mears, MA (Oxon), PhD (So'ton)

William Bernard Raymond Lickorish, ScD (1991)

Leo Broof Jeffcott, MA (1994), PhD (London)

Sathiamalar Thirunavukkarasu, MA (1971)

Nicholas Stanislaus Baskey, MA (1998)

Howard Peter Raingold, MA (1982)

Michael David Reeve, MA (1966), FBA

Michael George Kuczynski, MA (1972)

Susan Helen Stobbs, MA (1970)

Rex Edward Britter, MA (1979)

Geoffrey Richard Edwards, MA (2008), PhD (London)

Barbara Ann Bodenhorn, MPhil (1979), PhD (1990)

Christopher John Blencowe, MA (2006)

Alan Michael Dawson, MA (1978), PhD (1994)

Alan Garth Tunnacliffe, MA (1994), PhD (London)

Sir Richard Billing Dearlove, KCMG, OBE, MA (2003)

Charles Peter Melville, MA (London), MA (1976), PhD (1978)

Jan Marian Maciejowski, MA (1976), PhD (1978)
Nicholas Barry Davies, MA (1977), DPhil (Oxon) FRS
John Stephen Bell, MA (1978), DPhil (Oxon) FBA
Ashok Ramakrishnan Venkitaraman, MA (1993), PhD (London), MB, BS (Vellore)
Sylvia Huot, MA (2004), BA (California), PhD (Princeton), FBA
Trevor Robert Seaward Allan, BCL (Oxon), MA (1985), LLD (2015), FBA
Loraine Ruth Renate Gelsthorpe, BA (Sussex), MPhil (1979), PhD (1985)
Robin James Milroy Franklin, PhD (1992), FRS
Silvana Silva Santos Cardoso, BA, MEng (Porto), PhD (1994)
Colin Martyn Lizieri, BA (Oxon), PhD (LSE), FRICS, FRGS
Geoffrey Francis Hayward, MA, DPhil (Oxon)
Michael Christopher Payne, MA (1985), PhD (1985), FRS
Jonathan Philip Parry, MA (1982), PhD (1985)
Kenneth George Campbell Smith, MA (2000), BMedSc, MBBS, PhD (Melbourne), ScD (2022), FMedSci
Randall Scott Johnson, BA/BS (Washington), PhD (Harvard)
Christopher John Young, MA (1994), PhD (1995)

HONORARY FELLOWS

1988 **Sir John Frank Charles Kingman**, ScD (1969), FRS
 1992 **Sir Simon Kirwan Donaldson**, MA (1979), DPhil (Oxon), FRS
 1998 **The Rt Hon. Sir Konrad Hermann Theodor Schiemann**, PC, MA (1965), LLB (1962)
The Rt Hon. Sir Alan Hylton Ward, PC, MA (1968)
 1999 **Emma Louise Johnson**, MBE, MA (1992)
 2002 **William Hall Janeway**, CBE, PhD (1971)
 2004 **Sir Michael Bett**, CBE, MA (1977)
Roger Walton Ferguson Jr, AB, AM, JD PhD (Harvard)
Sir Christopher Owen Hum, KCMG, MA (1971),
Sir Marcus Henry (Mark) Richmond, PhD, ScD (1971), FRS
The Rt Hon. Christopher Robert Smith, Baron Smith of Finsbury, PC, MA (1977), PhD (1979)
 2006 **Sir Stephen John Nickell**, CBE, BA (1965), FBA
Martin Biddle, CBE, MA (1965), FBA, FSA
Peter Stuart Ringrose, MA (1971), PhD (1971)
 2007 **Paul Anthony Elliott Bew**, Baron Bew of Donegore, MA (1971), PhD (1974)
Stephen Greenblatt, MA (1968), Ph.D. (Yale 1969), FBA
 2008 **Jeremy Bloxham**, BA (1982), PhD (1986), FRS
 2010 **The Rt Hon. Sir Patrick Elias**, PC, MA, PhD (1974)
 2015 **Victoria Jane Bowman**, CMG, MA (2016)
 2016 **Simon Gerard McDonald**, Baron McDonald of Salford, GCMG, KCVO, MA (1986)
 2018 **Eric Idle**, BA (1962)
Catherine Bishop, MA (Wales), PhD (Reading)
 2019 **The Rt Hon. Lord Justice Sir Charles Haddon Cave**, PC, MA (1981)
Professor Dame Henrietta Louise Moore, DBE, FBA, FRSA, DSSc, FACSS, BA (Durham), PhD (1983)
 2021 **Professor Gail Davey**, OBE, MA (1991), MSc (1997), MD (1998)

- Karan Thapar**, MA (1977), DPhil (Oxon)
 2022 **Professor Richard Ned Lebow**, BA (Chicago), MA (Yale), PhD (City University of New York), FBA
Joanna Melancy Lyndon Prior, MA (1991)

WILLIAM PITT FELLOWS

- 1996 **Sir Marcus Henry (Mark) Richmond**, PhD, ScD (1971), FRS
Richard Chiu, BA (1971)
 1997 **Peter Stuart Ringrose**, MA (1971), PhD (1971)
 2009 **Richard John Parmee**, BA (1973), MA (2011), PhD (2018)
 2019 **Barry John Varcoe**, BSc (South Bank), PhD (Glasgow Caledonian)
 2020 **Shi Wang**, BA (Lanzhou)
Robert Davis, BA, MBA (LBS)
 2021 **Stefano Lucchini**, BA (Luiss Rome)
David Bateman, MA (1996)
 2022 **Taavi Davies**, MA (1997), LLM (2000)
Timothy Mark Passingham, BSc, MEng (Manchester), ALP (2015), FITP
 2023 **Howard Watson**, BSc (Aston)
Tariq Hussain, BSc (Swansea)

BYE-FELLOWS

- 2009 **Rebecca Lucy Coombs**, BA (Bristol), PhD (Paris)
 2017 **Nami Morris**, BA (SOAS)
Stephanie Georgina Smith, MA (2010), MSci (2007), PhD (2011)
 2018 **Anthony Louis Odgers**, BA (1989), MA (1993), MBA (INSEAD)
Mark Edward Purcell, MA (2019), MA (Oxon, UCL), PhD (2020), FSA FRHistS
 2020 **Robert Anthony Griggs**
Anna Ruth Ella Lapwood, MBE, BA (Oxon)
Amber Nicole Joan Cuttill, BA (Leicester)
 2021 **Geeta Kasanga**, PhD (London School of Economics)
 2022 **Paul Calleja**, PhD (Bath)
Joseph Paul Middleton, MPhil (Birmingham), FRAM
 2023 **Catherine Michèle Anne Rawlings**
Kate Parsley, BSc (Newcastle), PhD (2003)
 2024 **James Paul Dougal**, BA (2018), MMath (2018)
Melissa Leach, CBE, FBA, FAcSS, BA (1985), MPhil, PhD (SOAS)

FELLOW-COMMONERS

- 2005 **Keith Gordon Sykes**, MA (1973)
Randall Wayne Dillard, LLM (1983)
 2006 **Norman McLeod Bachop**, MA (1968)
 2007 **Anthony Harwick Wilkinson**
 2009 **Christopher Bertlin Turner Adams**, MA (1957)
John Charles Grayson Stancliffe, MA (1952)

- 2013 **Bitu Daryabari**, BSc (California State), MSc (Golden Gate University)
Graham David Blyth, MA (1978)
Mubarak Abdullah Al Sabah, BA (Buckingham), MPhil (2000)
- 2015 **Datin Paduka Faridah Abdullah**, BSc (Adelaide), MSc (Newcastle), PhD (KCL)
- 2016 **Peter Lawson-Johnston**
- 2018 **Fadi Boustany**, MBA (1994)
- 2020 **James Patrick McCaughan**, MA (1977), M.Math (2020)
- 2021 **Lucien Farrell**, MA (2001)

FOUNDRESS FELLOW

- 2016 **Dagmar Dolby**, BA (Heidelberg)

COLLEGE OFFICERS 2025–2026

President: **M Wormald**

Senior Tutor: **R Mayhew**

Dean and Chaplain: **J Gardom**

Treasurer and Bursar: **S Nash**

Praelector: **M Arbabzadah**

College Proctor: **N Lalafaryan**

Steward: **M Mellor**

College Curator: **S Learmount**

Tutor for Graduate Affairs: **K Ettenhuber**

Director of Undergraduate Admissions: **tbc**

Directors of Graduate Admissions: **N McBride, T Weil**

Fellow Librarian: **M Wormald**

Development Director: **M Mellor**

Fellow for Freedom of Information: **N McBride**

Financial Secretary: **M Abreu**

Undergraduate Tutors: **A Ashraf, A Cardona, H Diemberger, J Dougal, D Ezerova,**

J Gardom, S John, N Jones, M Mahmoudi, N McBride, T Meißner, M Mellor

Postgraduate Tutors: **L Di Michele, J Durrell, J Gardom, L Gelsthorpe, R Lämmle, P Cavill**

College Lecturers: **N Crisafi** (Modern and Medieval Languages), **N Datta** (Mathematics),

H Diemberger (Human, Social and Political Sciences), **K Ettenhuber** (English),

P Lastaukas (Economics), **N McBride** (Law), **S Smith** (Natural Sciences, Chemistry),

Y Wei (Economics), **M Wormald** (English)

Directors of Studies:

Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic: **E Ashman Rowe**

Archaeology: **J Robb**

Architecture: **F Smyth**

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies: **A Ashraf**

Chemical Engineering: **L Di Michele**

Classics: **T Meißner, M Arbabzadah**

Computer Science: **C H Ek, A Prorok**

Design: **F Smyth**

Economics: **P Lastaukas, D Robertson**

Education: G Hayward
 Engineering: V Deshpande, J Durrell, A Ferrari, G Hennequin
 English: K Ettenhuber, M Wormald
 Geography: H Hasenberger
 History: P Cavill, R Morieux, P Warde
 History and Modern Languages: P Cavill, N Crisafi, R Morieux, P Warde
 History and Politics: C Tanooka, S Ward
 History of Art: C Faraday
 Human, Social and Political Sciences: H Diemberger, L Gelsthorpe
 Land Economy: M Abreu
 Law: N McBride
 Linguistics: M Deuchar
 Management Studies: S Learmount
 Mathematics: N Datta, J Dougal
 Medicine: E McKinney, D Tucker, L Weinert
 Modern and Medieval Languages: N Crisafi, D Ezerova, S Huot, C Woodford
 Music: S Barrett, K Ashton
 Natural Sciences: A Cardona, N Cooper, S Cottaar, S John, N Jones, R Kilner, F Lee,
 G Micklem, S Smith, T Weil, M Wyatt
 Philosophy: S John
 Psychological and Behavioural Sciences: A Greve
 Theology: J Gardom
 Veterinary Medicine: A Tucker
 Director of International Programmes: D Passolt
 Lector in German: S Kopbauer

MATRICULATION 2024–2025

MICHAELMAS TERM 2024

Names removed

Names removed

Names removed

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS, FIRST CLASS RESULTS 2025

Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Tripos,
Part I

[REDACTED]

Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic Tripos,
Part II

[REDACTED]

Archaeology Tripos
(Archaeology)

[REDACTED]

Architecture Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]

Architecture Tripos, Part IB

[REDACTED]

Architecture Tripos, Part II

[REDACTED]

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos,
Part IA

[REDACTED]

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos,
Part IB

[REDACTED]

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos,
Part II

[REDACTED]

Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]

Classical Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]

Classical Tripos, Part IB

[REDACTED]

Classical Tripos, Part II

[REDACTED]

Computer Science, Part IA

[REDACTED]

Computer Science, Part II

[REDACTED]

Economics Tripos, Part I

[REDACTED]

Economics Tripos, Part IIA

[REDACTED]

Engineering Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]

Engineering Tripos, Part IB

[REDACTED]

Engineering Tripos, Part IIA

[REDACTED]

Manufacturing Engineering Tripos, Part IIA

[Redacted]

Engineering Tripos, Part IIB

[Redacted]

English Tripos, Part IA

[Redacted]

English Tripos, Part IB

[Redacted]

English Tripos, Part II NR

[Redacted] s

Geographical Tripos, Part II

[Redacted]

Historical Tripos, Part IA

[Redacted]

Historical Tripos, Part IB

[Redacted]

Historical Tripos, Part II

[Redacted]

History and Modern Languages Tripos, Part II

[Redacted]

History of Art Tripos, Part I

[Redacted]

Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos, Part I

[Redacted]

Human, Social and Political Sciences Tripos, Part IIA: Sociology

[Redacted]

Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos, Part IIA: Sociology and Criminology

[Redacted]

Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos, Part IIB: Politics and International Relations

[Redacted]

Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos, Part IIB: Politics and Sociology

[Redacted]

Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos, Part IIB: Social Anthropology

[Redacted]

Human, Social, and Political Sciences Tripos, Part IIB: Sociology

[Redacted]

Land Economy Tripos, Part IA

[Redacted]

Land Economy Tripos, Part IB

[Redacted]

Land Economy Tripos, Part II

[Redacted]

LL.M. Examination

[Redacted]

Mathematical Tripos, Part IB

[Redacted]

Mathematical Tripos, Part III

[Redacted]

Master of Advanced Study Degree in Applied Mathematics

[Redacted]

Medical Sciences Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Medical Sciences Tripos, Part IB

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Final M.B. Exam, Part III

[REDACTED]

Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos,
Part IA

[REDACTED]

Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos,
Part IB

[REDACTED]

Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos,
Part II

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Music Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]

Music Tripos, Part IB

[REDACTED]

Music Tripos, Part II

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part IA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part IB

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II: Biological
and Biomedical Sciences

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part II: Chemistry

[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II: Earth
Sciences

[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II: History
and Philosophy of Science

[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II: Pathology

[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part II: Plant Sciences

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part II: Zoology

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences Tripos, Part III:
Astrophysics

[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part III: Chemistry

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences, Part III: Physics

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Natural Sciences Tripos, Part III: Systems
Biology

[REDACTED]

Master of Advanced Study Degree in
Physics

[REDACTED]

Philosophy Tripos, Part II

[REDACTED]

Psychological and Behavioural Sciences
Tripos, Part IA

[REDACTED]

**Psychological and Behavioural Sciences
Tripos, Part II**

**Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of
Religion Tripos, Part IIA**

**Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of
Religion Tripos, Part IIB**

Veterinary Sciences Tripos, Part IA

COLLEGE AWARDS 2024–2025

Kilby Prize

*The Master's nomination; by custom to a third
year undergraduate*

Blackburne-Daniell Prize

Best second-year performance

Peter de Somogyi Memorial Prize

*Special merit in an Arts subject, as measured by
examination performance; in any year of residence*

Hansen Prize

*for outstanding first or second-year performance in
the arts*

Satish Kumar Aggarwal Prize

*for outstanding first-year performance in
Mathematics or Natural Sciences*

Peter May Award

for Tripos and University Sports

Adrian Prize

for Medical and Veterinary Sciences

Atiyah Prize

for Part III Mathematics

Bethune Baker Prize

for Divinity

E.G. Browne Prize

for Oriental Studies

Cadell Prize

for Architecture or History of Art

Collins Prize

for English

Mary Coates Prize

*for Medical and Veterinary Sciences or Biological
Natural Sciences*

Ginsberg Prize

for Classics

Hadley History Prize

usually for Part II of the Tripos

Sir William Hodge Prize

for Mathematics or Natural Sciences

Hodgson Memorial Award

for most improved score in Engineering

Lancaster Prize

for Engineering

Lander Prizefor History of Art
██████████**Legg Prize**for Mathematics (restricted to Undergraduates)
██████████**Ann Ellen Prince Prize**for Modern Languages
██████████**Marie Shamma'a Frost Prize**

in Oriental Studies

Mahendran, S L J

Robin Shepherd Memorial Prizefor Chemistry
██████████**Shilling Prize**for Land Economy
██████████**Dr Stevens Prize**for Natural Sciences
██████████**Dr Stoneley's Prize**for Geology and Geophysics
██████████**Henry Sumner Maine Prize**for Archeology and Anthropology
██████████**Foundress Prizes**

██████████ (Engineering)

██████████ (Modern & Medieval
Languages)

██████████ (Land Economy)

██████████ (Mathematics)

██████████ (Engineering)

██████████ (English)

██████████ (Archaeology)

██████████ (Natural Sciences)

██████████ (Philosophy)

██████████ (Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic)

██████████ (Geography)

██████████ (Engineering)

██████████ (Law)

Tom Rosenthal Prizefor the most distinguished performance in a
dissertation on any aspect of the fine arts in Tripos
examination
██████████**Tomkys Prize**for Social and Political Sciences
██████████**Trebilcock Prize**for Economics
██████████**Turner Prize**for Music
██████████**Ubaydli Prize**for Computer Science
██████████**S M Jamil Wasti Prize**for Part I English
██████████**Willoughby Prize**for Private Law
██████████**Ronald Wynn Prize**for Engineering
██████████**Ziegler Prize**for Law
████████████████████ (Human, Social & Political
Sciences)██████████ (Human, Social & Political
Sciences)

██████████ (Engineering)

██████████ (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies)

██████████ (Engineering)

██████████ (Law)

██████████ (Natural Sciences)

██████████ (Modern & Medieval Languages)

██████████ (Natural Sciences)

██████████ (Engineering)

██████████ (Classics)

██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion)
 ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Music)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Classics)
 ██████████ (Mathematics)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Mathematics)
 ██████████ (Medical Sciences)
 ██████████ (History)
 ██████████ (Medical Sciences)
 ██████████ (Architecture)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Music)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Computer Science)
 ██████████ (History)

██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Clinical Medicine)
 ██████████ (English)
 ██████████ (English)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Law)
 ██████████ (Medical Sciences)
 ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Architecture)
 ██████████ (Classics)
 ██████████ (History and Modern Languages)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Geography)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Land Economy)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Classics)
 ██████████ (Architecture)
 ██████████ (Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Psychology & Behavioural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)

Dolby Prizes

██████████ (English)
 ██████████ (Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion)

College Prizes

██████████ (English)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Economics)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
 ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Engineering)
 ██████████ (Natural Sciences)

██████████ (English)
 ██████████ (Classics)
 ██████████ (Music)
 ██████████ (English)
 ██████████ (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies)
 ██████████ (Modern & Medieval Languages)
 ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
 ██████████ (Medical Sciences)
 ██████████ (Medical Sciences)

[REDACTED] (Computer Science)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (History of Art)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Chemical Engineering &
 Biotechnology)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)

[REDACTED] (Architecture)
 [REDACTED] (History)
 [REDACTED] (Asian & Middle Eastern
 Studies)
 [REDACTED] (Psychology & Behavioural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Land Economy)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)

Foundation Awards

[REDACTED] (Human, Social & Political
 Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Land Economy)
 [REDACTED] (Land Economy)
 [REDACTED] (Music)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Law)
 [REDACTED] (Human, Social & Political
 Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Law)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Modern & Medieval Languages)
 [REDACTED] (Classics)
 [REDACTED] (Human, Social & Political
 Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)

[REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Mathematics)
 [REDACTED] (History)
 [REDACTED] (Computer Science)
 [REDACTED] (History)
 [REDACTED] (Clinical Medicine)
 [REDACTED] (Law)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Law)
 [REDACTED] (Physics)
 [REDACTED] (Psychology & Behavioural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
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Foundation Scholarships

[REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Mathematics)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Archaeology)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Classics)
 [REDACTED] (Human, Social & Political
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 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies)
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 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Human, Social & Political
 Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Theology, Religion & Philosophy)

[REDACTED] of Religion)
 [REDACTED] (Mathematics)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Music)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Mathematics)
 [REDACTED] (History)
 [REDACTED] (Economics)
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 [REDACTED] (Architecture)
 [REDACTED] (Computer Science)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (English)
 [REDACTED] (Engineering)
 [REDACTED] (Law)
 [REDACTED] (Medical Sciences)
 [REDACTED] (Natural Sciences)

- ██████████ (Classics)
- ██████████ (Mathematics)
- ██████████ (Engineering)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Land Economy)

- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Classics)
- ██████████ (Architecture)
- ██████████ (Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic)
- ██████████ (Modern & Medieval Languages)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)

College Scholarships

- ██████████ (English)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
- ██████████ (Economics)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
- ██████████ (Engineering)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Veterinary Sciences)
- ██████████ (English)
- ██████████ (Classics)
- ██████████ (Music)
- ██████████ (History of Art)
- ██████████ (English)
- ██████████ (Engineering)
- ██████████ (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies)
- ██████████ (Modern & Medieval Languages)

- ██████████ (Human, Social & Political Sciences)
- ██████████ (Medical Sciences)
- ██████████ (Medical Sciences)
- ██████████ (Computer Science)
- ██████████ (Engineering)
- ██████████ (History of Art)
- ██████████ (Engineering)
- ██████████ (Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology)
- ██████████ (Engineering)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Architecture)
- ██████████ (History)
- ██████████ (Asian & Middle Eastern Studies)
- ██████████ (Psychology & Behavioural Sciences)
- ██████████ (Land Economy)
- ██████████ (Natural Sciences)

Dame Ivy Compton-Burnett Prize for Creative Writing

██████████

Brian Riley Declamation Prize

██████████

Blues Awards

For a Blue

- ██████████ (Swimming)
- ██████████ (Field Hockey)
- ██████████ (Hockey)
- ██████████ (Volleyball)
- ██████████ (Rowing)
- ██████████ (Rugby League)

- ██████████ (Rugby Union)
- ██████████ (Field Hockey)
- ██████████ (Cricket)
- ██████████ (Golf)
- ██████████ (Cheerleading)
- ██████████ (Golf)
- ██████████ (Rifle)

For a Half Blue

- ██████████ (Mixed Lacrosse)
- ██████████ (Karate)
- ██████████ (Water Polo)
- ██████████ (Rowing)
- ██████████ (Target Rifle Shooting)
- ██████████ (Water Polo)

POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS 2024–2025

The following named scholarships and awards were made for the academic year 2024–2025:

The College part funded four University or associated Partner Institutions PhD studentships

- ██████████ (PhD in English) from the University of Oxford was awarded a Vice-Chancellor's & Pembroke College Scholarship.
- ██████████ (PhD in Classics) from Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge was awarded a Harding Distinguished Postgraduate Scholarship/Pembroke College Studentship.
- ██████████ (PhD in History of Art) from Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge was awarded an OOC-AHRC/Pembroke Studentship.
- ██████████ (PhD in Philosophy) from King's College, University of Cambridge was awarded the Boustany Cambridge Pembroke Scholarship in Philosophy.
- ██████████ (PhD in Theology and Religious Studies) from King's College London was awarded a Faculty of Divinity/Pembroke Studentship.
- ██████████ (PhD in Criminology) from Selwyn College, University of Cambridge was awarded an ESRC/Pembroke Studentship,.

The College part funded four University or associated Partner Institutions awards for MPhil or equivalent study

- ██████████ (MPhil in English Studies) from the University of Sussex was awarded a UK Masters/Pembroke Masters Award.
- ██████████ (LLM in Law) from the University of Sydney was awarded a Davis McCaughey Australian Studentship.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Data Intensive Science) from the Sorbonne Université Abu Dhabi was awarded a Rowan Williams Cambridge & Pembroke College Studentship).
- ██████████ (MFin in Finance) from the BPP University, London was awarded a Pembroke MFin Scholarship.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Nuclear Energy) from the University of Oxford was awarded a UK Masters/Pembroke Masters Award.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Classics) already a member of this College was awarded a UK Masters/Pembroke Masters Award.
- ██████████ (LLM in Law) from I.Franko National U-ty of Lviv, Ukraine was awarded a Rowan Williams Cambridge & Pembroke College Studentship.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Machine Learning & Machine Intelligence) already a member of this College was awarded a UK Masters/Pembroke Masters Award.

The College also made significant *ad hominem* awards

- ██████████ (MPhil in Economic Research) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Economic Research) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Classics) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Classics) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Biological Science (Zoology)) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in History of Art and Architecture) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion) already a member of this College.
- ██████████ (MPhil in Real Estate Finance) already a member of this College.

HIGHER DEGREES CONFERRED

PhD

■■■■■■■■■■, Evaluating the resilience of Antarctic echinoderms to Southern Ocean freshening: short- and long-term responses

■■■■■■■■■■ Conspiracy, controversy, and the classroom: exploring the prevalence and significance of conspiracy theories among youth cultures in London

■■■■■■■■■■ Making scents of butterfly pheromone evolution

■■■■■■■■■■ Learning-based cooperative perception and control for multi-robot systems

■■■■■■■■■■ Scandinavian Women Artists in and beyond Paris, c. 1900–1930

■■■■■■■■■■ Uncovering the potential of utilising terrestrial biogenic markers in ice cores as proxies to past environmental conditions

■■■■■■■■■■ Polarity establishment and signalling mechanisms controlling patterning in *Hibiscus Trionum* petals

■■■■■■■■■■ Investigating the transcription factor landscape of the squamous subtype of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

■■■■■■■■■■ Fairness for affective and wellbeing computing

■■■■■■■■■■ Trade union influence in Europe under austerity (2008–2016); a study of Greece, Ireland and Belgium

■■■■■■■■■■ Interpretability of neural networks latent representations

■■■■■■■■■■ Evolutionary Ecology of the First Animal Ecosystems

■■■■■■■■■■ Centrepieces: compositions for the adornment of the European formal table in the long eighteenth century

■■■■■■■■■■ Sound in conflict: lyric poetry and the American Civil War

■■■■■■■■■■ Self-care towards the end of life

■■■■■■■■■■, Adaptive Immune Responses to Vaccination Against SARS-CoV-2 in Individuals with Immune Dysregulation

■■■■■■■■■■ Action, motive, and self-knowledge: an inquiry into the uncertain agent

■■■■■■■■■■ Novel magnetic resonance techniques as applied to metallic phases in lithium-ion battery electrodes

██████████ The past, present, and future of large reptiles: rewilding, climate change, and conservation palaeobiology

██████████ Carbon nanotube alignment within macrostructures

██████████, Causal gene prioritization across diverse diseases through multi-omic data integration

██████████ Very High Speed Coherent Passive Optical Networks

██████████ Analysing and mitigating classification bias for text-based foundation models

██████████ Investigating protdudin's role in neuroprotection and axon regeneration in the central nervous system

██████████ Galactic Archaeology with Gaia

██████████ A, Real-time data assimilation in nonlinear dynamical systems

██████████ Translational Regulation in the 5'UTR of Enteroviruses

██████████ Somatic mosaicism in development and paediatric cancer

██████████ Curating the dead: bodies and matter in early Mycenaean burials

██████████ The synthesis of pentose and hexose derivatives using silyl-to-hydroxy conversion

██████████ 'The copper's nose': a grounded theory of a policing phenomenon

██████████ Assessing functional links between speech production and perception in multilingual speakers

██████████ Amorphisation mechanisms of metal-organic frameworks under high pressures and temperatures

██████████ The marketplace of dangerous ideas: intermedia, edge thinking, and the rise of Brockman, Inc.

██████████ Fear not: exploring the role of memory suppression during Pavlovian fear extinction

██████████ Between self, others and thinking: a phenomenological study of adolescents in dialogue about literary texts

██████████ Domestic Chains, Carceral Lives: Exploring Women's Pathways to and Experiences of Incarceration through the Lens of Love, Marriage, and Kinship in India

██████████ Replication of sequence information in recognition-encoded synthetic polymers

██████████ Unpacking the Syrian Academics' Experience of Exile and Their Potential Role in the Future of Syrian Higher Education

██████████ Backdoors and trapdoors: the trappings of homo/transsexuality in artists' film, video and photography, c. 1989–1999

██████████ Contribution of causal aquaporin-1 mutations to the pathobiology of pulmonary arterial hypertension

Master of Law

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 ██████████
 ██████████

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 ██████████
 ██████████

Master of Research

██████████
 ██████████

██████████

MPhil

██████████, Biological Sciences
 ██████████ Data Intensive Science
 ██████████ Political Thought and Intellectual History
 ██████████ English
 ██████████ Ethics of AI, Data and Algorithms
 ██████████ English Studies
 ██████████ English Studies
 ██████████ Geography
 ██████████ Multidisciplinary Gender Studies
 ██████████ Theology
 ██████████, Classics
 ██████████ Architecture and Urban Studies
 ██████████ Politics and International Studies
 ██████████, A, Sociology
 ██████████ Technology Policy
 ██████████ Classics
 ██████████ English
 ██████████, Social Anthropology
 ██████████, Art History
 ██████████ Classics
 ██████████, Classics

██████████ Politics and International Studies
 ██████████ History
 ██████████ Biological Science at the Department of Zoology
 ██████████ History of Art and Architecture
 ██████████ Population Health Sciences
 ██████████, Politics and International Studies
 ██████████ English
 ██████████ Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion
 ██████████ History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine
 ██████████ Machine Learning and Machine Intelligence
 ██████████ European, Latin American and Comparative Literatures and Cultures
 ██████████ Basic and Translational Neuroscience
 ██████████ Sociology
 ██████████ Management
 ██████████ Archaeological Science
 ██████████ Holocene Climates
 ██████████ Development Studies
 ██████████ Biotechnology
 ██████████ Architecture

MMath

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MASt

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MEng

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MBA

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MFin

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MAcc

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MEd

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MSci

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MB

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BChir

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VetMB

[REDACTED]

D. THE PEMBROKE COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY



Images from 'Pembroke: The Next Chapter' video
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6bsisjECxvQ>)

MEMBERS' NEWS

- 1954 **Eric Middleton** published his book *An Inside Track to the Holy Spirit*.
- 1955 **David Corfe's** book *More Poems From My Knapsack* was published by FeedARead.com Publishing.
- 1957 **Chris Adams** published his memoir *Becoming a Brain Surgeon*.
Anthony Verity's translation of *Xenophon's Estate Management and Symposium* was published in the Oxford University Press's *World's Classics* series.
- 1958 **Bernard Adams' translation** of *Róbert Simon's The Social Anatomy of Islam* was published by iASK.
- 1962 **Peter Taylor** was awarded a CBE for services to journalism and public service broadcasting.
- 1963 The third edition of **Tony Allen's** *Mediation Law and Civil Practice* was published by Bloomsbury.
- 1964 **Farrukh Dondy's** *Deccan Queen: Take Two* was published by Om Publishing.
Pat Ferns' memoirs *The Big Picture – A Personal History of Independent Television Production in Canada* were published by Sutherland House Books.
- 1968 **Geoff Brown's** book *Silent to Sound: British Cinema in Transition* was published by John Libbey Publishing.
Jem Poster's *Eliza Mace* (co-authored with Sarah Burton) was published by Duckworth.
- 1970 **Indra Sinha** received *Pembroke's Alumni Impact Award* for his activism and commitment on behalf of survivors of the Bhopal disaster.
- 1971 **Roger Kinns' book** *The World of Visual Time Signals for Mariners: Time Balls, Time Guns, Time Lights and Other Signals* was published by Springer (and is reviewed on p 203).
- 1976 **Peter Carpenter's** *Bowieland: Walking in the Footsteps of David* was published by Monoray.
- 1977 **Noel Manns** was awarded an OBE for political and public service.
- 1978 **Jonathan Flory** was appointed non-executive director of HM Prison and Probation Service.
Martin Rowson's *The *untsiad* was published by Smokestack Books, and his *As I Please and Other Writings* was published by Seagull Books; he illustrated *Peter York's A Dead Cat on Your Table*, published by Blyline Books.
- 1981 **Peter Bradshaw's** book *The Body in the Mobile Library and Other Stories* was published by Lightning Books.
- 1984 **Tom Shakespeare's** *The Ha-Ha* was published by Farrago.
- 1986 **Louis Taylor** was awarded a CBE for services to business and trade.
- 1987 The 6th edition of **Simon Frankel's** *Law, Ethics and the Visual Arts* was published by Cambridge University Press.
- 1988 **Sally Fenton** was awarded an OBE for services to net zero innovation.
Carey Scott was awarded an OBE for services to British foreign policy.
- 1990 **Denny Levett** received *Pembroke's Distinguished Alumni Award* for pioneering advancements in patient care and overseeing a critical care unit at Southampton University Hospital.

- 1992 **Nicola Marzari** was elected to become the next Cavendish Professor of Physics at the University of Cambridge.
- 1994 **Robert Macfarlane's** *Is a River Alive?* was published by Hamish Hamilton.
- 1995 **John Aston** was appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research in the University of Cambridge, and President of the Royal Statistical Society. **Libby Green** was appointed Ambassador to Ecuador. **Blaise Metreweli** was appointed Head of MI6.
- 1997 **Hannah Minghella** was appointed Head of Feature Animation and Live Action Family Film at Netflix.
- 1998 **Eleanor Lloyd** was awarded an OBE for services to theatre. **Elisa Lodato's** *Ghost Story* was published by Manilla Press.
- 1999 **Dan Jones's** *Henry V: The Astonishing Rise of England's Greatest Warrior King* was published by Apollo. **Tricia Mundy** was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.
- 2000 **Sophie Elmhirst's** *Maurice and Maralyn* was published by Penguin. **Tom Proverbs-Garbett's** book *Being a Trainee Solicitor: How to Survive and Thrive* was published by Browns Books. His collection of poems *The Adept* was published by Cinnamon Press.
- 2001 **Ramesh Perera-Delcourt's** novel *Flat 401* was published by Orion.
- 2004 **James Bashford's** book *Nature Within: How the Natural World Shapes our Minds, Bodies and Health* was published by Pelagic Publishing.
- 2010 **Ambrogio Camozzi Pistoja's** book *La materia di Dante* was published by Longo Editore Ravenna. **Harry Shukman's** *The Year of the Rat* was published by Chatto & Windus.
- 2011 The second and third volumes in **Hannah Kaner's** *The Fallen Gods Trilogy* (*Sunbringer and Faithbreaker*) were published by HarperVoyager. Her books were shortlisted for numerous awards, including the British Book Awards Debut Fiction Book of the Year 2024 and the Astounding Award for Best New Writer at the Hugos 2024.
- 2013 **Yan Zhang's** short story 'Fleeting Marrow' won The Guardian 4thWrite Short Story Prize 2024.
- 2015 **Penelope Jones** featured in Forbes' list of 30 Under 30 in the category 'Manufacturing & Industry'. **Phil Kwok** received Pembroke's Emerging Alumni Leader Award for founding one of the world's fastest-growing startups, Easy A.
- 2017 **Jacquelyn Lane** featured in Forbes' list of 30 Under 30 in the category 'Education'.
- 2020 **Tom de Csiléry** and his father became the third and fourth Britons to climb all 82 summits in the Alps above 4,000 m.
- 2022 **Jack Marley** was a joint winner of the University of Cambridge Concerto Competition.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY

AGENDA FOR THE 2025 AGM

Thursday 20 November; The Drapers' Hall, drinks at 7.00 pm, dinner at 7.30 pm

Nominations for 2025–2026

President: tbc

Vice-Presidents: Sir Roger Tomkys, H P Raingold

Honorary Vice-President: Mrs C F Holmes

Chairman of Committee: Dr J E Morley

Secretary: M R Mellor

Treasurer: S H Nash

Editor of Gazette: N J McBride

Secretary of London Dinner: A S Ivison

Secretary of Scottish Dinner: R M B Brown

Secretary of South Western Dinner: R J Porter

1950s representative: G J Curtis

Committee to 2026: Sir Patrick Elias, Professor S V Griffin, Ms B R M Davidson, A Morris, Dr A Gupta

Committee to 2027: C G Bartholomew, R J Edwards, Miss C M Beales, Canon M Williams, Ms L Greenfield, M C Bittlestone

Committee to 2028: tbc

Overseas Representatives: T P Itoh, Dr C L Hansen, Dr A Guha, Ms D S Q G-S Wambold, Ms L Parodi-Huml

AGENDA FOR THE 2024 AGM

Thursday 21 November; The Drapers' Hall, drinks at 7.00 pm, dinner at 7.30 pm

Nominations for 20234–2025

President: Rt Hon. Lord Smith of Finsbury

Vice-Presidents: Sir Roger Tomkys, H P Raingold

Honorary Vice-President: Mrs C F Holmes

Chairman of Committee: Dr J E Morley

Secretary: M R Mellor

Treasurer: Dr A T Cates

Editor of Gazette: N J McBride

Secretary of London Dinner: A S Ivison

Secretary of Scottish Dinner: R M B Brown

Secretary of South Western Dinner: R Jarratt

1950s representative: G J Curtis

Committee to 2025: Professor H N Kennedy, A M Lloyd-Williams, N M Heilpern, Miss V A Skinner, Dr H Marcarian

Committee to 2026: Sir Patrick Elias, Professor S V Griffin, Ms B R M Davidson, A Morris, Dr A Gupta

Committee to 2027: C G Bartholomew, R J Edwards, Miss C M Beales, Canon M Williams, Ms L Greenfield, M C Bittlestone

Overseas Representatives: T P Itoh, Dr C L Hansen, Dr A Guha, Ms D S QG-S Wambold,
Ms L Parodi-Huml

DINNERS AND RECEPTIONS

Pembroke College Cambridge Society London Dinner

The 97th annual dinner of the Society was held at the Drapers' Hall on the evening of Thursday 21 November 2024. The Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury, proposed the Toast to the College and as President of the PCCS gave the response too.

PRESENT

	The Master		Mr S J Shotton	1983	Mr M N Maurice- Jones
1955	Mr G J Curtis & Mrs P M Curtis	1976	Mr N H Denning Mr A M Lloyd- Williams		Mr P J de V McMullan FRCS
1956	Mr B M Lapping CBE		Mr A B McIntosh & Mrs S M McIntosh	1984	Mr J R Maughan DSc
1960	Mr G P Balfour Mr P J H Meyer		Mr C P Millar & Mrs S Millar	1985 1988	Professor S V Griffin Dr J L Davies
1963	Professor K A McEwen		Mr P J H Whitfield		Mr M C Gibson
1964	Mr S G Sperry Mr D A Streatfeild	1977	Mr D J Morum		Mrs G Pettyfer & Mr S Pettyfer
1966	Mr C G Bartholomew Mr J V P Drury Dr W Sedriks	1978	Mr G F N Martin & Miss O Martin (2020)		Ms C E F Roberts & Dr R Allcock
1967	Mr W P Merrick & Mrs J A Merrick	1979	Mr R A L Wallin & Mrs C E Wallin		Mr P G M Whawell OBE
1968	Mr M F Cook Mr J B Gateshill KC Mr M J Kallaway Mr R J H Mills Mr R J Weber	1980	Mr D G Brocksom Mr N M Heilpern Mr A H Jones & Mrs S G Jones	1989 1991 1993	Mrs C J Wilkinson & Mr A Wilkinson Mr R C Bartlett Mr M A Troman Canon M Williams
1969	Mr S E H Harris Mr P C Johnson		Mr P B Kempe Brigadier W J F Kingdon		Mr C J Allan Dr A N Donnelly Ms H M Senechal
1971	Mr A A M Lowe & Mr J Chidson		Mr P Lyrstis & Miss O Oshisanya	1994	Dr E E Adams Dr A J Bennett
1973	Professor A N Cormack Mr D E Dickson & Mrs J F M Dickson Mr D M Edwards & Mrs S Edwards	1981	Mr I D McDiarmid & Mrs H McDiarmid Mr J P Snoad Mr T J Walker Dr P Campbell		Mr M P Farrow EPA CPA Ms H E M Walton & Miss G J Brockis (1994)
	S J Machin Esq Mr M A Smyth MBE		Mr T R W Cowen Mr D M Holland KC Mr S E Lugg	1997 1999	Ms B R M Davidson Mr J A Buckley Dr P M McCormack
1974	Mr A S Ivison Mr P R Pentecost		Mr S D Morgan Mr A Rahman & Ms N Rahman	2000	Mx I A Barry & Ms N Forster
1975	Mr J V Canning & Mrs A Canning Mr N P de la Rue Dr R M Keatinge & Dr M Gwyn	1982	Mr S Rendell Mr A J Sheach Mr C M Sullivan Mr M Gordon		Mr T Callahan & Ms H F Allman (2000) Mr A W Morris FTCL ARAM

2001	Mr M Freeman Ms L Greenfield Mr K Mann Ms R V Pyne	2019	Mr T J Barker Mr J W Burman & Mr P Daneel Mr R S Bywater Mr A Clelland Miss A V Gardner Miss E L E Hatherell Ms L C V Holland Miss E Jefferson Mr S Kuladevan Mr H E P Palmer Miss A J C Richardson Mr J Roy Miss M E Thomas & Mr G Little	Miss P Meek & Miss N Egan Miss A Mikhailova & Mr J Nordhorn Mr G Papagiannis & Mrs O Kalantzi Mr M Regensberg Mr L Rodd & Mr G Arnold Mr J Stokes Miss A Tinsley & Ms S Scott Ms L Wright & Ms P Collins	
2009	Ms H C Maguire			2021	Miss M E Bowers Ms C Chen Mr A R Faulds Ms C E Forshaw & Mr D Griffiths Mr D Hai & Miss H Chen Mr M Hall Miss R K Hind Mr M J Holmes & Miss H Law Mr N Kucera & Mrs L Grieco Mr M J Miller & Ms J Qin Mr M E Mwamba Miss J E M Stone
2010	Mr O G Rew & Mr A Simpson (2013) Miss I C Stone & Mr M Clarke	2020	Mr N Aggarwal Mr S Alexander & Mr T Hallet Mr J E Cunnison Mr G M Doza Miss M Drel & Mr S Baxter Mr F J Gaffney Mr M J Harris Ms A N Hunt & Mr T Hunt Miss J Johnson & Miss M-B Morris Mr A Leong		
2011	Mr T P Hoier				
2012	Professor I C Abbs Dr J M Weber				
2014	Dr L Chlon & Mrs N Awada Miss M Gordon Miss F Ketteman Mr J G Leech Miss I-V K Lipsius Miss M Morgan Miss E F Neville Mr N Shah Ms K Smith Ms S Walsh				
2016	Dr J Srpic & Ms S Lunder				
2017	Dr T Parsloe & Ms H Forrest				
2018	Mr H J C Lyle Mr S J Quick & Mr A Nieuwoudt				
	Dr M R Wormald Mr N J McBride Dr S A Learmount Dr J T D Gardom Mr M R Mellor Ms N Morris	2019	Mr O Elchanan	2022	Miss E J Fearn Mr A J Koch Mr B B Lakämper Miss G M Maffioli Brigatti
		2021	Ms S Fuhrmann		

The 98th annual dinner of the Society will be held at the Drapers' Hall on the evening of Thursday 20 November 2024.

The secretary of PCCS would welcome suggestions from members of Pembroke speakers for future London dinners whom they can help contact.

South-Western Dinner

The 22nd Annual South-Western Dinner was held at the Clifton Club on the evening of Friday 31 January 2025 with the assistance of Richard Jarratt (1961). The College representative was the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury..

PRESENT

	The Master	1974	Dr J D Budd &	1985	Professor S V Griffin
1957	Professor Sir John Kingman FRS		Mr O M T Budd (2009)	1990	& Mr P D Griffin
1961	Mr R H Jarratt & Mrs S E Jarratt	1978	Revd Father J C Finnemore	2006	Mr R J Porter
1971	Mr F G D Montagu & Mrs O Montagu		Dr S N Kukureka		Miss H A Briggs & Mr P Cannon
1972	Mr A B Elgood	1980	Professor J H Tobias		Ms J H Lowes
	Dr J W Lumley		Professor V K Aggarwal FRS		Mr A P McKee & Dr A Smith
	Mr T J Thorn & Ms C Macnab	1983	Dr M V Kyle	2018	Mr J M Sharp
1973	Dr R M L Lewis & Mrs K Lewis	1984	Dr A G Miller		Dr M Tointon & Dr K Tointon
			Mr R P Keatinge		Miss S A March

The 23rd Annual South-western Dinner at the Clifton Club will be held on Friday 6 February 2026 and details circulated later this year. If you wish to be included and do not reside in the Southwest of England please email events@pem.cam.ac.uk.

Scottish Dinner

The 73rd Annual Dinner in Scotland was held at the New Club on Friday 28 February 2025. The College representative was Lord Smith of Finsbury, the Master.

PRESENT

	The Master	1974	Mr A M Cripps		Mr A J Clarkson
1953	Mr H Howard & Miss H Whittaker		Mr A R Hay	1985	Miss R D Robertson
1950	Mr A H Trevor		Mr N J Hunn FRSA	1986	Dr B A Cuthbert
1953	Mr H Howard & Miss H Whittaker MA		FIET & Mrs C Hunn	1987	Professor A E Bayly
		1975	Dr D G Thomas	1988	Professor A J McNeil
1957	Professor J A A Hunter OBE		Mr J R Bensted-Smith		Professor J L W Schaper
1963	Dr I M Cassells	1981	Dr I M McClure	1989	Mrs P M Smith
1966	Mr I M Tait	1982	Dr A J Milne	1990	Mr R M B Brown
1970	Professor R H Roberts	1984	Mr M N Raffle	2009	Dr J A K Bayly
			Professor A J G Cairns FRSE	2016	Dr V Lindsay-McGee
				2017	Dr C J Ness
					Ms N Morris

The date of the 74th Annual Dinner in Scotland will be held on Friday 27 February at the New Club, Edinburgh. Further details will be circulated later this year. If you wish to be included and do not reside in Scotland or the North of England please email events@pem.cam.ac.uk.

PCCS Hong Kong Reception

A drinks reception for Pembroke alumni and Circle members living in Hong Kong was held at Huso, 1/F, The Pottinger Hotel, 74 Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong on Wednesday 3 July 2024. The reception was kindly organised by Paul Tao (1985) and Bianca Law (1996). The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Matthew Mellor, Fellow and Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	2012	Miss Y Y Fung	Mr C H Kwok
1970	Mr C H Hall	2014	Mr H G S Tao	Ms H T Leung &
1988	Mr D T M Chiu	2017	Mr C Y J Lo &	Ms B Ding
	Mr A R Read		Ms J Lai	Miss C C Lo
1996	Ms H Y B Law	2018	Ms C L R Kan &	Mr K H Man
1999	Miss N Yeungau		Ms V Chiu	Mr K M Sham &
2002	Mr M Y Tang &	2018	Mr W L Wong &	Mr E Chan
	Ms A Chuk		Ms A Ang	Mr C Y Wong &
2004	Miss Z V Hu	2023	Mr Y Hu	Mr C Smith
	Mr H A T-T Kam			Ms Y H Yeung &
2006	Mr M R Mellor		Dr W Y Cheng &	Mr C Lee
2008	Ms S Lin &		Mr Y Luk	Dr G K Yip
	Dr W S Aik			

Pembroke Victoria Society Dinner

The Pembroke Victoria Society Dinner was held at the Melbourne Club, 36 Collins Street, Melbourne, on Tuesday 10 December 2024. This event was kindly organised and hosted by Peter Moore (1978). Ms Vanessa Greenwood, Executive Officer of Cambridge in Australia Scholarships, was in attendance.

PRESENT

1967	Mr P M McLennan	1980	Mr R H Myer AO	Ms V Greenwood
1971	Dr I E Topliss	1981	Mr M E Bartlett	Dr A G V Strazzera
1976	Mr A G Shelton	1994	Mr A J R Barker	
1978	Mr P J Moore			

The PCCS organised a number of events around the world to mark the impending retirement of Lord Smith as Master of Pembroke.

Singapore Drinks Reception

A reception for alumni and Circle members was held at 80 Ridley Park, Singapore, 248506 on Thursday 3 April 2025. It was kindly organised by Barry Clarke (1981). The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Matthew Mellor, Fellow and Development Director.

PRESENT

1981	The Master Mr B D Clarke & Ms F Y T Clarke	2003	Mr G C T Lim Miss W-C Poon	2018	Mr C I T K Goh Mr A M Warren & Mrs C Warren
1982	Mr W W Soh		Mrs H J Williamson	2019	Ms A Chen
1983	Dr S Sit Abdullah & Ms V Fay Lee	2005 2006	Dr M G Williamson Mr Y Y Xie		Mr M W Heidegger & Ms W Yi Jun Tan
1986	Mr D S Yahya	2007	Professor A R Venkitaraman		Miss R Han
1987	Dr F R Devlin & Mrs M W Devlin	2008	Dr P E De Souza & Mr T Bhojwani		Mr K Oktavio Ms J Qiu
1989	Mr A N D Smith		Ms M J Franklin		Mr K E See
1991	Mr J Mladenic	2009	Dr Y Liu		Mr D Wang
1996	Ms Y C Ch'ng		Miss M-W M Yoong		Miss L Wu & Ms Y Chen
2000	Mr J S Mythen & Ms G Soe	2010 2011	Mr M Soni		Ms J Yue
2001	Mr R Kapoor & Mrs N Mok Kapoor	2013 2017	Mr C H B Cheung Miss C S-L Chung & Mr E Goh		Mr Z S Yow & Ms S Setiawan

Hong Kong Drinks Reception

A reception was held at The Garden Room, The Hong Kong Club, 1 Jackson Road, Central on Monday 7 April 2025. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Matthew Mellor, Fellow and Development Director.

PRESENT

1962	The Master The Hon H Y Wong GBS OBE	1994	Mr B P H Li & Ms M N S Ng	2017	Mr C Y J Lo & Ms J Lai
1970	Mr C H Hall		Mr M K-T Mok	2020	Mr L C J Kwan
1983	Mr J C Bower & Mrs T Wong	1996	Mr C I-J Tsai & Dr C Chu	2023	Miss X Man & Mr Z Wang
	Mr A R Rahim	1999	Ms H Y B Law		Ms W Cao
1985	Mr P Tao & Dr P H T Hon	2002	Miss N Yeung		Mr H W Chan & Ms V Yik
1988	Mr D T M Chiu Mr A R Read	2006	Mr M Y Tang		Dr W Y Cheng
		2012	Mr M R Mellor		Miss Y S Chiu
		2014	Ms T K A Wong		Miss Y T E Chiu
		2016	Mr H G S Tao Mr T S Tan		

Dr L Y Hiok
 Ms C Y Huang
 Mr M H Ko & guest
 Dr C Y Kwok
 Ms H Y Lam

Dr I M Y Lau &
 Mr T Y F Lo
 Mr F Sun
 Mr C Y Wong &
 guest

Ms S W Wong &
 Mr C Chan
 Ms Y W R Yeung
 Ms Y Zhao &
 Ms W Jiang

Sydney Drinks Reception

A reception was held at The Card Room, The Union Club, 25 Bent Street, on Thursday 10 April 2025. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Matthew Mellor, Fellow and Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	1970	The Hon A D	1996	Mr R E Shadforth & Mrs P A Shadforth
1957	Mr J C Key		Erskine		
1959	Dr J B Hext	1971	Mr W S Etheridge &	2006	Mr M R Mellor
1964	Mr R M Stockell		Ms S Williams	2017	Mr W S Poulos
1967	Mr N A Stoke & Ms J Recny	1987	Mr S J Nieminski & Mrs J Nieminska	2020	Ms D M White, Mr S Maheswaran & Mr E Forneris
1968	Mr M P N Sessions	1989	Mr S D Tijou		
1969	Mr R S A Lubett & Mrs T Lubett	1994	Mr T D Beresford Ms L J Sproston	2021	Ms O Z J Noble

Victoria Society Drinks Reception

A reception was held at the Melbourne Club, 36 Collins Street, on Monday 14 April 2025. It was kindly organised by Peter Moore (1978). The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Matthew Mellor, Fellow and Development Director. The Master and Head of Ormond College Dr Areti (Ari) Matuamate and its Executive Director of Advancement, Gareth Crowe were also in attendance.

PRESENT

	The Master	1974	Mr R J Lamb	1987	Ms S Chia
1962	Dr M J Llewellyn- Smith AM KStJ		Dr S D West		Dr A M Ryan & Dr J Padanyi-Ryan
1967	Mr P M McLennan & Mrs M R McLennan	1975 1978	Mr S V Cullimore & Mrs M Cullimore	1989 1989	Mr V F Arthur Mr A N D Smith
1969	Dr W E Cameron & Ms P Cameron	1980	Mr P J Moore & Mrs K Moore	1994 1995	Dr A T J Domanti Dr J A Forrest & Mrs C Forrest
1970	Professor R E Marks	1981	Mr R H Myer AO & Mrs A Myer	1997	Ms K A O'Shea
1971	Dr I E Topliss & Mrs N Topliss	1983	Mr M E Bartlett Mr R I J McIndoe Mr C F Thomson	1998	Professor K G C Smith

2006 Mr M R Mellor
Miss J J M Paul

Mr G Crowe
Dr A Metuamate

Dr A G V Strazzera

San Francisco Drinks Reception

A reception was held at the War Memorial Opera House, Intermezzo Lounge, 301 Van Ness Avenue, on Thursday 29 May 2025. The College thanks Dagmar Dolby and Dave Dolby for their assistance in securing the venue for the reception. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Nami Morris, Bye-Fellow and Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	1986	Mr K P Hagerman &	2017	Miss L J Fairweather
1959	Mr D P Robinson		Mrs M Kremer		Ms N Morris
1969	Mr P G Cleary &	1987	Mr S J Frankel	2018	Mr V Mudupalli
	Mrs M Cleary	1994	Dr N V Gondhalekar		
1975	Dr John Wilkes	2005	Mr P D Swanson		Ms E Blank
1983	Mr R G Miller	2010	Dr K R Coelho &		Ms E A Correa
1984	Mr R G Nasr		Dr S Kannangara		Mr A Jafri &
		2015	Mr A Kanavalau		Ms K Lee

Los Angeles Reception

A reception was held at the LADiDa Restaurant, 465 La Cienega Blvd, on Saturday 31 May 2025. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Nami Morris, Bye-Fellow and Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	1985	Mr E R Shearmur	2004	Mr P A Helm
1978	Dr E H Haimoff &	1993	Mr J Y Chen	2006	Dr K A Randell
	Ms B Sharp	1997	Ms H G Minghella	2017	Ms N Morris
1983	Mr R D Lewis &		Mrs L Tate		
	Mrs Y Witteveen	2003	Ms K Lange		

Washington DC Drinks Reception

Dr Roger Ferguson (1973) and his wife Annette Nazareth generously hosted a drinks reception at their house in Washington DC on the evening on Monday 2 June 2025. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Nami Morris, Bye-Fellow and Deputy Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	1981	Dr J J Quirk	2007	Major C C Campbell
1960	Mr J Davidson	1984	Mr A D Marcus	2016	Miss N L Mayer
1964	Mr N D Hughes & Ms K Scofield	1985	Ms S Ma'ani Ewing & Mr K Ewing	2017	Miss H E Messenger
1968	Mr G N Horlick, Mrs K M Horlick & guest	1989	Dr R L Fleurence & Mr O Fleurence	2019	Mr J M Nycz, Mr J Maxwell & Ms C White
1973	Dr R W Ferguson Jr & Ms A L Nazareth	1991	Mr M J Gaw & Ms H Morris		
1977	Dr D G Jablonski & Ms T Walker	1996	Mr D C Jacobs & Mrs L Jacobs		Mr L Perez & Ms B Santiago
		2005	Mr A Jackson		Ms Q C Taylor

New York Drinks Reception

A reception was held for alumni and Circle Members living and working in New York at The Century Association, 7 W 43rd Street, on Wednesday 4 June 2025. The venue for this event thanks to the assistance of Dr Bill Janeway (1965). The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Nami Morris, Bye-Fellow and Deputy Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	2008	Dr D F Huggins & Ms A Zoueva	2022	Miss V Carroll
1971	Professor M S Santirocco & Mr A Jacobson	2015	Ms M Ambrey		Ms I Chen
1972	Mr O N R L Frankel		Mr P J Marett & Mr J Benoit-Marett	2023	Miss Q G Shan & Ms C Xiong
	Mr K B Gallant & Professor J Waley-Cohen	2016	Mr K J Martin		Ms A I Carello
		2017	Mr W Hiatt		Miss E R Robinson & Ms N Rafalin
1974	Dr A J Makai		Ms J I Lane & Mr M Anderson		Ms Y Yao
	Mr A Nimalasuriya & Ms L R Morison	2018	Ms N Morris		Miss J J Jacolbe
	Mr P R M Truell & guest	2019	Mr Z He		Mr F J Lin
1976	Mr C P Robb		Ms S B Shah		Ms L Loudon & Ms B Timken
1978	Mr G F Leckie & Mrs E A Leckie	2020	Mr W E Brown		Ms D F Martino
		2021	Ms M Kumakura		Ms L M Whisler
1982	Mr W J D Strafford		Mr A Koltun-Fromm		Miss M Yang & Z Chen
1998	Mr G A P Fitzpatrick		Ms C L Crighton & guest		

PCCS Boston Event

A reception was held at Union Club of Boston, Eight Park Street, on Friday 6 June 2025. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Nami Morris, Bye-Fellow and Deputy Development Director.

PRESENT

	The Master	1990	Dr S W Peukert	2018	Ms S E Gonzalez,
1979	Professor J Bloxham	1992	Dr N J Brandon		Mr C Purves &
	FRS &	1993	Mr P J Beswick		Mr E Cusato
	Mrs K J Bloxham		Dr M D Majors		
1984	Professor D J H	2002	Dr S M McTighe		Ms D Agori
	Canning	2006	Mr M L Cohen &		Miss K E K Dau
1985	Mr J Marvi		Mr A Savorelli		Professor D Scadden
1988	Dr D J Wallace	2017	Ms N Morris		

PCCS Toronto Drinks Reception

A drinks reception was held at The National Club, 303 Bay Street, on Monday 9 June 2025. Arnie Guha (1994) kindly helped with organisation of this event. The College was represented by the Master, Lord Smith of Finsbury and Nami Morris, Bye-Fellow and Deputy Development Director.

Friday 9 June 2025

PRESENT

	The Master	1985	Dr N M Whistler	2008	Mr S P X Lynch &
1960	The Hon Justice	1993	Mr W J S Burn		Ms J Kent
	W I C Binnie CC	1994	Dr A Guha	2017	Ms N Morris
	KC &	1998	Mr H R Perren	2023	Mr J Y-Y Chow
	Dr S W Binnie				
1964	Professor J C Harriss				Professor B Faught

LOCAL CONTACTS

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Toronto, Ontario M5V 3B1
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UK**London**

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 Contract c/o Development Office

North of England

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 Nottingham
 NG15 9HD
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Scotland

Mr Robbie Brown (1989)
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 Aberdeen
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 Mob: 07507 414867

RULES OF THE SOCIETY

1. The Society shall be composed of past and present Members of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and shall be called the 'PEMBROKE COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY'.
2. The objects of the Society shall be:
 - (a) To promote closer relationships among Pembroke Members, and between them and the College.
 - (b) To publish an *Annual Gazette*, and to issue it free to all Members of the Society.
3. The subscription for Life Membership of the Society shall be decided from time to time by the Committee.*
4. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Chair of Committee, a Treasurer, an Honorary Secretary (who shall be a Fellow of the College), the Dinner Secretaries, the Editor of the *Gazette*, and such local Secretaries as may be desirable.

The Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for one year. Nominations, with the names of the Proposer and Seconder, shall be sent to the Secretary six weeks before the Annual General Meeting. The retiring President shall not be eligible for re-election for a period of three years after his or her retirement.

The office of President is held annually and alternately by a Fellow and by a non-resident Member of the College. He or she is normally expected to give the address at the London dinner, proposing the toast to the College (if a non-resident Member) or responding (if a Fellow).

5. The Management of the Society shall be entrusted to a Committee consisting of the following Officers, namely the Chair of Committee, the Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Dinner Secretaries, the Editor of the *Gazette*, a current Fellow (who has not been a Junior Member of the College), and not fewer than twelve other Members of the Society to be elected annually. Nominations for the Committee shall be sought in advance of and later recommended by the spring meeting of the Committee, to be ratified at the Annual General Meeting. Of the elected members of the Committee, six shall retire annually by rotation according to priority of election, and their places shall be filled at the Annual General Meeting; a retiring member shall be eligible for re-election after a period of one year from his or her retirement. The Committee shall have power to co-opt additional members for a period of one year.

6. Members of the Committee shall have, as their primary considerations:
 - (a) The relationship between the College and its non-resident Members.
 - (b) The assistance they can give to the College in encouraging attendance at events and participation in other College activities.
 - (c) Evaluations of ways of improving the connection between the College and non-resident Members.
 - (d) The quality of the events that are organised under the aegis of the Society.
7. The Committee shall meet at least twice in every year, a week after the end of the Lent (spring) and Michaelmas (winter) Terms respectively. At all meetings of the Committee seven shall form a quorum. The spring meeting shall review nominations for committee membership and the annual accounts of the Society.
8. The Committee shall arrange an Annual Dinner or other Social Meetings of the Society in London and elsewhere.
9. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held on the day fixed for the London Dinner. The Secretary shall send out notices of the Meeting at least one month before it takes place.
10. The Committee in their discretion may, and upon a written request signed by twenty-four Members of the Society shall, call a Special General Meeting. Fourteen days' notice of such a Meeting shall be given and the object for which it is called stated in the notice.
11. No alteration shall be made in the Rules of the Society except at a General Meeting and by a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting, and any proposed alteration shall be stated on the notice calling the Meeting.

*The Committee decided (10 December 1982) that, for the time being, the Life Membership subscription shall be nil. This decision was made possible by an offer from the College of an annual subvention from the Bethune-Baker Fund which, it was hoped, would provide a sufficient supplement to the Society's income to enable expenses to be met, particularly the expenses of printing and postage of the *Annual Gazette*.

PRESIDENTS OF THE SOCIETY

1924	J F P Rawlinson	1978	D R Denman
1925	E G Browne	1979	W L Gorell Barnes
1926	G R Eden	1980	M C Lyons
1927	L Whibley	1981	D A S Cairns
1928	F Shewell Cooper	1982	M V Posner
1929	A Hutchinson	1983	Sir Patrick Browne
1930	F S Preston	1984	Lord Adrian
1931	E H Minns	1985	J G P Crowden
1932	J B Atkins	1986	L P Johnson
1933	H G Comber	1987	The Rt Hon Lord Prior
1934	E H Pooley	1988	J Baddiley
1935	J C Lawson	1989	T J Brooke-Taylor
1936	J E Singleton	1990	J C D Hickson
1937	J K Mozley	1991	P J D Langrishe
1938	M S D Butler	1992	J R Waldram
1939	J C C Davidson	1993	G D S MacLellan
1946	S C Roberts	1994	S Kenderdine
1947	R A Butler	1995	Sir Peter Scott
1948	M S D Butler	1996	A V Grimstone
1949	J W F Beaumont	1997	The Rt Hon Lord Taylor
1950	J T Spittle	1998	Sir Roger Tomkys
1951	P J Dixon	1999	Sir John Chilcot
1952	H E Wynn	2000	C Gilbraith
1953	Sir Wavell Wakefield	2001	J K Shepherd
1954	V C Pennell	2002	B Watchorn
1955	E H Pooley	2003	R H Malthouse
1956	B E King	2004	M G Kuczynski
1957	H Grose-Hodge	2005	Sir Patrick Elias
1958	S C Roberts	2006	Sir John Kingman
1959	H F Guggenheim	2007	Ms V Bowman
1960	Sir William Hodge	2008	M G Kuczynski
1961	The Rt Hon Lord Salmon	2009	R H King
1962	A J Arberry	2010	J S Bell
1963	A G Grantham	2011	R G Macfarlane
1964	B Willey	2012	M R Wormald
1965	G W Pickering	2013	N G H Manns
1966	M B Dewey	2014	Sir Richard Dearlove
1967	J M Key	2015	Mrs C F Holmes
1968	W A Camps	2016	Dr S A Learmount
1969	D G A Lowe	2017	A S Ivison
1970	W S Hutton	2018	J Gardom
1971	R G Edwardes Jones	2019	J A Wilson
1972	T G S Combe	2020	T Weil
1973	Sir Henry Jones	2021	Mrs E L Johnson
1974	G C Smith	2022	M R Mellor
1975	Sir Eric Drake	2023	A Macqueen
1976	J Campbell	2024	Rt Hon Lord Smith of Finsbury
1977	J G Ward		

E. DEATHS AND OBITUARIES



Images from 'Pembroke: The Next Chapter' video
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6bsi5ECxvQ>)

LIST OF DEATHS

The College notes with regret the deaths of the following members:

- 1941 **Denys Broomfield Wood** (7 January 2025; see obituary p 198)
- 1942 **Martin Arthur Catty** (1 December 2024; BA Mechanical Sciences)
John Louis Francis Van der Wee (11 July 2024; BA Mechanical Sciences)
- 1944 **Timothy Dudley-Smith** (12 August 2024; BA Mathematics/Theology)
- 1945 **Ralph Anthony Kaner** (29 November 2024; see obituary p 168)
- 1946 **Kenneth Norman Palmer** (7 May 2025; see obituary p 177)
Michael Campion Thornton (15 March 2024; see obituary p 191)
- 1947 **Hywel George** (3 March 2024; see obituary p 160)
- 1948 **John Fletcher Wallace** (8 August 2024; BA Modern & Medieval Languages)
- 1949 **Robert Harmer King** (28 March 2024; see obituary p 170)
Norman Thomas Andrew Pitt (24 September 2024; see obituary p 178)
Robert Lewis Stewart (22 May 2024; BA English)
- 1950 **Harry Bradley** (2024; BA Economics/Modern & Medieval Languages)
Robert William Macintyre Smith (2024; BA Natural Sciences, BChir, MB)
Gerard Charles Ryan (27 June 2025; see obituary p 184)
Hugh Andrew Nottidge (1 August 2023; BA Architecture)
- 1951 **Christopher John Herbert Cobb** (20 December 2024; see obituary p 158)
Henry Thomas Putnam (16 March 2025; see obituary p 179)
Michael Frederick Shoemith (19 October 2023; see obituary p 187)
Geoffrey Brian Smethurst (28 August 2024; see obituary p 189)
- 1952 **Donald James Armour** (14 December 2024; BA History)
Owen Conrad Barraclough (BA Economics/Mathematics; 5 November 2024)
Dennis Britton (26 June 2024; BA Archaeology & Anthropology)
George Ronald Hext (3 March 2025; BA Mathematics, Dip Mathematical Statistics)
John Stockley Malcolm Measures (17 February 2025; BA Economics)
Robert Quentin Yeatman (2 June 2025; see obituary p 199)
- 1953 **James Neil Crichton-Miller** (15 May 2025; BA Law)
Simon Francis Hamill-Stewart (23 March 2025; BA Classics)
Robin Balfour Stenhouse (26 May 2025; see obituary p 190)
Christopher Thomas Henry Whinney (1 March 2025; see obituary p 198)
- 1955 **Rodney Bretherton** (27 February 2025; see obituary p 155)
Eric Walter Durham (1 December 2024; BA Natural Sciences)
John Herbert New (17 December 2024; BA Natural Sciences)
John Kevin Overstall (2 August 2024; BA Mathematics)
- 1956 **Edward Keith Brown** (23 March 2025; see obituary p 156)
Brian Murray Fagan (1 July 2025; BA Archaeology & Anthropology)
Christopher David Massiah (29 January 2024; BA History)
Anthony Arthur Sebag-Montefiore (14 December 2024; see obituary p 185)
Arthur Edward Anthony Warburton (23 November 2023; BA Mathematics)
- 1957 **Nigel Edward Agar** (10 July 2022; see obituary p 147)
Derek John Griffiths (28 November 2024; see obituary p 163)
Robin Michael Voelcker (3 October 2024; Dip Agricultural Sciences)
- 1958 **Peter Dunne** (2 September 2024; BA Mathematics)
David Thomas Goodwin (1 August 2024; BA Mathematics)
John Harding Jones (2 February 2024; BA Economics/Natural Sciences)

- Robert Chevallier Soper** (10 July 2025; BA Archaeology & Anthropology)
- 1959 **Roger Sidney Hanraty Brunt** (5 August 2024; BA History/Law)
William Langdon Buxton (11 September 2024; BA Economics)
Roger Lane Cooper (12 May 2025; see obituary p 159)
Roy Harrison (5 February 2025; see obituary p 165)
Timothy John Leoney (28 December 2024; see obituary p 173)
- 1960 **Anthony Richard Paul Carden** (1 July 2024; BA Mechanical Sciences)
- 1961 **Barry George Clegg** (13 February 2025; see obituary p 158)
David George Hutchinson (30 November 2024; BA Architecture and Fine Arts/History)
David Christopher Lane (4 February 2025; see obituary p 171)
- 1962 **Michael John Clark** (25 April 2024; BA Natural Sciences, BChir, MB)
Eric Jonathan Martin (June 2025; BA History)
Anthony Nicholas Raspa (12 September 2024; see obituary p 182)
- 1963 **Andrew Ronald Moon** (4 July 2024; see obituary p 175)
Paul David Skinner (21 October 2024; BA Law/Natural Sciences)
- 1965 **Peter Makepeace Chadwick** (17 December 2024; BA Natural Sciences)
Gerald Glynn O'Collins (22 August 2024; see obituary p 176)
Howard Michael Skipp (31 January 2025; see obituary p 188)
- 1966 **David Ish-Horowicz** (19 July 2024; see obituary p 167)
- 1967 **Harald Brian Carrick** (3 March 2025; BA Mechanical Sciences)
Jonathan Charles Searle (10 January 2025; see obituary p 185)
- 1968 **Ian James Monypenny** (17 May 2025; see obituary p 174)
Timothy John Hume Townshend (29 July 2024; see obituary p 192)
- 1969 **John Randall Bain** (16 May 2025; see obituary p 149)
- 1970 **Roman Hugh Wasilewski** (15 January 2025; see obituary p 193)
- 1971 **Peter Lano Clarke** (16 March 2025; see obituary p 157)
- 1973 **David Gordon Birse** (23 November 2024; PhD Chemical Engineering)
Andrew Philip Paine (2020; BA Engineering)
- 1975 **John Stephen Haddock** (26 November 2024; BA Engineering)
- 1978 **Andrew John Barber** (13 July 2024; see obituary p 151)
- 1980 **Simon Vivian Booth** (4 May 2025; see obituary p 154)
- 1982 **Brian Watchorn** (27 August 2024; see obituary p 195)
- 1986 **Niall Anthony Liam Chafey** (19 October 2024; BA Modern & Medieval Languages)
- 2009 **Masao Takano** (9 April 2025; MBA)

This Gazette also carries obituaries for **Michael John Comyn Annand** (p 148), **Victor Stanley Blanchette** (p 153), **Ian Dennis** (p 160), **Peter Edward Hall** (p 164), **Brian Alan Howseman** (p 166), **Richard Simon Plant** (p 179), and **Michael Anthony Clowes Reavell** (p 183), whose deaths were noted in the previous edition of the Gazette, and for **Thomas Geoffrey Goodwin** (p 162), whose death was noted in a previous Gazette.

OBITUARIES

Nigel Edward Agar

13 November 1936 – 20 July 2022

Obituary by Judith De St Croix



Nigel Agar was born in Leicester, both his parents came from Leicester and he was proud to be a 'Freeman of Leicester'. But Nigel lived the longest time in the same house in Hitchin in Hertfordshire, near enough to Cambridge to visit the University Library, Graduate Centre and Botanic Gardens regularly and overlooking the countryside that he loved. Nigel was always interested in Nature especially bird watching while living in Leicestershire, Barrow and Norfolk and when doing National Service with the RAF. With the encouragement of Barrow Grammar School and his recently widowed mother May, he gained a place to study History at Pembroke College in 1957.

After graduation Nigel trained as a teacher at the Institute of Education in London and met his wife Ann Richardson, another trainee teacher, when he made up numbers on a trip organised by the Geography students to Andorra. After Ann and Nigel married in 1963, they worked for three years at Jamaica College, Kingston, where he also gained a Masters, took part in bird ringing and thoroughly enjoyed seeing the wildlife and culture of the Caribbean. Their daughter Judith was born in 1966 and after they returned to England sons Jonathan and Robert were born in Hitchin, where we were all brought up. Nigel was employed at North Herts College teaching mostly History and later in the 1980s he ran a Youth Opportunities job creation programme which involved conservation projects. He particularly enjoyed teaching evening classes in local history and being the Warden for the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust's Hexton Chalk Pit Reserve.

Throughout his life Nigel was involved in studying, surveying, photographing and observing nature and wildlife. Whether bird watching at RSPB reserves, multiple BTO bird surveys with Judith at Watery Grove Nature Reserve, listening to nightingales, painting pictures of birds or landscapes, bike rides, collecting data on moths in the garden, amateur astronomy, looking for native orchids and wildflowers on the Pegsdon Hills, identifying butterflies, doing local archaeology, walking the Hertfordshire fields and woods or even growing rare corncockle flower seeds on his allotment. He wrote a regular 'On Foot' column for the Hitchin Comet newspaper featuring local walks. Their house was literally overflowing of books on wildlife, history, travel and also novels – he loved a good story.

Nigel was proud to achieve a PhD in History from the University of East Anglia. His thesis on Employment and Community in Nineteenth Century Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire led to two books 'Behind the Plough' and 'The Bedfordshire Farm Labourer'. More interests included the Industrial Revolution, steam trains, hill-forts, battlefield sites, visiting English Heritage and National Trust places,

churches, record offices and all museums! A confirmed Christian he worshipped at St Mary's Church Hitchin which he helped to steward. Nigel was a lifelong member of the Labour Party and having taken early retirement, he was so pleased to be elected as a local Town and a Hertfordshire County Councillor representing Letchworth from 1993 to 2009.

A kind, reliable and funny family man, Nigel was married to Ann for 58 years. Celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2013. After retirement they holidayed in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand visiting their sons, and went to Gallipoli and Belgium where his father fought in the First World War. Nigel enjoyed trips out with his good friend Ash Crane and visiting his sister Oriel and brother Gareth in Norwich. My sons Tom and Sam remember going with their Grandad to Duxford Museum. He was proud of his three children and eight grandchildren, especially Jon who also studied at Cambridge University and is now a Professor at UCL. Nigel had dementia and diabetes and he died cared for at home aged 85.

Michael John Comyn Annand

13 March 1930 – 27 February 2024

Obituary by Hugh Annand

Michael Annand was born in Birkenhead in March 1930. After a childhood spent on Merseyside, in Pembrokeshire, Hertfordshire, Canada (as an evacuee during the Second World War) and Sussex, he read Economics and graduated in 1950. He trained as an accountant and, after working for employers including the Danish Bacon Company, Murphy Radio and the Independent Television Authority, returned to Cambridge towards the end of his career as Financial Director of the Publishing Division of the University Press, a role from which he took early retirement in 1988.

In 1965, he married Carolyn Martin, the daughter of a local schoolteacher in Welwyn Garden City, where he was living at the time and stayed for the rest of his life. He and Carolyn remained married until her death in 2023.

Michael was very active in the local community. He met Carolyn at The Ring, a social club for young people. Later in life, he joined the Rotary Club, participating in numerous charitable activities and acting, at different times, as the club's Treasurer and President. He was an active supporter of the local amateur theatre and was for many years the Treasurer of the town's Youth Drama Festival, while Carolyn was the Secretary. A lifelong atheist, he was nonetheless very supportive of his wife's active involvement in the church, where she was a Reader for a number of years until she retired from the role at the age of 80.

At home, he was a DIY enthusiast until the frailty of old age meant it was easier to 'get a man in.' After his retirement, he took up cooking as a hobby and became rather good at it, much to the delight of Carolyn, who was still working, and his children. He is survived by his daughter, Katherine, and son, Hugh.



*A gentle guest, a willing host,
Affection deeply planted –
It's strange that those we miss the most
Are those we take for granted. (John Betjeman)*

John Randall Bain

8 December 1949 – 16 May 2025

Obituary by Stuart Hetherington (1969)

John Bain died at the age of 75, having been diagnosed with Stage 4 Melanoma in February. A celebration of John's life at the Lorimer Chapel, Warriston Crematorium, Edinburgh, which was attended by well over 200 people, a powerful testament to a man who will be greatly missed and long remembered. He was an all-round good guy. Everyone who knew him was privileged to have known him.

John led a very full life. He was deeply loved by his family: wife Patricia (Tricia to all), son Matthew and daughter Louise; older surviving brother Donald and his family, and the family of his deceased oldest brother, Hugh. He was highly regarded by his friends, described by one as a true gentleman, by another as 'kind, considerate and gentle, with a twinkle in his eyes.' John was loyal, reliable, honourable, compassionate, courteous, nicely competitive, humble, a good story teller and had a great sense of humour.

John's older brother Donald shared the following memories of their childhood years. John was the third son of Mabel and Archie Bain. His eldest brother, Hugh was 12 and Donald was 7. They lived in Craighinning, a large old, detached house, initially with no electricity, a mile up a winding road outside Dechmont, a village 14 miles west of Edinburgh. His father was a psychoanalyst, and his mother also a doctor, worked as a locum for a variety of GP practices in the locality. Aged five, John went to the Dechmont primary school for a year. As the biggest boy in his class, at the school sports day he won all the events he was allowed to enter. His mother was so embarrassed she made him return all his prizes! When the family moved into Edinburgh, John went briefly to Angusfield School and then, aged eight, as a boarder to Dalhousie Prep School. John moved on to Merchiston in September 1963, where he positively thrived. He achieved success on the sports field. He played in the 1st XV, as a prop for three years, and was Captain of Rugby in his final year, when he was also selected to play for Scottish Schoolboys v English Schoolboys. In addition, he played Cricket for the 1st XI for three years. When he wasn't playing rugby and cricket he was golfing and playing football. His passion for sports of all kinds lasted his lifetime. He was greatly competitive at all these, but was always a sporting gentleman. Merchiston also enhanced his personal development enormously and in his final year he was made Captain of School. At school and beyond John had the capacity to form many friendships. He was always interested in people and lent a sympathetic ear where appropriate, though he was no soft touch. He had a great sense of humour



and an acute awareness of the ridiculous. Those who knew him could see him, in their mind's eye, guffawing loudly as he recounted a story of some farcical event he had witnessed or heard of!

Academically John did well enough to gain entrance to Pembroke to study Law, obtaining his BA in Law in 1972, and subsequently an LL.B. at Edinburgh University in 1974. John, contributed significantly to the sporting life of the College. He played rugby for the College and Hugh Monro (1969), who captained the College rugby team and obtained his blue, has written this about John: 'John was a consistent and powerful member of the Pembroke rugby team's front row, packing down alongside Phil Keith-Roach, who went on to coach the English scrum, when they won the World Cup. John played in the team that reached the final of the inter college knockout competition, and was always prepared to spend an afternoon methodically grinding down his opposite number in scrum after scrum without any animosity or fuss, win a few balls against the head, touch the ball occasionally and then politely shake hands with the exhausted opposition, a gentle smile on his face. Quiet, committed and utterly reliable. That was the man and friend that I remember.'

John captained the College cricket team and Ted Shilton (1969) has recalled the following: 'John was captain of the Pembroke cricket XI in our 3rd year. He was a thoughtful captain and medium pace bowler. He trundled in off quite a long run but I think John would agree that the pace of his bowling never quite matched the speed of his run up. The Pembroke wicket in those days was a batsman's paradise, prepared by Roger Pearl who learned his trade at Fenners, so there was no point in wasting too much energy for little return. Despite this John was always positive and encouraging. Unlike the rugby team we did not reach the final of the knockout competition but we enjoyed our cricket whatever the result.'

John remained in touch with a number of friends from Pembroke and attended as many College Foundress Feasts and reunion events as a busy family and working life allowed. In addition, the group of nine – who shared with him the accommodation at 6 Grange Road in their final year – tried to meet up whenever circumstances allowed. Two of them attended the Celebration of his life. Four of them read law under James Campbell, who was a huge influence on their lives. All practised law after graduation, qualifying in their respective jurisdictions (Northern Ireland, Scotland and England), and owed a large part of any success that was achieved in their legal careers to him.

Tricia Bain met John on 12th March 1980 and shortly thereafter introduced him to wind surfing and to skiing; they also attended bridge and Spanish classes, and shared a love of music and attended many concerts and operas. They were married on 10 March 1984. When they first met, John was playing in the Edinburgh University intramural squash leagues and for the Moray House Squash team in the East of Scotland leagues as well as coaching squash at Meadowbank. He was also playing for the Carlton Cricket Club first team but moved to Holy Cross. He later coached the juniors at the Grange Squash Club for over 15 years and the Mary Erskine girls at Edinburgh Sport Club. He was the Junior Convenor on the East of Scotland Squash Committee and they organised many a junior tournament. He

never tackled anything half-heartedly. Although already a good golfer he was continually trying to improve his performance by reading books and watching videos. He was a member of Bruntsfield Golf Club in Edinburgh. He joined Tricia in playing padel tennis in more recent years and was an enthusiastic and competitive player.

John's moustache was a key feature of his appearance. He was known as "Papa Moustache" in the family due to this exchange he had with his daughter: "Dad, do you trim your moustache? Or does it just know when to call it a day like your eyelashes or your eyebrows?" He swiftly responded "As soon as it reaches the soup in my soup spoon, I give it a trim. Love from Papa Moustache".

Ed Christie, a former colleague and friend for over 35 years recalled John's legal career. He describes him as an ideal boss, calm under pressure and level-headed. He can't remember him ever raising his voice 'although, when most provoked, the moustache might rise a few centimetres.'

John had been a solicitor and then partner for 37 years at MacBeth Currie. In 2018 he became a Consultant at Morgans after a total of 44 years practice in Dunfermline. He is described by Ed as being a fair but thorough opponent and was highly regarded by bench and bar. Unusually for a court solicitor he says he was unaffected and genuinely humble. Despite his undoubted intellect and ability, he wore his expertise lightly. John was always prepared. Indeed, his thoroughness became legendary throughout the local faculty. One former solicitor, after hearing of John's death, wrote to Ed: 'He was extremely thorough when he did family proceeding reports. He used to interview absolutely everybody, including the parties' cousins, friends and budgerigars etc. But he always came up with the most sensible recommendations at the end of it and he probably helped a lot of children to have better outcomes.'

John's two children, Matthew and Louise recounted at the celebration how blessed they were to witness first-hand the depth of his love, the wisdom of his guidance, and the warmth of his compassion. His loyalty and dedication to the people and things he loved was absolutely unquestionable, as exemplified by his devotion to Hibernian Football Club. His children referred to his attributes, including treating everyone with respect, his kindness and fairness, his humility, his joy in sharing generously, meeting life's obstacles with humour and grace, speaking with eloquence, taking his sweet time to tell a story, and to live each day with an unwavering sense of resilience and hope, right to the very end.

John Bain was all those things and more and, as Tricia has said: he was a loving husband, always supportive, appreciative, calm in a crisis, a wonderful father, modest and unassuming despite all his achievements and he made everyone laugh.

Andrew John Barber

19 February 1959 – 13 July 2024

Obituary by Sarah Barber (2010), with contributions from friends and family

Andrew was born in Uganda during the last years of the British Empire, while his father (James Peden Barber, 1952), a colonial civil servant, was working in the

remote Karamoja region. As a child he moved to Australia, then Zimbabwe, before arriving back in Britain with such a strange accent, his new friend at primary school asked him, ‘Andrew, are you a cockney?’

It was in Bedford that Andrew spent his formative years. Earning a scholarship to Bedford Modern School, he did well academically (although not in maths, where his efforts were described as ‘practically worthless’) and became a serious swimmer. He founded the Keir Hardie Society to very little fanfare, yet he remained firmly to the left throughout his life. He was not one for fashion or cool music, preferring a pipe and John Denver, but he established early his passion for sport, serious walking and collecting.



Andrew came up to Pembroke in 1978 to read History. He embraced College life to the full, making many lifelong friends. Water polo became a big part of his College life; he was a key member of the most successful Pembroke team of that era, winning the League and Cuppers with 86 goals for and 13 against. He would go on to captain the Blues team to victory against Oxford in his final year. Some of those team members might remember playing Botticelli on the long trips for away games.

Like many, Andrew used his summer vacations to travel, joining several friends on a five-week trip to Israel and Egypt soon after the Camp David agreement. This was a time of cash in a money belt and traveller’s cheques, not credit cards. He became a dab hand at buying provisions in the market of the Old City of Jerusalem and when they had to wait a day in the Sinai desert at El Arish to cross the border, Andrew somehow found and bought water from a local trader. Then, deep into Egypt, he resourcefully obtained bicycles for the trip to the Valley of the Kings. Much better than donkeys for Cambridge students!

On leaving Cambridge Andrew joined the Foreign Office, where he was posted to Pakistan and then Indonesia. In 1990 he married fellow diplomat Caroline and together they were posted to Addis Ababa towards the end of the long-running civil war, returning to Britain in 1994 with two girls (myself and my sister Katherine). In 1998 the family set off on a posting to Malaysia, which was to become Andrew’s home for the rest of his life. After 21 years in the Foreign Office, he left to set up his own consultancy company in Kuala Lumpur. Although some thought him mad, this risk paid off as Andrew Barber & Associates (later Barber Mullan and Associates) became one of the most highly regarded risk management consultancies in the region. Alongside, the family settled into a wonderful life in Malaysia.

As girls, Dad’s simple message to us was ‘Work Hard, Play Hard, Be Good’. He lived by this motto too. Expanding his business, travelling widely and often, and somehow finding time to write seven books on Malaysian history. There was also regular golf, STAGS (the Senior Trekking and Gourmet Society) and later open water swimming, culminating in his completing the 19.7km open Rottneest Channel Swim in Western Australia as part of a 4-man team – a fitting way to celebrate his 60th birthday. He saw the good and the potential in people,

particularly enjoying mentoring staff in his company, and everyone who knew him would soon discover his unique sense of humour.

Andrew was preparing for retirement (by ensuring he would be as busy as ever) when he was diagnosed with cancer. A celebration of his life was held at the Special Forces Club in London in September 2024 for family and friends, with many from his Pembroke years in attendance.

Victor Stanley Blanchette

12 April 1945 – 26 April 2024

Obituary by Michael Blanchette

Victor was born in Bridgetown in colonial Barbados and attended the premier boys' school of the island, Harrison College. With a career in medicine in mind, he studied sciences and after graduation headed to Cambridge in 1964. In choosing Pembroke, he followed both in the footsteps of his beloved uncle, the esteemed lawyer and academic Sir Roy Marshall, and the headmaster of Harrison at the time, John Hammond, who shepherded many Harrison graduates to Pembroke.



Despite missing Bajan weather and food, Victor looked back at his time at Pembroke as among the best of his life – he loved life at the college and made several life-long friendships. He was on the running team, and always enjoyed a day at the horse races, or an evening at the pub. Often joined by his wife Yvonne, Victor came back many times over the years to revisit old haunts, and a picture of the two of them at the May Ball always held a prominent position on a bookshelf at their home.

Upon graduation, Victor headed to London for specialty training at St Barts and the Royal Marsden, before heading to the US to train at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and then to Canada to finish training at MacMaster in Hamilton. He joined the Children's Hospital in Ottawa as a hematologist before he headed to the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, where he would spend the remainder of his career. He specialised in children's blood disorders and cancers and ran the largest hemophilia clinic in Canada. He was a compassionate clinician and prolific researcher with over 400 publications, and he led the hematology/oncology department from 1998–2010 to new heights. What he would feel is more important is that he has been remembered as someone who treated everyone with respect and compassion, whether they were a colleague, nurse, or researcher, or a frightened sick child whom he would treat.

Victor never lost his connection to Barbados, and when he stepped down as Chief of the HemOnc department, he soon spearheaded his final major medical project – the Sick Kids Caribbean Initiative, a program connecting hematology/oncology programs in the English-speaking Caribbean both with each other and with the expertise of Toronto's Sick Kids. He always viewed health care as a basic right, and hoped through this program to improve the care of children with blood disorders and cancers in Barbados and the Caribbean. For his services to Barbados, he was awarded the Silver Crown of Merit in 2018.

Victor was married for 52 years to his beloved wife, Yvonne, and is survived by his four sons and six grandchildren.

Simon Vivian Booth

26 November 1961 – 4 May 2025

Obituary by Rupert Booth (1975)

Simon was born in Coventry in 1961, a middle child with an older brother and a younger sister. He initially went to Coventry Preparatory School, where his academic abilities were apparent, and then won a scholarship to St Edwards School, Oxford, where he took a keen interest in sports. He then entered Pembroke College to read Engineering in 1980, one of the few occasions where he followed in his elder brother's footsteps. He subsequently continued his relationship with the college, philanthropically and with attendance at annual events.



Simon had an early ambition to enter investment banking and to this end he trained as a chartered accountant with a major firm and on qualifying joined an international investment bank. His chosen field was shipping, a niche area where his reputation grew. His accountancy training allowed him to manage risk and carefully structure loan agreements under his remit. His steady progress culminated in his appointment as Managing Director of Shipping and Logistics for his employer.

His progress was not simply due to his technical prowess. Once, as I accompanied him walking through the City of London, I saw how warmly he was greeted by a passer-by, known from previous workplace. This warmth extended to his professional contacts around the world.

This career success was not at the expense of other aspects of his life. In 1989 he married Vivien and this marriage produced a son and daughter, whose familial support has led them to enjoy successful careers in the arts and entertainment. He was able to provide his family with memorable experiences, including piloting a gargantuan Recreational Vehicle across America as part of a driving holiday.

His athletic activities also continued and expanded. He was a regular runner in the London Marathon and encouraged me to participate, which I did, though finishing with rather slower times than his own. He was keen on triathlons and took this to a high level, competing in Ironman competitions.

In his early fifties he was able to retire to Somerset, where he became a leading member of the local cycling club, leading pelotons on early morning rides across the hills. Given his extreme physical fitness, it seemed he was destined to enjoy several decades of retirement however fate deemed otherwise, when he died unexpectedly at the aged of 63. His memorial service in Somerset was attended by hundreds, paying their respects to a remarkable man.

Perhaps the last words should go to a member of his cycling club, on his memorial page “considerate, clever and modest Gentleman”.

Rodney Bretherton

14 July 1935 – 27 February 2025

Obituary by Susan Bretherton



Rodney Bretherton, known as Rod, was born at Withington Hospital in Manchester. As a boy, he attended Reddish Vale Primary school in Stockport where every pupil had to sit the 11+ exam. Rod came second in the whole of Stockport and that was his ticket to Manchester Grammar school which made his father very proud. Though his mother said nothing, she did buy him a ‘very cheap glossy dictionary’. From a young age, Rod really enjoyed language, and in 1955 he went on to study modern languages – French and German – and Linguistics at Pembroke College, Cambridge but not before he had done two years military service stationed in Germany.

After graduating from Cambridge, Rod married Shirley and they both worked as teachers. They went on to have three children – Christopher, Catherine (who Rod delivered!) and Susan. Tragically, in 1967, Catherine died at the age of six.

Rod’s job took the family from Kent to Bristol to Yorkshire, North Wales and latterly Merseyside. He continued to teach French and German at Secondary level and became a Head of Modern Languages. He organised and led several pupil exchanges to the continent. Later in his career, Rodney worked as an education advisor.

As a young man Rod was an avid cyclist and regularly cycled very long distances including in France. He also enjoyed walking and was a strong swimmer. Later on he enjoyed golf, gardening, crown green bowling and bird watching. He volunteered at Mere Sands Wood Nature Reserve, near Southport, for ten years.

Rod loved reading and would often have up to five books on the go at any one time. He had a healthy interest in most subjects and keenly followed current affairs both at home and globally. He enjoyed crosswords too. Rod kept up with his German and regularly chatted on the telephone with German friends.

Rod actively treasured the people around him. When Shirley was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease he dedicated himself to caring for her until she passed away on 22 March 2022. Rod had a living Christian faith. He cared deeply about humanity and people’s suffering and believed, above all, in the example of Jesus Christ.

Rod died at the age of 89 in Southport, leaving two grown up children – Christopher and Susan, a 24-year-old granddaughter, Nia, with whom he had a very special relationship, and a younger brother and sister – Anthony and Anita.

Edward Keith Brown

7 April 1935 – 23 March 2025

Obituary by Sarah Brown

Keith Brown was a linguistics professor specialising in syntax.

Born in Calcutta on 7 April, 1935, where his father was working as a Methodist missionary, Keith spent his early years in India, and age six, became a boarder at St Paul's School, Darjeeling. He witnessed the bombing of Calcutta by Japanese forces in World War II from the veranda of the family home in Barrackpore. Keith came to Britain in March 1945 – he remembered sailing back through the Mediterranean in a convoy surrounded by naval vessels – and stayed with some of his many aunts living in Bristol. He was educated at Priors Court and then Kingswood School, Bath. He spent his weekends cycling round the countryside birdwatching. He appeared in numerous school plays, often playing the heroine because of his shapely legs. He spent his National Service in East Anglia, in the RAF.

In 1956 he won a scholarship to Pembroke College, Cambridge, to read English. He continued acting, joining the Pembroke Players, with whom inter alia he played Hamlet and acted in revue with Peter Cook and Eleanor Bron. He played the eponymous Dane again in a European tour.

Shortly after graduation, he married Gillian Read (Girton 1956). He joined the British Council and took up a post in Uganda, moving to Ghana to teach at the University College of Cape Coast in 1962. Two years later both he and Gill were appointed Lecturers in General Linguistics at Edinburgh University. His early research work was in West African languages and he was awarded his PhD in 1972. In 1984 he moved to the University of Essex, as research professor in the Department of Language and Linguistics, where he served as Head of Department for a period.

Over the years, Keith held various visiting professorships including at the universities of Heidelberg, Vienna and Düsseldorf. He became President of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain and President of the Philological Society. He chaired the Linguistics Committee of the Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies, and was responsible for benchmarking linguistic courses at universities around the UK.

In the 1990s Keith divided his time between Essex and Cambridge Universities, becoming a Senior Research Fellow at the Research Centre for English and Applied Linguistics in Cambridge. Retiring from Essex in 1998, he became an Affiliated Lecturer in the Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics at Cambridge. He was made a fellow of Pembroke College. As a teacher and research student supervisor, he is remembered with affection by generations of students who have spoken of his warmth and wisdom, interest and mentorship.

He authored and edited numerous works on language and linguistics; most notably he was Editor-in-Chief of the 12-volume *Encyclopedia of Language and*



Linguistics, published in 2006. Other published works include *Syntax: A Linguistic Introduction to Sentence Structure* (with Jim Miller, Routledge, 1991), *A Concise Encyclopedia of Linguistic Theories* and *A Concise Encyclopedia of Grammatical Categories* (both with Jim Miller, Pergamon Press, 1997 and 1998), and *Linguistics in Britain: Personal Histories* (with Vivien Law, Wiley, 2002). He was co-editor of *Transactions of the Philological Society* and various other publications.

In retirement, Keith became an active member of the U3A, the Jane Austen Society of Cambridge and volunteered at the Fitzwilliam Museum. He was full of life, and enjoyed the absurdities of life. He loved learning, teaching, art, culture and gardening, was a very good cook and a lover of fine wines. Keith died after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, three daughters and a large extended family. He is sadly missed.

Peter Lano Clarke

18 June 1951 – 16 March 2025

Obituary by Rosie Clarke

Peter was born in Bodmin in 1951, the only child of Olwyn and Frank Clarke. His father worked as Warrant Officer in the RAF, and this took his family to many different places around the UK, Europe, and the world. Peter sat his A-levels at boarding school and achieved excellent grades, going on to do the Cambridge Entrance in 3rd year 6th Form, after which he was awarded an Exhibition to Pembroke College in 1971 to study Natural Sciences.



Peter's time at Pembroke was hugely impactful on his life, although when recounting to his children he focused on the large quantities of ale and misadventures rather than hours spent studiously researching. Despite this, he gained an undergraduate degree in Botany and Zoology, starting a PhD research studentship at the Molteno Institute for Parasitology in Cambridge in 1974. In recognition of the additional challenges faced by working-class students, later in life he went on to fund a scholarship for students from low-income backgrounds, and later the 'Peter Clarke Prize for Scientific Communication'.

It was at Cambridge that Peter made some of his closest friends, and met his first wife Susan, with whom he was married for three decades and raised three children. After university, Dad entered the scientific publishing field, working his way up through the ranks of Macmillan Press and Dutch publishing house Kluwer. In 1991 he started his own small publishing company, Librapharm, which would go on to receive the Queen's Award for Business and Excellence in 2005.

Peter loved to travel, and one of his greatest pleasures (aside from red wine) was to explore the world with his friends and family. A lifelong lover of motorbikes, he owned many and completed international tours across Europe and South America, surviving a life-threatening accident in 2015. In his later years he split his time between Southsea and the French Riviera, enjoying a quieter pace. He was a singular man and made an impression on everyone he met.

He died on March 16th, 2025, at London Bridge Hospital as a result of complications from lung cancer, aged 73. Peter is survived by his partner of 17 years, Sue, his three children, Rosie, Tom and Harry, and his two grandchildren Remy and Orlando. He is sorely missed.

Barry George Clegg

30 October 1942 – 13 February 2025

After a long illness, Barry died peacefully and surrounded by loving family. A witty and original thinker, he excelled in an eclectic range of lifetime interests. Born in Carlisle, England, he attended Fettes College in Scotland, then graduated from Cambridge University with an engineering degree, followed by an additional Master's degree from Aston University. He moved to Toronto in 1969 and became a pioneering software developer. He played field hockey in England and Canada, and was a marathon runner. A talented musician, he played the organ, piano, and French horn, and sang in the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir for 40 years. During his retirement years he worked as a consultant in business communication and published three books of poems. Throughout, he nourished many lifelong friendships.

Barry will be missed by his loving family: His wife Leslie Forbes Cooper; daughters Alison Clegg (Stephen Fertuck; grandchildren Casper and Lilia) and Joni Clegg (Colin Bradley; grandchildren Sebastian and Keira); step-sons Robert Cooper (Ty Hervieux) and Graeme Cooper (Shelby Austin; grandchildren Simone and Stafford); and sister Suma Starkie (Dave Starkie). He is also survived by former wife Renée Clegg, mother of his children. He was predeceased by his brother, John Michael Clegg (Marjorie Clegg).



Christopher John Herbert Cobb

20 August 1930 – 20 December 2024

Obituary by Carolyn Cobb

Christopher was brought up in Malvern, Worcestershire, where his father, a Pembroke alumnus and Wrangler, taught Maths at Malvern College. War seriously interrupted the regular, rather staid pattern of life in Malvern. When the College building was requisitioned by the Government, the school was evacuated to Blenheim Palace, returning to Malvern briefly before being evacuated a second time to the Telecommunications Research Establishment. This time Malvern College joined up with Harrow School, which had space as many of its pupils had sought safer areas. Christopher told many alarming stories about doodlebugs and lessons being constantly interrupted – as a teenager he found it exciting.



After school he did his National Service mainly in the Education Department as he intended to become a teacher. He always said, with strict discipline, deprived soldiers with the desire to learn, could be taught to read and write and do simple maths in only six weeks.

Following National Service, aged 21, Christopher went up to Pembroke in 1951 to study Mathematics. Pembroke was a very special time and place for Christopher; he relished the stimulating company of other students and found Herman Bondi an inspiring lecturer. He made many lifelong friends, particularly in the Boat Club where he was a cox, taking part in the Bumps, Head of the River and Henley Royal Regatta, which he attended until health intervened.

After university, Christopher taught at The Leys School to obtain teaching practice and then taught Mathematics at Cheltenham Boys College. However, after a year he realized this was not the right career for him. He began the arduous training to become an Actuary and joined the Equitable Life in London, and with this late start, he finally qualified as a Fellow in 1966.

In 1959 he married Carolyn for a very happy marriage of 65 years. They moved to Surrey when Christopher joined Friends Provident in Dorking. They had three children. One grandchild is now at Pembroke which was a great joy for Christopher to know.

Roger Lane Cooper

2 January 1941 – 12 May 2025

Obituary by Justin Cooper and Anthony Campbell

Roger was born in Bangor and spent his formative years in Plymouth, attending Plymouth College, where he became head boy. He was a reasonable sports player but it was in his academic career that he shone. Roger attended Pembroke College to take a degree in Natural Sciences from 1959 to 1962. He then worked for his PhD at Pembroke before finishing his work at Balliol College Oxford, due to his supervisor, Malcolm Green, taking up a post there. His PhD thesis was on organometallic compounds. These are organic compounds that chelate metal ions, particularly transition metal ions such as tungsten as well as lanthanides. They therefore combine the properties of organic and inorganic chemistry and became important catalysts in the polymer and pharmaceutical industry, including plastics. Malcolm Green's group with Roger were pioneers in this field of chemistry.



Following a short teaching career, he spent most of his working life in further education in student support in Derby College (now University) and then Stockport College. He never saw himself primarily as an administrator but always as a supporter of the students. It was typical of Roger that he only found his true vocation when he was supporting people to live more rewarding lives, rather than just understanding the complexities of the periodic table.

In his private life he was a devoted husband and father, and also committed much of his life to the work of the Labour Party. Roger loved the outdoors and was

often seen enjoying the beauty of the local countryside on his bicycle or walking out of his front door in Buxton and up to Solomon's Temple that marked the beginning of the Peak District; and as ever, he would always support those in greatest need. A central part of his private life revolved around his birth family, a large group of strong personalities who thought nothing of spending the day climbing some very wet Welsh hills and the evening playing Bridge – he was a good player of the game – with his brothers and cousins around a roaring fire in a tiny Welsh climbing hut. He was also an accomplished cellist playing for many years in local orchestras at a semi-professional level.

He is survived by his wife Linda and their son Christopher.

Ian Dennis

23 August 1951 – 17 April 2024

Obituary by Anne Dennis and Malcolm Pillar (1969)

Ian Dennis, who has died aged 72, came from the New Moston area of Manchester and won a scholarship to Manchester Grammar School. From there he gained a place at Pembroke in 1969 to read Natural Sciences, concentrating on Psychology, and graduated in 1972.

One of Ian's main interests at Pembroke was the student Labour Club and he served on its Committee. On leaving Pembroke, Ian went on to take a PhD in Psychology at Reading University.

Ian pursued an academic career and was appointed as a lecturer in Psychology at Plymouth Polytechnic, later the University of Plymouth. He remained there for the rest of his working life, becoming a Principal Lecturer and serving for a time as Head of Department. He spent a research period at the University of Waterloo, Canada, during a sabbatical from Plymouth. During the latter part of his career he increasingly concentrated on statistics relevant to his subject, and retired in 2012.

Ian married Anne in 1977 and they settled in the village of Wembury, just outside Plymouth, going on to have two children, Simon and Beth. Ian loved walking and enjoyed visits in this respect to Switzerland and other parts of Europe. He was a keen Francophile and became fluent in French, and chaired the twinning committee that linked his village with Locmaria-Plouzané in Brittany. Ian also served as a Governor of Plymstock School in Plymouth for thirteen years.

Sadly, in recent years, Ian developed a rare and incurable neurological condition. He retained, however, a great affection for Pembroke and, in particular, he and Anne were delighted to attend the College in 2019 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his year of arriving at the College.



Hywel George

10 May 1924 – 3 March 2024

Obituary by Carol Grant

Born in Holyhead, Anglesey, Hywel was raised in a Welsh Baptist household. In 1932, his family moved to Llanelli, where he attended Bigyn School and Llanelli

Grammar School, excelling academically and captaining the school tennis team.

In 1941, he began studying Geography at Aberystwyth University but was called up to serve in the RAF during World War II. Trained as a navigator in Canada and the USA, he later operated transport and supply missions in the Far East. After the war, he returned to Aberystwyth University to complete his degree.



Hywel joined the Colonial Administration Service in 1947, undergoing training at Pembroke College, the London School of Economics, and the School of Oriental and African Studies before his 1948 posting to North Borneo. As a district officer in Jesselton (now Kota Kinabalu), he helped rebuild post-war infrastructure, establishing a land registry, currency, and postal system. Promoted to Resident, he moved to the remote mountainous and thickly forested Ranau region, managing administrative, medical, judicial and agricultural affairs, relying on the local Dusun people for guidance travelling around by foot and canoe.

In 1954, he returned to study at Pembroke College, meeting and marrying Edith Pirchl in 1955. They were first posted to Jesselton, where they had three daughters, and later to Sandakan. A keen sportsman, Hywel led North Borneo's delegation to the Empire Games in Cardiff (1958) and Perth (1962).

During the early 1960s, he played a role in North Borneo's transition to Sabah within the Malaysian Confederation. Hywel was involved in the negotiations and the Cobbold Commission. He served as the last British Resident from 1963 to 1966 and, amid an Indonesian insurgency campaign to try and take over Sabah, coordinated civilian responses with British and Australian forces.

In 1966, Hywel and his family were posted to St Vincent in the Caribbean as Administrator, overseeing constitutional matters and development initiatives including tourism. When the island gained independence in 1969, he became its first Governor. In 1970, he served as interim Administrator of the British Virgin Islands.

Hywel was awarded OBE, CMG, and the Illustrious Order of Kinabalu, becoming the first European 'Dato.' Leaving the Foreign Office in 1970, he became Bursar and Fellow at Churchill College, Cambridge, until 1990, stabilizing its finances and overseeing the admission of women undergraduates. From 1990 he was an Emeritus Fellow at Churchill College.

Post-retirement, he worked voluntarily with the Council of Bangor University from 1999 to 2018, chairing their Audit Committee as well as serving on their Development Trust and Management Board. Hywel remained passionate about Welsh culture and sports. He passed away two months shy of his 100th birthday. Edith died on 9th February 2025. They are survived by their daughters Carol, Tamara and Frances.

Thomas Geoffrey Goodwin

28 February 1933 – 7 July 2021

Obituary by Alison Goodwin



Thomas Geoffrey Goodwin (always known as Geoff) was born in North Hykeham, Lincolnshire on 28th February 1933. By the age of five, Geoff had lost both of his parents and was raised by his older siblings. Geoff passed the entrance exam for the local Grammar school. His elder brother, Don, stepped in to pay the school fees so that Geoff could attend The City School in Lincoln which commanded fees of £4 per term, putting it well beyond the reach of Geoff's orphan's pension. At school, Geoff was an able scholar with a passion for History. He was also a good all-round sportsman, enjoying football and athletics, two sports which he remained an avid follower of for the rest of his life.

In 1951, Geoff undertook his National Service, based in Aldershot, Hampshire and rose to the rank of Officer. In 1952 he took up his place to read History at Pembroke College and enjoyed a very happy three years in Cambridge, making many great friends and establishing a love for the College which remained with him throughout his life. His degree was followed by a Post Graduate Certificate in Education at the Institute of Education in London. The latter qualification was in preparation for becoming an Education Officer in Nyasaland (now Malawi).

In July 1957, Geoff married Sheila (who he had met through a mutual friend in London just four months earlier) and the pair departed for Central Eastern Africa which was to become their home until 1969. Reluctantly, Geoff and the family (which had grown to include four children by this time) relocated back to England, as their eldest son had reached secondary school age. Geoff embarked upon a Masters in History at Lancaster University. After which, he took up a post as Academic Registrar at North Staffordshire Polytechnic followed by 19 years' service as the Chief Administrative Officer at the newly created Preston Polytechnic (now the University of Central Lancashire). This move allowed the family to return to live in Sheila's hometown of Morecambe on the Lancashire coast.

Geoff retired in 1991 and made the most of his retirement, travelling extensively as well as being an active member of his local U3A, various local history groups, learning German and Spanish and serving as a Governor for two local primary schools. He retained his interest in sports and was himself very active, enjoying the gym, walking and especially dancing! His greatest love was for his family, and he wrote three volumes of an autobiography entitled 'A Charmed Life' which he dedicated to them.

Geoff was a man of intelligence, integrity, kindness and great humour and that is how he is remembered by his family and many, many friends the world over. Geoff died peacefully after a short illness in his Morecambe home on 7th July 2021. He was survived by his wife Sheila (died 19th October 2023), five children and thirteen grandchildren.

Derek John Griffiths

3 July 1938 – 28 November 2024

Obituary by Sir John Kingman (1957)

Derek Griffiths was a gifted physicist who devoted his theoretical and experimental skills to fundamental research into the human urinary system. He became a global authority on the new science of urodynamics, and his work led to a deeper understanding of the problem of incontinence, and to the development of better treatments of this distressing condition.



Derek was born and grew up in the North London suburb of Mill Hill. His father, who later became Sir Reginald Griffiths, was in charge of what we now call HR in the London County Council. Derek was educated at University College School, and entered Pembroke in 1957 with a Major Scholarship in Natural Sciences.

He enjoyed his time in College, and among his several interests was singing in the university (CUMS) choir. He would often break into vivid renderings of excerpts from Constant Lambert's *Rio Grande* or Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. He was also a good cook, even in the limited facilities of his set on M staircase. Invitations to pancakes on Shrove Tuesday were sought after.

After graduating, Derek moved to St Andrews, to carry out research into the hydrodynamics of liquid helium II. He found the Fife coast even colder than Cambridge, though his claim that the helium stayed liquid if left overnight on the doorstep may have been an exaggeration. Having gained his PhD, and after postdoctoral work at Stanford, he was appointed lecturer in physics at Exeter University.

It was at Exeter that he met his future wife Mary, herself a lecturer in geography. They bought an old house with a large garden, where Derek exercised his formidable DIY and horticultural skills, and where their daughter Jane and son David were born.

It was characteristic of Derek that he was not content to continue with purely academic research, but wanted to find a way to use his scientific talents for the benefit of humanity. He eventually found his answer when a surgeon in the main Exeter hospital interested in treating urinary incontinence felt the need to understand the physics of the human urinary system. Derek rose to this challenge with enthusiasm, and a fruitful collaboration ensued.

Research in urodynamics was gaining international recognition, and Derek was a founder member in 1971 of the International Continence Society. In 1977 he was invited to spend a year at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, where his presence was so welcome that he eventually stayed there for 11 years. The family settled in a small town upwind of Rotterdam, learned Dutch and created another garden. His collaboration, with both doctors and medical engineers, produced a stream of research papers advancing what became an established area of biological science.

In 1988 he moved to Edmonton in Canada, where a hospital geriatrician was keen to develop the area. Yet another house, and another garden, to test his practical skills. And an even more international flavour to his work, for in 2000 he was invited to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center to develop the understanding of the links between the brain and the bladder. Lifetime awards from learned societies showed how much his work was appreciated. Even after his formal retirement, he continued as a consultant, and influenced many younger workers in the field.

Derek was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and became increasingly frail, but retained his mental faculties and his keen scientific interest until his last few months. He died in Edmonton, and is survived by his wife and children. His work lives on. He believed that a complete cure for incontinence would remain beyond reach, but that rigorous multidisciplinary research would lead to ways to mitigate its ill effects, at least for some.

Peter Edward Hall

26 July 1938 – June 12 2024

Peter Hall was a distinguished British diplomat, most famous for serving as British Ambassador to Yugoslavia from 1989 to 1992, just as Yugoslavia began to breakup and descend into a bitter civil war, with Slovenia and Croatia declaring independence in 1991 and Bosnia and Herzegovina declaring independence in 1992.

Peter was educated at Portsmouth Grammar School and after having done National Service, he won a Foundation Scholarship to study Modern & Medieval Languages at Pembroke College in 1958. During his National Service, Peter had studied Russian at the Joint Services School for Linguists, and he continued to study Russian at university, combining it with Serbo-Croat.

After graduating, Peter went straight into the Foreign Office and his special language skills saw him posted to Warsaw in 1963. He then took on a variety of different positions, serving in New Delhi from 1966–69, working on relations with the EEC from 1969–76 (during which time he married Marnie Kay, in 1972), as a Counsellor for Economic and Political Affairs in Caracas from 1977–78, and then as a Counsellor in the British Embassy in Washington from 1981–1983. All that experience (including a Visiting Scholarship at Stanford University, California from 1988–89) saw Peter made a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1987 and stood him in good stead when he took up his first ambassadorship to Belgrade in 1989. He ably represented British interests and the wider interests of peaceful relationships in the former Yugoslavia at a time of bitter regional conflicts and tensions.

Impressed with his ability to handle such a difficult brief, the Foreign Office then made Peter Ambassador to Argentina in 1992, a position he would occupy until his retirement in 1997. Peter's posting came at a time when British relations with Argentina were very difficult, with the 1982 Falklands War still a recent



memory. Once again Peter handled a sensitive situation with aplomb, making substantial contributions to the fostering of economic and cultural connections between Britain and Argentina. The importance of his work was recognised with his being knighted in 1993.

On retirement, Peter and Marnie moved to France. He is survived by Marnie and their daughter.

Roy Harrison

10 September 1940 – 5 February 2025

Obituary by George Harrison

Roy's career was mainly spent in the National Coal Board, much of it focused on helping to update and reform vocational education and training both within the industry and at national and professional levels.

Roy was born in Worthing, Sussex but, after the war, his family moved to Northampton and he was educated at Northampton Grammar School for Boys. He won an Open Exhibition to Pembroke College in 1959 and took a First in History. He joined the National Coal Board in 1962 as a Graduate Management Trainee. Following training experience in the Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire coalfields and London Headquarters, he became a staff officer to the Board's Deputy Chairman, Sir Humphrey Browne, one of his generation's outstanding mining engineers. After serving as secretary to a review that established the Board's Road Transport Service, he joined a team that planned the reorganisation of the coal industry in 1967, when five levels of management were reduced to three.

He then began a career in the Board's Staff Department, Human Resources Management in modern parlance. Initially, he was responsible for mining education policy, a crucial area in an industry where many key posts required holders to possess statutory certificates of competency. Here began a career-long interest in vocational education, training and development. Graduate recruitment and the operation of apprentice and graduate training schemes were his next field of responsibility. In 1972 he entered front-line personnel management, first as Deputy Headquarters Staff Manager (South), based in London, and then as Headquarters Staff Manager (North), based in Yorkshire.

After nearly ten years of operational experience, Roy returned to London Headquarters as Director of Staff Planning and Evaluation and later as Director of Staff Education, Training and Development. He completed his career in British Coal as Principal of the Management Staff College in Buckinghamshire. Before retirement in 2000 Roy was Head of Training Policy at the Confederation of British Industry and then Training Policy and Research Adviser at the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, of which he was a Fellow.

Roy's various roles required him to become closely involved in vocational education. He served as chairman of the Business and Technology Education Council's Standing Committee on Mining and was a member of BTEC's Board of Engineering. He was instrumental in developing and popularising National



Vocational Qualifications. He was a member of the Qualifications Committee of the National Council for Vocational Qualifications and, in addition to being a member of the Employment Occupational Standards Council, he chaired its Standards Work Group. He also sat on the Engineering Council's Industrial Affiliate Panel. Working with the NCB's Director-General of Mining, he reorganised mining education and training on a multi-disciplinary basis covering the mining, mechanical and electrical disciplines in the coal mining industry. In addition, he chaired a subject review of Mining, Minerals and Petroleum Engineering for the erstwhile University Grants Committee. In recognition of his work in the field of mining recruitment, education and training, Roy was admitted to the Institution of Mining Engineers as an Associate Member.

In his own professional field, as chairman of the Training and Development Lead Body's standards revision review, he helped to introduce occupational standards to serve as foundations for NVQs in the training and development industry. Having introduced work-based counselling into the National Coal Board, he chaired a review of standards for guidance within organisations for the National Advisory Council for Career and Education Guidance.

Roy was always a keen European. He led a project team of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Know-How Fund in 1989–1991 to provide training for managers in Poland's energy industries to assist them in making the adjustments necessary to operate successfully in a market economy. While with the CBI, he was a member of four European Commission committees on various aspects of training (PETRA, FORCE, LEONARDO and CEDEFOP) and, at the CIPD, he helped energise the European Training and Development Federation to promote good practice in training and development across Europe.

He never lost his first fascination with History and participated in activities of the Historical Association. When the decision was made to introduce the National Curriculum into schools, Roy served as a member of the Welsh Office's National Curriculum Committee for History (one of the two subjects – the other was Welsh – where the curriculum in Wales differed from that in England).

In retirement, Roy and his wife, Lesley, settled in Bedfordshire. He continued to enjoy studying and was awarded an MA in Literature by the Open University in 2008. After a long and happy marriage, Roy leaves Lesley and four sons.

Brian Alan Howseman

1 May 1944 – 4 October 2023

Obituary by Michael Howseman (1955)

Brian Howseman was born in Lincoln and attended The City School, a state grammar school, gaining an Exhibition to read Natural Sciences at Pembroke. In Part II he chose Biochemistry as his main subject. Apart from his academic work he learned to play the organ and was able to spend a lot of time practising on the Pembroke chapel organ.



Brian decided to make his career in teaching and after a PGCE his first post was as a chemistry teacher at West Bridgeford Grammar School in Nottingham. Rather than applying for head of department posts, Brian decided to go down the pastoral route and spent a number of years as Head of Year at Maltby G.S. in West Yorkshire living in Tickhill with his wife Margaret. He then moved to become Head of Darwen Moorland High School in Lancashire. That was the only time our careers came close together because by then I had been Head of Fleetwood H.S. for a number of years. After Darwen, Brian moved into the F.E. sector to become Vice-Principal of the newly reorganised F.E. College in Blackburn, where he was given the task of introducing A Levels, in what had hitherto been a Technical College, a challenge he particularly enjoyed.

Brian spent the rest of his career, pre-retirement, as Principal of Luton Sixth Form College a co-educational and multi-ethnic 16–19 establishment, which incidentally had been the first Sixth Form College in the country. Brian and Margaret with their son Thomas lived in the attractive Georgian town of Ampthill spending holidays in a flat they had bought in Minehead, in particular, to rekindle his earlier love of horse-riding. They also had a number of holidays sailing in Turkish gulets in the eastern Mediterranean with a group of friends, including the Regius Professor of Greek and his wife. Brian and Margaret made regular visits to Cambridge to attend musical events with them. Brian's particular interest was the music of J,S, Bach and several cruises on the Danube, some with old school friends, enabled him to visit a number of locations associated with Bach.

Margaret's family was from North Wales, which they visited regularly, and Brian decided to learn some Welsh. They attended several Eisteddfods, once meeting the opera singer, Bryn Terfel who was surprised and impressed when Margaret addressed him in Welsh.

Following his retirement from Luton Sixth Form College Brian became a 'serial retiree', holding several posts as a school and college governor before co-founding the Chiltern Learning Trust. This organisation now looks after 16 schools. He and Margaret became very much associated with Luton Music Society. After Margaret died, Brian moved to Chapel Brampton in Northamptonshire to be nearer to his son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Collette, and his grand-daughter Sophie; he would live with them at times. Brian was very much in demand as a church organist in various Northants villages, another activity sadly cut short by the onset of Parkinson's Disease. He died peacefully in a palliative care bed in a local community hospital.

David Ish-Horowicz

2 August 1948 – 19 July 2024

Obituary by Ros Diamond

David Ish-Horowicz was a molecular biologist at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund now Cancer Research UK, from the late 1970s. He was one of the pioneers in the application of molecular biology to developmental genetics. His research focussed on unravelling the intricate mechanisms that govern how embryos develop into complex organisms. He utilized drosophila and vertebrate models to

identify and analyse the molecular and genetic pathways that establish and regulate spatial organisation within developing embryos. His ground-breaking studies led to major advances in the understanding of many distinct molecular processes that are used to pattern developing animals, work that paved the way for advances in developmental biology

David gained a place at Pembroke College to study Natural Sciences in 1953, and went on to complete a PhD at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology. He then worked as a post-doctoral fellow in Basel University in the Department of Cell Biology, before returning to the UK, first to the ICRF's Mill Hill Laboratories, then to the ICRF Developmental Biology Unit, Oxford, and latterly at the ICRF/CRUK London Research Institute labs at Lincoln's Inn Fields.

After leading on the molecular cloning of the *Drosophila* heat-shock genes, David applied molecular methods to *Drosophila* developmental genetics with the successful isolation of hairy, a "pair-rule" gene critical for development of the segmentation pattern of *Drosophila* embryos. He also characterised the localisation of many RNAs for developmental regulators, and showed how microtubule-mediated mRNA targeting can contribute to asymmetric cellular protein production, identifying the RNA sequences and molecular motors involved. David received the 1997 Gulbenkian Science Prize and the 2007 Waddington Medal of the British Society of Developmental Biology. He was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2002.

David was passionate about science and the sharing of knowledge and ideas which he did with generosity and an infectious enthusiasm. He was exceptionally widely read, sharing the latest developments and revelling in the explanation of new discoveries. When his lab closed in 2013, he divided his time between Oxford's Department of Biochemistry, and UCL's Laboratory of Molecular Cell Biology, where he held honorary professorships, spending Fridays in the Francis Crick Institute. This increased his encounters with young scientists, whom he continued to inspire and nurture. Known for his humility and kindness, his legacy is of scientific advancement, but also his generously collaborative approach, and his mentoring of younger generations.

He lived between Oxford and London, pursuing his love of cycling in both cities, and enjoying entertaining. In the past few years he had started playing the piano again seriously, taking lessons to hone his skills.

Ralph Anthony Kaner

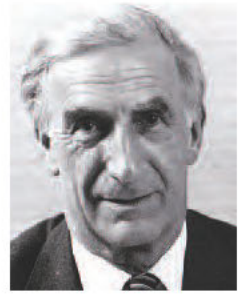
16 June 1928 – 29 November 1924

Obituary by Tim Kaner (1983)

Ralph Kaner, whose family association with Pembroke has now expanded to three generations, was born to parents Israel and Hannah in Woolwich, London in 1928 and the family subsequently moved to Hipperholme near Halifax in the West Riding of Yorkshire where Ralph attended Hipperholme Grammar School.



Coming up to Pembroke in 1945, just after the end of World War II, was a formative experience for a 17-year-old Jewish lad from Yorkshire. Ralph was a keen rugby player both at school and at Pembroke (and subsequently for the Old Brodleians and Rowntrees). He liked to tell his three sons that competing in the front row as hooker against opponents who had recently been in front line combat was far more challenging than anything we might experience in the scrum.



Ralph achieved a First in history and made life-long friends in Cambridge including Tom Corfe (1945) who acted as best man when he married his wife Jennifer in 1961. Former Master Professor Tony Camps, and Sir John Habbakuk (then a Fellow) were amongst those with whom he remained in contact for many years after graduation. He retained his love for history and particularly for the early Middle Ages throughout his life.

After National Service in the RAF, Ralph moved to York to join the then Rowntree & Co in the marketing department. He worked at Rowntree's his whole career starting in the advertising (marketing) department, becoming a member of the committee which oversaw the marketing of Rowntree products including KitKat, Polo, Fruit Pastilles, Smarties and Aero. The slogan "Have a break have a KitKat" dates from 1957, the period when he led the brand.

He was promoted to marketing director, working in both the confectionery division and also the grocery division, remaining with Rowntree's as they merged with Mackintosh & Sons in 1969. Eventually he became MD, then chair, of the UK confectionery division and was a director of the main board when Nestlé, acquired the business after a contested takeover in 1988. This was the first takeover where 'Brand Value' was a material part of the valuation – a compliment to the value Ralph and his colleagues had created in developing household names such as KitKat, Polo, Smarties and Quality Street.

Following the takeover Ralph chaired the steering group which was a point of contact between the company and the author of its official history, Professor Robert Fitzgerald, contributing to *Rowntree and the Marketing Revolution 1862–1969* Cambridge University Press (1995). He retired in 1988 and returned to his study of history, completing an MLitt (Newcastle) and then a PhD (York). He also studied at Harvard Business School in 1978.

Ralph and Jennifer had three sons who all attended Pembroke – David (1981), Tim (1983) and Ben (1985). Ben met his wife Eileen (1986) during his studies and they were married in College in 1990. What has now become a family tradition has continued into a third generation through Ben and Eileen's daughter Hannah (2011) who married Alastair White (2011) in September 2024.

Ralph lived in York for the remainder of his life. After losing Jennifer to pancreatic cancer far too early, he was sustained by friendships and his family, including seven grandchildren, in whom he took enormous pride. His final years were sadly blighted by dementia but he was able to enjoy a last Foundress Feast seated at High Table in 2019. 'This looks just like Pembroke College' was his comment on arrival in Old Court. It certainly did.

In perpetuum pater, ave atque vale.

Robert Harmer King

24 June 1929 – 28 March 2024

Obituary by Simon King (1976)



Robert (or Bobby, as many of his friends called him) had an extraordinary zest for life, with boundless energy and enthusiasm, which he displayed from the earliest years through to his final days. As a small boy he lived on Ascension Island where his father worked for the Cable and Wireless company sending and receiving signals. A letter from his aunt to his mother at the time asked how the 'holy terror' was. Returning to the UK when his father was made redundant, the family settled in North Harrow and eventually he went to Merchant Taylors School. His exceptional energy was channelled into a love of sport, which he inherited from his mother. The two of them went together to watch the test match for a birthday treat. He grew early and a picture of him at prep school shows him a foot taller than anyone else on his team. He loved rugby and cricket but was also in the Athletics and the Rugby fives teams. He had the school record for the fastest century – 113 runs in 63 minutes.

A wise teacher at Merchant Taylors told him to apply to Pembroke College in Cambridge, though he hadn't considered Cambridge an option, and practically forced him onto the train to go for an interview. First though, with the war just over, he had his military service in the Royal Artillery which, true to form, he thoroughly enjoyed. His three years at Cambridge were among the happiest days of a life crowded with much joy. He dived into life at Cambridge with his usual enthusiasm, made wonderful friends, and played a lot of rugby and cricket, earning his rugby blue in 1950 despite a broken finger. Without much time for study during the term he had to work hard in the vacations to make up for it. It was at Cambridge that he met and later married his first wife, Elizabeth. He studied Economics and Law – he really loved the study of the law, though did not feel any desire to become a lawyer. He knew that he needed a different kind of career.

On leaving Cambridge he was offered a job that would have given him the opportunity to play and develop his rugby, but without much prospect for growth and challenge in the work. Instead, he chose a career in Metal Box, which was a relatively small but fast-growing company. The company moved him around the UK every two or three years. In 1965 they surprised him and his family – now with four young children – by sending him to manage a subsidiary factory in Karachi, Pakistan for two years. The two older children were packed off to boarding school, the two younger ones taken with Robert and Elizabeth to lead the very different life of expatriates. Robert loved the challenge of working in, and learning so much in, a culture that was new to him. On returning to the UK he eventually joined the board of Metal Box and the family settled in the outer suburbs of northwest London, where they stayed until he left Metal Box in 1977.

In 1977 Robert accepted a job as Chief Executive of Scottish and Newcastle and the family moved to Edinburgh. The views over Holyrood Park from his office in

Abbey brewery were stunning, as was the food in the Golden Trough but this was a difficult time both for him and to some extent his family; a Sassenach trying to modernise an old boys club into a modern business. Perhaps the main compensation was the glorious golf on a summer's evening. After five years at S&N they moved back to Buckinghamshire where he ran Burroughs UK and then Bepak. At this time, they bought a small farm. Elizabeth ran the dairy farm, but at the weekend Robert was hauling bales of hay and generally helping out. This continued until Elizabeth's death in 1999.

In 2000, he met and married his second wife, Anna and he gradually retired from his work life. They moved to Primrose Hill a couple of years later, where he involved himself in the local community. He and Anna went on many trips to different places around the world, lately spending several weeks each year in Tortola. He belonged to the local church and was a passionate supporter of the youth work at the church, a thriving ministry for at-risk teenagers. Only two days before he died, he said how more should be done to support this youth work, and how keen he was to help.

The friendships that Robert made at Merchant Taylors School, at Cambridge University and then the Old Merchant Taylors Society (where he could be found playing or supporting rugby on many a Saturday) endured through his life with regular parties well into their 80's. Robert nourished friendships with these men and their families which lasted to the very end. He was also an early member of the Woodpeckers RFC (a touring club of Oxbridge undergraduates and graduates) with whom he joined for many rugby tours, and later continued to enjoy their company with golf. He especially liked to talk of their tour to Italy in 1950 where they were the first British team to visit after the war and beat the national side in Milan.

Robert picked up golf in his 40's and was a regular player at Harewood Downs, Gullane, and Denham golf clubs, playing into his 90's.

Robert was extremely grateful for his education and continued to support both school and College. Nothing gave him more joy than seeing young people being given the opportunities that he had, and his work in fund raising was recognised in being made a 'Fellow commoner' at Pembroke College, of which he was very proud.

Robert was bed-bound for the last year of his life but his energy, humour and enthusiasm shone through. His daily refrain was 'I'm a lucky man.'

David Christopher Lane

2 July 1942 – 4 February 2025

Obituary by Syed Tanvir Wasti (1961)

David Christopher Lane was born in Bolsover, Derbyshire on 2 July 1942. His father and his mother had both worked as medical doctors in China in the 1920s for the Methodist Missionary Society but, with growing civil turmoil in the China of the time, they had to leave the country in 1928 in order to return to the UK. Like his



brothers and his own sons, David was educated at Kingswood School, Bath, Somerset, a well-known educational institution founded by John Wesley in 1748.

David was awarded a Scholarship to read Classics at Pembroke College, Cambridge and I met him there at the start of the Michaelmas Term in 1961. We met very often during our year of living within the College, as he had rooms on U staircase and I was in W staircase in the Orchard Building. Although he immersed himself in Latin and Greek and I was doing research in Engineering, I was only a year or so older than David and whether at dinner in Hall or, more interestingly, on the croquet court on the lawns in New Court that was overlooked by our rooms, we met each other frequently. This frequency increased when, like other Pembroke men, I found that David – purely for purposes connected with an anti-poverty charity – prepared low cost lunches and sent the net cash gain to the charity. All Pembroke students who participated in those lunches over many months found David to be utterly civilized, sympathetic, helpful, honest and earnest.

This was the start of a friendship that lasted over 60 years till his death in Sandal, Wakefield, Yorkshire on 4 February 2025. At Cambridge, David became a member of the Methodist Society where he met his future wife, Kathleen. David and Kathleen had two sons, Peter and Andrew and, in our younger days when travel was both easy and necessary, the Lane family of four and the Wasti family of four (myself, my wife Yildiz, and two daughters Nazli and Arzu) were able to meet on several occasions in various locations of England, especially in Cambridge.

David's professional career covered a range of important positions related mainly to social work and social care, details of which have kindly been provided by his sons Peter and Andrew. After graduation, David briefly worked as a House Master, then became a Director of Residential Care for 10 years in Hillingdon before becoming Director of Social Services for Wakefield. Although he underwent a major operation for cancer in 1992 that led to his retirement, his subsequent activities, whether as adviser, trustee or professional witness remained central to social work in the UK. David's last official role over a period of five years was as a member on the panel of Historical Abuse Inquiry in Northern Ireland. For services to childcare, David was awarded the CBE in 2015.

The last time David, Kathleen, Yildiz and I spent a few days together was in Cambridge in 2011, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of our matriculation. There was much reminiscing as well as catching up – in an atmosphere of joy and pleasant conversation. Of course I need hardly mention that David and I conducted a voluminous correspondence over a period of several decades by email and by regular post. We exchanged Christmas cards and copious family news bulletins and sent each other copies or offprints of articles we had authored. From memories of his school days to sermons and serious articles, David wrote many articles, not all of them for publication. Apart from what he called “jottings” on social as well as religious subjects, his *forte* was producing children's stories as well as highly amusing poetical items on all matters spanning from the sublime to the ordinary, limericks about living political leaders not excepted. After retirement, David and Kathleen enjoyed frequent trips to Cromer where they had a flat with a sea view.

Less than two months before his own death, David had the unfortunate duty of informing his many friends [including myself] of the death of his dear wife Kathleen who, with her humour and frankness and charm, was a most suitable life companion for David, as well as a good friend to all of us. Though David was English to the core he was, like many of his countrymen, also a World citizen. In addition to Greek and Latin, he had a good knowledge of French and German. He was a staunch friend, a good raconteur and excellent company. He also had a great number of friends from all over the World, of whom I am very happy to say I was one.

Timothy John Leeney

16 September 1941 – 28 December 2024

With thanks to Moira Hassett, Paul Newby, Patrick and Natasha Crawford, Elizabeth Howald, Olga Leeney

Tim was born in Brighton in 1941 (his twin brother Jeremy sadly died at the age of sixteen months in 1943), and his parents settled there after the war. Tim's sister, Liz, born in 1948, remembers Tim as a quiet and studious boy; his interest in Chemistry began very early with him experimenting with chemicals and cultivating pretty crystal gardens on the windowsill. From an early age he was precocious in his acquisition of languages and could speak and understand several, which came in useful if their parents, Jack and Ines, spoke privately to each other in French! The family lived in Brighton until they moved to Park House, Twineham in 1958.



Tim attended Prestonville Preparatory School in Brighton, where he showed no interest in team sports, but in more cerebral pursuits. He was a voracious reader and so for him school was the utmost pleasure. Tim gained entry to Charterhouse School, in Surrey, where he excelled in science – his Chemistry S-Level result was the highest in the country. Tim won a Major Scholarship to study Natural Sciences at Pembroke College, Cambridge in 1959.

Tim started his PhD in Chemistry in 1963, involving research trips to France, Switzerland and Russia. It was then that he met his lifelong mountaineering friend, Paul Newby, who was starting his own studies at Peterhouse. Tim was a friendly senior member of the Cambridge University Mountaineering Club (CUMC) and an intriguingly exotic owner of a Morris Minor pick-up truck with Swiss number plates. Keen to use his wheels, in 1964 Tim led Paul on rock climbs in Wales and became his mentor as well as a friend, and so began a lifetime of mountaineering together, starting with climbs in Wales and Scotland.

Tim embarked on a career in the pharmaceutical and chemical industry, continuing his research into pharmaceutical products at ICI in Cheshire and then changing branch completely to trade in chemicals in eastern Europe. In London, he worked for a while for an important biotechnology start-up company called Celltech and was a member of the London Mountaineering Club (LMC). It was in London in the 1990s that Tim met Olga and they married; they had many mutual interests including a love of languages and culture. Tim was fluent in Russian as

well as German, Italian and French, and later became a full-time technical translator, adding Japanese translating to his areas of competence.

Tim and Paul's first alpine climbing season together was the most successful, in 1993, when they achieved all of their objectives in Switzerland, France and Italy, including the Jungfrau, the Gran Paradiso and the Dom as well as Mont Blanc. Several more alpine seasons followed in the 1990s, and they made sporadic trips to Scotland subsequently, ticking off the Munros in 2012.

When Tim and Olga relocated to West Sussex they joined the Forest Row Twinning Association (FRTA) with links to Milly-la-Forêt; Tim's impressive command of French was a real asset. Pursuing their love of France, in 2003 Tim and Olga announced a new adventure, living in the South of France while their daughter Barbara studied for the IB in a college near Antibes. They had an idyllic time in their south-facing flat just below Le Bar sur Loup, an ancient hill village, enjoying golden days, bathing in the sea by the fortress of Antibes and seeing the early snow already on the Alpes Maritimes.

On their return to Sussex in 2006, Tim resumed his duties in the church. He had acquired a devout Christian faith from an early age as a boarder attending daily chapel, and completed an Alpha course at Holy Trinity, Brompton. He was a committed church and choir member, lesson reader and intercessor in Forest Row and other parishes and attended the Deanery Synod.

Tim continued to live an active life, mountaineering and cycling – he took part many times in the annual Sussex 'Ride & Stride' charity bike ride. It was a huge shock to all when he passed away suddenly, aged 83.

Ian James Monypenny

11 April 1950 – 17 May 2025

Obituary by Eleanor Estick

Ian was born in Sheffield, son to Edwin and Isabelle, and brother to Anne. His mother worked as one of Britain's first female anaesthetists, a pioneering woman of whom he was extremely proud.

He was educated at Bilton Grange and Rugby School, then turned to his parents' 'trade' – medicine, earning an Exhibition to Cambridge and going up to Pembroke in the autumn of 1968. Here he worked incredibly hard, forging lifelong friendships. In his spare time he built amplifier and speaker systems for staircase parties. As College Hockey Captain he was granted a parking space for his pride and joy – his Wolsley Hornet.

In 1971 Ian moved to London to continue his medical education at St Thomas' Hospital, undertaking the gruelling junior medical and then surgical training, then to Nottingham and Birmingham working towards his first post as a consultant surgeon. He took up the position of lead consultant at the newly founded Breast Test Wales national breast-screening centre in Cardiff in 1988.

At the forefront of the breast screening revolution Ian and his team transformed the experiences of women with breast cancer in Wales and, through his burgeoning passion for the power of the audit, and his roles at the BBG and



BCCOM projects, Ian worked to improve care both nationally and internationally. He went on to become Clinical Director at the breast unit, all the while becoming more involved in clinical research.

He was an instrumental player in the development of sentinel node biopsy in women with breast cancer, a game changer in the field, and also in teaching this skill to surgeons nationwide as part of his role with the ABS at the Royal College of Surgeons. This passion to achieve the highest standards of care continued long into his retirement, taking on a role as visiting clinical expert within the Eusoma Breast Centres Certification Scheme. In all of his roles, Ian was mindful that it was the incredible team of healthcare professionals of which he was a part that made things work.

Ian was a devoted husband to Nicola, father to Eleanor and Michael, Grandpa to James and Monty, and leaves a legacy of lives saved, careers inspired, friendships forged and a family who miss him deeply and who will forever hold him in their hearts. A great man.

Andrew Ronald Moon

21 March 1944 – 4 July 2024

Obituary by Irene Moon

Andy Moon was born in north-east Bristol and after a happy childhood spent with a large extended family, he passed the 11+ and went to Queen Elizabeth's Hospital Grammar School. There he enjoyed learning and being physically active, which continued throughout his time at school and later at Pembroke College from 1963–66 where he read Classics.



On leaving University, Andy joined Imperial Tobacco Group back in Bristol where he embarked on a career spent in Management Development and Business Improvement. He travelled extensively to the many businesses Imperial Group was acquiring in the 60s and 70s until making a move in 1978 to House of Fraser as a Management Development Manager. After just two years living in Buckinghamshire, he moved to Birmingham and a similar role with the Cadbury Schweppes Group. The early 80s was a time of great change and by 1987 Andy decided that he could best satisfy his need for constant innovation and challenge by setting up Pacer Consulting Group with his wife, Irene, specializing in Human Resources Issues. Andy's ability to observe, listen, lead and mentor led to him being well respected and admired within his field and he carried out Human Resources projects all over the world until his retirement in 2009.

It was in Birmingham that he and Irene had their two children, Carrie and Jack and finally settled into family life. Andy enjoyed gardening and had created new gardens at several houses over the years, but in Birmingham he was able to join Harborne Golf Club and take the time to pursue his lifelong love of competitive sport. For a while he was a well-respected Seniors Captain and popular partner for matches against other Midlands Golf Clubs.

Sadly, in 2015 he was diagnosed with Parkinson's which relentlessly robbed him of the ability to care for his garden or play golf with his friends but, with the support of his family, he remained active and involved socially until a further diagnosis of Lewy Body Dementia reduced him mentally. He spent the last six months of his life in a Nursing Home and died peacefully with his family by his side in July 2024, aged just 80 years.

It was testimony to Andy's warmth and popularity that school and College friends, and colleagues from his early and later working life all travelled long distances to attend his funeral in Birmingham.

Gerald Glynn O'Collins

2 June 1931 – 22 August 2024

Gerald ('Gerry') O'Collins was an extraordinary Jesuit priest and theologian, writing or co-writing over 70 books and a huge number of articles. He taught at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome for 32 years from 1974–2006, and in that role supervised many future bishops' dissertations.

Gerry was born in Melbourne, Australia, and educated at Xavier College in Kew. He entered the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) at the age of 19, in 1950, and underwent a period of formation as a Jesuit in Watsonia, Melbourne. In 1954, he went to the University of Melbourne to study Classics. Graduating with a BA in 1958, he then completed a Masters the following year. He then entered preparation to become a priest at Canisius College, Sydney, and was ordained (by his uncle Bishop James O'Collins) on 2 January 1963. He then went to Münster, Germany, to undergo his final period of preparation as a Jesuit before taking his final vows.

Having taken final vows, Gerry came to Pembroke College in 1965 to do a doctorate in Fundamental Theology. After two years, he was made a Research Fellow of the College (as well as obtaining a Licentiate in Sacred Theology at Heythrop College, Oxfordshire) and the year after that, he obtained his PhD. Gerry left Pembroke in 1969 (though he would return as a Visiting Scholar from 1973–74 and again in 1991) and took up teaching positions at the Boston Theological Institute and the Jesuit Theological College in Melbourne for the next five years before becoming a Professor at the place he would call home for the next 32 years – the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Gerry's time at the Gregorian University would see him write books such as *The Resurrection of Jesus Christ* (1973), *The Cross Today* (1977), *What Are They Saying About Jesus?* (1977), *Interpreting Jesus* (1983), *Jesus Today* (1986), *Believing: Understanding the Creed* (1991), *Retrieving Fundamental Theology* (1993), *Christology: A Biblical, Historical and Systematic Study of Jesus* (1995), *The Bible for Theology* (1997), *Following the Way* (2000), and *Fundamental Theology* (2001). But Gerry's leaving the Gregorian University in 2006 to take up, first, a Research Professorship at the University of Surrey (until 2009), and then returning to Australia to teach at the Australian Catholic University and the Jesuit College of Spirituality in Parkville seemed to



unleash a torrent of publications: *Living Vatican II* (2006), *The Lord's Prayer* (2006), *Christ our Redeemer* (2007), *Salvation for All* (2008), *Jesus: A Portrait* (2008), *Catholicism: A Very Short Introduction* (2008), *Jesus Our Priest* (2010), *Rethinking Fundamental Theology* (2011), *The Tripersonal God* (2015), *Christology: Origins, Developments* (2015), *Revelation* (2016), *Lost in Translation* (2017), *Inspiration* (2018), *Tradition* (2018), *A Christology of Religions* (2018), *Facing Up to Jesus* (2023), *The Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola* (2024). In addition to these purely theological works, Gerry would also pen a number of more personal books: a memoir of his time in Rome, *On the Left Bank of the Tiber* (2013), as well as *A Midlife Journey* (2012), *From Rome to Royal Park* (2016), *Letters from Rome and Beyond* (2021), *Letters from the Pandemic* (2022), *Letters to Maeve* (2023), and *Letters at Christmas* (2024).

Gerry's intellectual and personal distinction – he was renowned for his humility, devotion, humour and generosity – saw him made a Companion of the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2006. The citation for the award said that it was made for his 'service to the Catholic Church internationally and to scholarship as a renowned theologian, academic, and influential contributor to ecumenical relations.' Gerry also received numerous international prizes and honorary doctorates for his work. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of Pembroke College in 2019. Just a few months before his death, in April 2024, he sent in an entry for the 'Pembroke Memories' section of the 2024 *Gazette*. As was typical of him, his entry was not about him at all, but a memoir of Vernon Pennell (1908), who was a student at Pembroke and subsequently a Fellow while working as Senior Surgeon at Addenbrooke's.

Kenneth Norman Palmer

28 June 1928 – 7 May 2025

Obituary by Sue Fryer and Jill Walker

Ken was born in 1928 and grew up in wartime Reading. Despite multiple absences through illness he excelled at school, eventually winning a scholarship to study Natural Sciences at Pembroke in 1946. Here, he also developed interests in music, the classics and history.

During Ken's time at Cambridge an increased number of undergraduates were returning to College to resume their studies, having fought in the war. Single rooms were bisected to accommodate the extra numbers. Ken felt moved by his co-students' bravery, commenting that he gained a degree whereas they had both fought a war and gained a degree.

After graduating in 1949, Ken joined the Fire Research Station, Borehamwood, where he met his wife, Angela. During his lifetime's work there he researched properties, causes and controls of fires and explosions. He was involved in numerous investigations, including the 1974 Flixborough Chemical Plant explosion and the 1987 Kings Cross Underground fire. He was instrumental in the development of the Corgi Gas scheme (forerunner to the Gas Safe scheme). His work helped save countless lives.



Ken travelled worldwide presenting his research findings, giving expert advice and lecturing, becoming a visiting professor at Manchester University. He published more than 94 papers and wrote a specialised book on Dust Explosions and Fires. Ken ultimately became Director of the Fire Research station before retiring in 1988, afterwards acting as consultant on chosen projects. He was awarded a Distinguished Service Certificate by the British Standards Institution and an Award of Distinction recognising professional excellence and education in the field of powder and bulk solids.

Ken was a devoted husband to Angela for 59 years and a caring father to Sue and Jill. He relaxed by listening to music and reading avidly. He never lost his love of learning: undergoing a general anaesthetic in his eighties he used the clock to estimate the flow rate of his blood before losing consciousness. Until his nineties he regularly worked on his allotment growing a phenomenal amount of fruit and vegetables.

Ken enjoyed watching his grandsons, Will, Sam and Joe, grow up. Ken stunned the boys when, in his first ever game of pool he turned out to be a maestro, calculating angles effortlessly. He was thrilled when Joe gained a place to study Natural Sciences at Cambridge, mirroring his own achievement.

Ken was a living encyclopaedia, a valued colleague and provider of steadfast support and security for his beloved family. He is much missed.

Norman Thomas Andrew Pitt

29 December 1928 – 24 September 2024

Obituary by Andrew Pitt

Norman was born in Colchester in December 1928 and spent his early years at Earls Colne. He went to the local grammar school where he became head boy and first XI football captain. During his National Service (1947–49) he was posted to the Intelligence Corps and spent his final year at the Field Security section at Port Said in the canal zone of Egypt.



Norman graduated in history at Pembroke College (1949–52). He played for the first team in cricket and football and began a lifelong interest in golf. He then took a one-year course leading to a Teaching Certificate in Education.

He began his 37-year career in the teaching profession at Wanstead County High School (1953–1957). During this time he met Paula then studying for her State Registered Nurse qualification and by the time they were married two years later Norman had become Senior History Master at the Rydens School at Walton-on-Thames. Their first son Andrew arrived before the family made their first move to Buckinghamshire in 1959.

Norman and Paula with their sons Andrew, Nigel and Julian spent eight happy years in Buckinghamshire. During this time Norman became Head of History at Dr Challoner's Grammar School, Amersham (1959–1964) and then Deputy Head of Bushey Grammar School (1964–1967).

In 1968 Norman took up his first Headship post at Fairfield Grammar School, Bristol. Throughout his career he devoted a substantial part of his holidays to organising Anglo-French Holiday courses, first as assistant to his father and then in his own right. From 1947 to 1991, through their efforts, several thousands of Essex secondary school students had the opportunity of attending the Paris Easter School and either the Colchester or Havering Summer Schools.

This experience left him well-placed to take up the challenge when he was appointed as founder Head of the distinctive Anglo-European School at Ingatestone in January 1973 a post which he held until his retirement in 1990. Under his leadership it became the first state school to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme and established exchange links with partner schools in France, Germany, Norway and the USA.

In retirement, Norman played golf, kept an allotment and travelled extensively with Paula. He helped local schools with exam-appeals panel work and actively maintained links with alumni groups from his early years. Paula pre-deceased him by 20-months. He is greatly missed by his sons and grandson.

Richard Simon Plant

21 September 1948 – 6 April 2024

Obituary by Lucy Plant

Richard was at The Leys from 1962–1967 where he was captain of the 1st XI cricket, Head Boy and school organist; he then went on to Pembroke College Cambridge in 1967, where he read English.

In 1970 he married Susan Woolf and worked in the sales department at Josiah Wedgewood. In 1971, he realised sales wasn't for him and he was appointed Head of English at Yarlet, becoming Headmaster in 1989 and retiring in 2009. Richard was a wonderful musician and sportsman. He played the organ at various churches, latterly mostly at Sandon Church, as well as at the wedding of his good friend Peter Chamberlain, Common Room 1964–97. He also played cricket for Swynnerton and the Gentlemen of Staffordshire.



Henry Thomas Putnam

24 January 1932 – 16 March 2025

Obituary by Richard Bastin

The son of an official in the Indian civil service, Henry was born in Sutton, but lived in Worthing until 1940. That fateful summer saw the family's beach hut turned over and filled with rocks, as part of the defences that were hastily set up along the south coast. With invasion seemingly looming, they moved inland to Windsor, where only three bombs fell throughout the entire war – supposedly because Hitler had his eye on the castle as his official residence. But the Putnam family



shelter, improvised under a billiards table, nevertheless saw plenty of use, as even the anti-aircraft flak batteries would leave a trail of dangerous debris. And Henry would later recall the frightening experience of watching from his attic room as bombs – first the incendiaries lighting the way, then the heavier stuff – fell across the blacked-out skyline of London, thirty miles away.

Later in the war Henry had to dive into a ditch when his cricket match was interrupted by the tell-tale sound of a V1 engine spluttering and cutting out overhead. The “doodlebug” crashed a mile off, but nevertheless blasted out nearly all the school windows (the boys themselves accounting for any left intact).

There was plenty more sport when he moved on to board at Haileybury, and there was also the combined cadet force, which – Henry would recall with a characteristic glint in his eye – he was chosen to lead ahead of someone who would later become Britain’s highest-ranking general. Although that training (and a boyhood spent as a scout) subsequently helped him in his time with the Royal Artillery at Aldershot, a wrist injury sustained playing hockey meant he missed out on officer training camp, and he was instead sent off to instruct recruits. Ever one to see the positives, Henry took that as a chance to see how the other half lived, something that would prove invaluable in his later work in management. On one occasion he even had to read out a letter delivered to an illiterate conscript, and then persuade the unfortunate squaddie not to take unauthorised leave – and the harsh punishment that would inevitably follow – upon being informed that “there’s summan muckin abaat with yer misses”.

Henry had always taken holiday jobs, even from his early years at school. He spent one summer in the toy section of a department store, another at a meat-freezing facility and another still at an old people’s home, while the wait for his National Service call-up was spent teaching history and rugby at a prep school in Wiltshire.

In 1951, Henry came up to Pembroke, following in the footsteps of his brothers Roger (1945–49, died 2019), and John (1949–52, died 2013). The summer of his first year Henry joined Joe Barnett and Mike Knight on a tour of France and Belgium. Export restrictions in a Britain that was only just emerging from rationing meant they could only take sixty pounds for the three of them for the whole month. But they managed, camping rough every night and using Joe’s father’s Morris 8, which was hoisted onto the ferry slung in a net.

Back at Cambridge, Henry switched from Economics to Law. Years later he would still feel the benefit of the logical approach instilled in him during Saturday morning sessions with John Campbell, a practising QC (and accomplished bagpiper), who used to come up from London for the weekend. Blessed with an easy manner and a way with words, Henry would have made an excellent barrister himself, but was dissuaded when told (by a cousin of College friend Dick Hickman) that he would need three things – a private income, family connections and a First. The first two were non-starters, and the last of those criteria had gradually drifted out of sight, and off down the river... as Henry had caught the rowing bug in his very first week. Starting as a novice, he rose to become Captain of Boats, taking the Pembroke crew to Henley. As a Blue Boat trialist he was unlucky not to be elected to the Leander Club, and even coached the Caius Eight

to blades, and had an engraved plaque on his study wall to prove it. But the most important thing that happened to him on the Cam was in June 1955, when Gill Freeman accepted his proposal of marriage in front of the boat houses, while he was coaching. 'I got off my bike specially!' he would later write.

That was during a weekend visit to Gill, who was still in her final year at Newnham, as by then he was based in Glasgow, having started out with textile multinational J&P Coats. Once married, they would be sent to Barcelona, living next door to a shop that sold wine by the litre for three pesetas, the exchange rate being 100 pesetas to the pound, while Henry's pay was ten pounds a week. They were different times, as indeed they were in Colombia, his next posting. There were no drug gangs then, but the country was nevertheless in the grip of 'La Violencia', a vicious class-based insurgency. Even so, they loved it, as they did the next posting in Venezuela. That involved creating a factory from scratch – including building a surrounding wall to keep snakes out – a process made necessary by Castro's nationalization of the firm's Cuban facilities, and one that Henry found the most satisfying part of his entire career. On the way to South America there had been a six-month stopover in India, to give him experience of handling things as a country number one.

In 1969 Henry was posted to head up Cucirini Cantoni Coats in Italy, and its 5000-strong workforce. He and Gill set up house in Varese, and renovated an abandoned company facility on nearby Lake Como for weekends. By then there were six of them, and on occasions his youngest son Tim would come home from England, get picked up at the airport and waterski across the lake to the Putnam hideout. It was in many ways an idyllic existence, though amazingly Coats considered Italy a hardship posting. The firm certainly got their money's worth, as Henry was a hard worker, and a brilliant manager. The 1970s in particular were a time of social strife and often violent conflict, and Henry's amazing ability not just to calm down, but to win over and even befriend union leaders was a major factor in the group's success.

After retirement in 1991, Henry became executive president for Italy of the International Wool Secretariat (responsible for the 'Woolmark') and then a human resources consultant, first for Right Management Consultants, and then for Growbp. He was also very active in the British Chamber of Commerce, where he was twice president. For that he was awarded an MBE, which was upgraded to CBE for his subsequent work as chairman of the British Institute of Florence. He also led the Henry Putnam XI in an annual match against the MCC, known by some as the Milan Cricket Club.

His later years were not without their upheavals. He tragically lost two granddaughters in a car crash, and daughter Candy and son Hugo well before their time. After Gill succumbed to cancer in 2018, Henry turned to writing poetry to help fill a gap that he clearly knew could never really be filled. Theirs had been a truly extraordinary marriage; they were endlessly hospitable and wonderful to be around.

The most sociable and entertaining of guests, Henry would always arrive for lunch or dinner armed not with a bottle, but something thoughtful and perceptive, and gifts that were always entirely different. He was very easy to like,

and took a keen, perceptive and – above all – caring interest in everybody he knew. Adored by his extended family, he got them all together in Sicily in 2023, a week that was crowned by one of his grandsons proposing to his girlfriend.

With the wedding scheduled for the following summer, Henry diligently set about the arduous task of trying out lunch at all of the possible venues along Lake Maggiore! He kept busy right till the end, fielding dozens of phone calls and visits on his 93rd birthday, two months before he died. A profoundly decent man, it was very telling that his funeral included moving orations, not just from friends and relations, but also from his former secretary and company chauffeur. Henry leaves two sons, Dominic and Tim, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren and a huge array of friends of all ages. He will be sorely missed.

Anthony Nicholas Raspa

15 July 1934 – 12 September 2024

With thanks to Christiane Raspa and Moira Hassett

A humble and true gentleman at heart, whose consideration for others was immense, Antoine made a real difference in the lives of many.

Canadian by birth, originating from Montreal, Antoine gained his BA at Loyola College in Montreal in 1955. He went on to study for his BEd., and achieved an MA from McGill University in 1961. He worked as a newspaper reporter, and was a lecturer at Loyola College. He came up to Pembroke in 1962 aged 28 as a one-year research student of English Literature, making use of the resources in the University Library. He returned to Canada to continue his PhD at the University of Toronto.

Antoine was a dedicated scholar and his lifelong quest for learning made him a world-renowned expert on the Renaissance and the Restoration Age, in particular John Donne and Shakespeare, on which he produced several works. He spent many years as a University Professor of literature, at Université Laval where he was Director of the English literature programme and Université du Québec à Chicoutimi. He was a devoted teacher and an exceptional mentor, he always genuinely listened, cared and supported the people around him and was a friend to many.

His passion for music and for the company and friendship of others led him to travel to many countries, where he developed long-lasting friendships. Antoine always genuinely listened, genuinely cared and genuinely supported the people around him. His memory will be cherished by the many individuals who knew him.

‘All mankind is of one Author, and is one volume; when one Man dies, one Chapter is not torne out of the booke, but translated into a better language; and every Chapter must be so translated (...) but Gods hand is in every translation, and his hand shall binde up all our scattered leaves againe, for that Librarie where every booke shall lie open to one another.’ – John Donne



Michael Anthony Clowes Reavell

1 July 1932 – 17 November 2023

Obituary by Rosamond Cynthia Reavell



Tony's parents divorced when he was quite small. During the war he and his mother lived in various places short-term, but his favourite was Chagford in Devon, where he attended All Hallows Prep School. Devon was a place he would return to many times with his own family on holidays, sometimes dormobile camping on Dartmoor; this connection has passed down the generations, with obligatory icy dips at Turn Teign. Tony progressed to Malvern College, enjoying English Literature and becoming a prefect.

In 1953 he took up a place at Pembroke College, however, his studies were rudely interrupted by National Service. The War Office Selection Board ('the three walruses') decided that Tony wasn't officer material, a decision which badly affected him emotionally and he was unlike his fellow soldiers who were hard-drinking, swearing womanisers. Things improved somewhat on promotion to the clerical wing of the Royal Army Service Corps in Austria. Returning to Pembroke after National Service he did little work, and only managed to graduate thanks to the kind, free coaching from Fellow David Joslyn.

Almost by chance, Tony became an assistant in Bowes & Bowes bookshop, followed by a three-year secondment to the University bookshop in Ghana. Thereafter, in the early 1960s, he was responsible for overseeing the foundation of several British campus bookshops and became the MD of The Bookshop by WHSmith standalone bookshops.

He met Cambridge University librarian Cynthia Dunbar-Marshall on a Bibliographical Society outing. Everyone else was over 70, but Tony and Cynthia talked non-stop on the return journey. They married in 1967 and had two children, David in 1968 and Tamsyn in 1970, by which time they had moved from Rose Crescent to Little Shelford.

A personality clash with a WHSmith director left Tony unemployed, but the 'golden handshake' he received enabled the purchase of Martello Bookshop in picturesque Rye, East Sussex. He and Cynthia made it individualistic and stylish, and it gained a reputation as one of the best small bookshops, with signings, poetry readings, book launches and publishers' attractive art book remainders. They also founded an appreciation society for comic novelist EF Benson, which they ran for 25 years.

Tony and Cynthia lived in Guestling, East Sussex, for 48 years, retiring in 1996. Tony loved sea-swimming, gardening, country walks, architecture and, of course, reading. From 1999 he attended Wordsworth Winter School in Grasmere, proud to contribute in proper recognition of his great-grandfather, William Angus Knight. He always felt his true vocation should have been in academia, and these late studies were some compensation.

Tony became an atheist Quaker in his final five years, valuing 'the companionship of silence'.

Gerard Charles Ryan

16 December 1931 – 27 June 2025

Obituary by Nick Ryan

Gerard Charles (“Gerry”) Ryan MA KC of Bepton, West Sussex was an eminent barrister and ardent conservationist who passed away peacefully at home, aged 93.

A true Sussex man, Gerry was born and raised in Hove and educated at Clayesmore School during the war and then at Brighton College. He joined Pembroke College in September 1950 on an exhibition to study Natural Sciences. After his first year he switched to study Law although his interest in flora and fauna was to remain a passion throughout his life. He was a pioneer in what would become environmental law, combining his legal knowledge with his deep understanding of ornithology and botany. He was an expert in the law of commons: Gerry wrote (with Bryan Harris) *An Outline of the Law of Commons* and was a Bencher of the Middle Temple where, years before, he had been a Harmsworth Scholar. He was appointed a Queen’s Counsel in 1981 and was head of his chambers until his retirement in 2001.

Gerry thoroughly enjoyed his time at Pembroke, which included rowing for the college and he remained a keen supporter and benefactor of the college ever since. After his three years at Cambridge he took his bar exams in 1954, followed by two years National Service in the Royal Artillery.

Gerry met his wife Sheila Cameron, also a barrister, in the Middle Temple and they were married in 1960 and had two sons. They lived in the Temple until 1972, just up the lane from their chambers in Harcourt Buildings where they both practiced. Although a dedicated lawyer, Gerry always needed to escape London at the weekends when he would spend the time either toiling in his garden in Sussex or undertaking conservation work on the South Downs.

He had a lifelong passion for the South Downs. He was a member and for a time Chairman of the Society of Sussex Downsmen (now Friends of the South Downs). He was a familiar figure striding the length of the South Downs on the annual Easter Walk, gathering and inspiring fellow walkers along the way.

He established the Murray Downland Trust, in the name of and to continue the work of fellow conservationist Betty Murray, encouraging the expansion of its activities. His lasting legacy is for all to enjoy the orchids, butterflies and other flora and fauna adorning the six reserves now managed by the Trust across the South Downs.

After years spent commuting between London and West Sussex, Gerry and Sheila finally retired to Bepton, where they had lived for nearly 50 years. They had a profound connection with the area and its people and devoted their later years to a wide range of local causes and organisations.

He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered.



Jonathan Charles Searle

5 March 1947 – 10 January 2025

Obituary by Patricia Searle

Jonathan was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Malaysia until the age of seven. On the sudden and premature death of his father, his mother went back to England, first to London and then to Cambridge where the Searle family came from. Jonathan attended Haileybury School and then gained a place on to read History of Art at Pembroke College. This gave him the opportunity to spend time in Florence to help with restoration after the flood of 1966. He was also part of the Cambridge boxing team and he played rugby. He often said that he did not really deserve to have been at Cambridge and that he should have studied a lot harder, but he was naturally a humble man.

His humanity, courage and sense of duty led him to join the London Metropolitan Police Force where he enjoyed a fascinating and diverse career, ranging from intelligence to protection, undercover work and organised crime; he was one of the officers involved in what is considered to be one of the main art frauds of the twentieth century.

He met Patricia, a French woman, and they married in 1981, going on to have four children, a boy and three girls. He was a very dedicated and loving father despite his heavy workload. He was so proud of his family and they were equally proud of him. It was the greatest privilege to have had him as a husband and father.

On his retirement the family moved to France and Jonathan continued to lead an active life. He learnt the guitar and the accordion, started to draw and paint again and became thoroughly involved in his children's activities – he even got as far as breaking in his daughter's horse. He was happy to improve his French and proud to obtain French nationality. He greatly enjoyed bridge, taking it up seriously and went on to teach the game. He and Patricia also travelled a great deal during these years.

Jonathan died suddenly and unexpectedly on the 10th of January 2025. He was kind, loyal and dutiful.

One could count on him for everything and at any time. He was sociable and talked to everyone without prejudice. He was immensely knowledgeable and was the family's encyclopaedia. He was also the fun element of the family, being original and wacky and always in a good mood. He is sorely missed by his family.

Anthony Arthur Sebag-Montefiore

17 July 1936 – 14 December 2024

Obituary by Geoffrey Gestetner

Anthony was the youngest of six children of Jack and Violet. He was the only one of their children not sent to Canada in the war to stay with some relatives on the Montefiore side of the family and, as a result, developed a particularly close relationship with his mother.

His time at Harrow School was followed by National Service in the Navy as an Ordinary Seaman. In 1956 Anthony came up to Pembroke and studied Economics (Part I) and Geography (Part II) and was proud to have achieved a third-class degree in both parts of the Tripos. He felt that he had demonstrated consistency and that, despite making the most of all that Cambridge had to offer, his grades had not deteriorated. He always talked fondly of his time at Pembroke and especially his membership of PCBC which he represented at many levels: he started coxing the 2nd VIII and as his enjoyment of Cambridge increased, coxed more boats, gradually moving through the 3rd and 4th VIIIs before finding his metier in the 5th VIII which he happily coxed in the 1958 and 1959 May Bumps having decided that the river was no place for a gentleman in the Lent term. Anthony looked back at Pembroke as a particularly happy time in his life and never missed an opportunity to return whether to show a relative around or for a more formal reunion.



After Pembroke Anthony followed his father into the insurance business as an insurance agent at Lloyd's. He cornered a particular niche selling insurance to self-service laundrettes in the 1960s and did so well financially that he was able to retire aged 35 and spent much of the rest of his life until his 70s living overseas – in Tangiers, Lisbon, Palm Beach and Ireland. He always maintained a home in England, first at Ashlands Court near Malmesbury and latterly in Chelsea as well as in the Dordogne for many years. Despite his travels and ever-changing homes, he remained close to many members of his extended family and was an avid collector of 'Montefioriana' some of which, such as a 'trotting' chair, were as eccentric as he could be and which he took great pleasure in giving to relevant distant cousins or appropriate institutions who were very grateful to receive them.

He was very proud to have been one of the first Englishmen to formalise his relationship with his partner, Francis Willey, via a same-sex civil partnership on 19 December 2005. He nursed Francis through his final years with an amazing love and devotion – taking the bus three times a day to visit him in hospital.

After he returned permanently to England during Francis' final years, Anthony became a regular bridge player at Brooks's Club and the Oriental Club and through his playing there, was much in demand as a bridge partner in many St James's clubs. He was also a stroller for the glamorous wives of Chelsea, Gloucestershire and Palm Beach. He revelled in introducing others to this society. To the very end he had a mischievous glint in his eye as he encouraged others to push convention to its limits and live a little faster than they otherwise might have.

Michael Frederick Shoemith

28 September 1932 – 19 October 2023

Obituary by Paul Shoemith

Michael Shoemith was a religious broadcasting producer and director at the BBC from 1965 to 1986, working at Carpenter Road and subsequently Pebble Mill.



He was born in London to Freddie and Olga. Olga's father had been the stationer to Queen Victoria. His father worked for the Metropolitan Water Board in London. They left Maida Vale as the war started, moving to Rickmansworth. Michael and his brother both went to Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood. He was an active member of St Peter's Church Mill End and the local Crusader Class. In around 1948 he attended Pembroke College, Cambridge, studying Mathematics, and then worked in publishing with Scripture Union. He married Jill Skipper in 1958 and they moved to Amersham, Buckinghamshire. Their son Paul was born in 1960, and daughter Claire in 1962.

In 1965, he moved to Birmingham to work for the BBC as Religious Broadcasting Assistant. After a short stint on the team of *Play School* he travelled all over the Midlands, from Norfolk to the Welsh Borders, producing and directing programmes like *Songs of Praise*, *Sunday Half Hour* and *In Every Corner Sing*. He recalls being the first person to record Victoria Wood for radio, and didn't know quite what to do when she was perfect on the first take.

He retired early from the BBC around 1986, and became the Director of Cross Cultural Communication at Selly Oak Colleges. Following his second 'retirement', he worked for Transworld Radio Europe as General Programme Editor, broadcasting Christian training material each week via Eurostep on the Olympus satellite.

He and Jill moved to South Shropshire in the early 1990s, settling in Lydbury North. Michael had a number of roles, including church warden and church treasurer. When the village shop and post office closed he was instrumental in setting up a community shop in a repurposed retirement bungalow.

They moved to a retirement village in Malvern in 2018 after both had suffered from some ill health. Again they became involved in a number of community activities in the village. Jill died in April 2020, after which Michael continued to take part in the forum of the retirement village, and attended Great Malvern Priory.

He died shortly after his 91st birthday, and is survived by his son and daughter and two granddaughters.

Howard Michael Skipp

31 October 1946 – 31 January 2025

Obituary by Birgit Skipp



Howard Michael Skipp was born and raised in Coventry, a town he was proud of, much aware of the war damage and its recovery. After passing the 11 Plus exam, he got a place at Bablake grammar school where he thrived. He was very much an all-rounder in sport but nevertheless favoured rugby. He found school work easy and enjoyed his time there. Later in life he set up bursaries for Bablake students aiming for Cambridge University.

On gaining a place at Pembroke to read Natural Sciences in 1965, he applied to the Coal Board and Shell for a student grant and both made offers. After some consideration Howard accepted the Shell offer turning down the Coal Board which he thought was a dying industry. After two years of Natural Sciences he switched to Chemical Engineering. The yearly interviews with the Shell representative must have gone well enough as he was offered a job after graduating. As well as playing rugby he joined the Boat Club, and he continued to enjoy both sports after leaving college. During his second year Howard met Birgit, a Swedish student on her gap year working at Addenbrooke's hospital. Deciding to get married before his 4th and final year, permission from the Dean was necessary. Tea and chat with Dr Meredith Dewey sealed the deal and married life started in South Green Road overlooking the sports fields.

Joining Shell on their graduate scheme started work at Shell Haven refinery learning the practical side of oil production. On moving to HQ in London there was no more need for climbing storage tanks and checking valves, though the experience had served him well. His first overseas posting was to Copenhagen in spring 1978 where his main job was to buy crude oil for the refinery, which was also convenient for the young family to visit the in-laws in Sweden. The next posting was to be Buenos Aires but the Falklands War intervened so all those Spanish lessons were soon forgotten. Back in London, filling in time with odd jobs at HQ, he was offered a posting to Seoul. There followed a very different time for the family with the boys at boarding school in England. South Korea was in interesting times, with preparations for the 1988 Olympics and the challenges of democracy.

Returning to the London office, Howard worked in the trading section until he left Shell aged 51 to start his own oil trading and supply consultancy business, aptly named Bablake Services. Joining forces with his friend John and others, the group ran residential courses based in Cambridge and abroad. This sometimes involved travel to some risky destinations over the years.

On retiring, Howard found more time to re-kindle old friendships from school days. For many years he organised an annual dinner and stay at Pembroke for the Bablake Boys as he called them, hence combining fond memories of the school and the College. He took a keen interest in the new College development across the street and was saddened that he would not live to see it finished.

Howard was a kind and caring person, relishing any chance to pass on knowledge and guidance, and very grateful for the opportunities he was given in life. He was a very supportive brother to his much younger sister and her family as well as his parents. Having settled in Guildford in the mid 1970s with his young family, any spare time was devoted to various DIY jobs; creating a pond was one of his proudest moments. For many years he was a befriender with Age UK and a road rep for the local amenity group. He enjoyed any intellectual challenge was always up for a vigorous discussion, so could sometimes come across as intimidating to some people. Howard is greatly missed by his family and friends.

Geoffrey Brian Smethurst

26 January 1931 – 28 August 2024

Obituary by Hugh Smethurst (1978)

Geoffrey died in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, a town he had lived in or near since 1963. He was born in 1931, lived his young life mainly in and around Bromley, narrowly escaping a German bomb in 1944 which destroyed his house. After Bickley Hall and Aldenham Schools, he performed two years of National Service with the King's Royal Rifle Corps which (perhaps to his surprise) he enjoyed enormously. He matriculated at Pembroke College in 1951 and read Classics. He enjoyed his time in Cambridge hugely, finding that he already had many friends both from school and from the Army. His tutor was Tony Camps (later the Master), and the chaplain Meredith Dewey, both of whom served the College to the 1980s, and his friend David Trump was a college Tutor and archaeologist for very many years.



He had a keen intelligence, and a clarity of verbal and written expression (evidenced by the numerous pencilled corrections he made in margins of books and magazines) as well as an enduring interest in the classical world. On graduation he trained as a Chartered Secretary and worked for a number of years in Peterborough and London for Baker Perkins (a manufacturer of baking machinery), and then for various employers until his last and favourite job with Rowe and Maw, solicitors, where he specialised in company law. He married Elizabeth Shefford in 1956 and they led a very fulfilled family life with their three boys. Geoffrey retired in 1994 and spent many years toiling happily in his large garden near Tunbridge Wells, and travelling.

Geoffrey loved classical music, was a keen choral singer, and also choirmaster and organist at a local church. He enjoyed U3A where he studied various subjects he'd never before considered, loving learning for its own sake. He was chairman of the Southborough conservation/historical society and also wrote most of the magazine for the local branch of the Chartered Secretaries. When Elizabeth died in 2003, he continued to be active both in his garden and in the local community until his health began to fail, and he spent his final years in a nearby care home.

He was a very sociable man, and always attentive to and accepting of others. Fundamentally decent and honest, he cared deeply for his family and friends, and will be missed by the many who appreciated his interest in them and calm presence.

Robin Balfour Stenhouse

17 April 1935 – 26 May 2025

Obituary by William Stenhouse

Robin Stenhouse died shortly after his 90th birthday. He was born in Morpeth, Northumberland, and came up to Pembroke in 1953 to read Medicine. He enjoyed his studies and Cambridge life, though most of his reminiscences from the time related not to his lectures, but to rowing at Pembroke: he was a member of the 1st VIII that won blades in May 1956. After graduating, he pursued his clinical studies in London, qualifying in 1959. He served as a medical officer in the Royal Navy for three years, held a series of positions in St Paul's hospital in Cheltenham, and then went to work as a locum in British Columbia, Ontario, and Barbados. On returning to the UK, he worked as psychiatric registrar in Morpeth, and took further locum positions until the early 1970s, when he finally stopped moving, and became a GP in Scarborough. He married Elisabeth (Lis) in 1973 and they had two sons. He served loyally as a family doctor until enjoying a happy retirement.



Robin's life and career seem characteristic of an age that now seems very distant. He was of a generation shaped by the second world war and its aftermath, and by the rapidly changing relationship between Britain, its former colonies, and the world beyond. His early experiences of rationing and blackouts made him stoic, frugal, and cautious, like many of his generation; he also developed an ethos of service (his own father was a doctor) and a marked curiosity about places and assumptions different from his own. He relished the chance to travel around the Persian Gulf and in the far east in the navy, and to take his medical training and experience elsewhere. After settling and having children, he liked being able to work closely with patients and to make house calls, despite his grumbles about an increasingly managerial NHS. He especially enjoyed psychogeriatric work, which he continued after retiring as a GP; longer appointments gave him the chance to listen to people at length. His wanderlust seemed to have been sated, as he enjoyed fishing and gardening in North Yorkshire. He maintained, however, a keen interest in the history of exploration, and in retirement enjoyed a series of increasingly adventurous holidays with Lis, including trips to Ecuador and the Galapagos, the Falklands and Antarctica, and to the South Pacific.

Although it did not manifest itself in regular visits back to Cambridge, Robin maintained a strong sense of connection with Pembroke: he recognised the privileges of studying there, and the benefits that they brought. In his work as a doctor, he sought to help people who were usually less fortunate than himself, an attitude fostered at the College.

Michael Campion Thornton

6 January 1928 – 15 March 2024

Obituary by Christopher Thornton

Michael was born in 1928 to Gifford Thornton, a General Practitioner, and Mollie (née Mirams), a homemaker, and raised in Audlem, near Crewe in Cheshire.

In 1946 he went up to Pembroke College to study Medicine, gaining his BA in 1949 and the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degrees in 1952 when he became a Fully Registered Medical Practitioner by the General Medical Council. Michael moved to London and it was during his vocational training at St George's Hospital in London that he met trainee nurse Margaret (née Hastie) and they married in 1953.

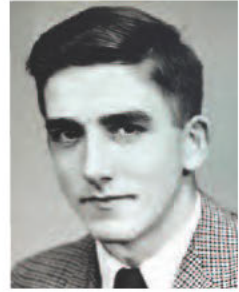
After qualifying, Michael did his National Service as a Surgeon Lieutenant at Royal Navy, Fleet Air Arm, HMS Goldcrest, Brawdy, Pembrokeshire. He was flown on helicopters out to sea on training exercises or for real incidents, often treating for shock people washed overboard in storms.

In 1956 Michael trained in gynaecology at the City General Hospital, Newcastle-under-Lyme, and was granted the Diploma in Obstetrics of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in 1957. Also in 1956, Michael returned to Audlem to join his father in General Practice. They practised together for nine years until his father retired. Michael carried on practising single-handed for ten years before being joined by a second doctor for the last fifteen years, until retiring in 1990.

Dr Barrie Hufton, the second doctor, recalls, 'Continuity of patient care was not just a notion but a reality. Dr Michael knew his patients and they knew him. Day to day work required an enormous commitment of time and energy – there was no such thing as out of hours. Our rural practice was demanding enough for a younger doctor, let alone one approaching retirement. Nonetheless Michael had become a trainer of younger doctors training in General Practice.'

Away from work Michael enjoyed gardening, bird watching, fishing, supporting Stoke City Football Club, and holidaying with family and friends. Michael and Margaret were active in the Audlem community, volunteering at church and several groups and societies. Michael was also a Freemason. He liked to keep up with Pembroke news and enjoyed his last visit in 2016, showing family around the College.

In 2019 Michael and Margaret celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary shortly before Margaret died, aged 87 years. On March 15th 2024, after a brief illness, Michael died aged 96 years. He is survived by three children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild.



Timothy John Hume Townshend

20 May 1949 – 29 July 2024

Obituary by John Taylor & Charlie Marks (1968)

Tim Townshend was born in Heathersett just outside Norwich. His Dad, also known as Tim, was the village Rector and his mother Lorna, a primary school teacher. Tim was the third of four children. His older brother Ned preceded him at Pembroke.



At nine, Tim was sent to board at Ipswich School where he enjoyed acting and swam in the school team. He found the academic side stressful, especially exams, and overall, didn't think much of boarding, but he did well enough for a place to read Law at Pembroke in 1968.

Charlie and I met Tim on our first day in College after he overindulged at a Freshers sherry party and fell asleep under the desk in my room. He was a sociable lad who could talk for England – a good trait for a lawyer. When we joined a rowing crew of complete novices, he became cox to make use of his loud voice and was awarded the nickname of Squawker. The same eight stayed together for all three years.

After graduating, Tim trained as a barrister in Lincoln's Inn and then joined Chambers in Norwich, specialising in family law. He earned a reputation as a firm and fearless advocate. In 2000 he was made a judge to sit on Mental Health Tribunals in East Anglia.

Tim was an enthusiastic member of a group of a dozen Pembroke 68-ers who kept in regular touch over the years. We learnt he led a hectic social life in Norfolk society. On a couple of occasions we were impressed by the number of formal invitations to hunt balls and Lord Lieutenant's garden parties on his mantelpiece. Tim went regularly to Glyndebourne and on chalet ski-parties. For 20 years his deep and resonant voice made him a stalwart of the bass section of the Norwich Philharmonic choir. As President of the Norfolk Club it was at Tim's behest that the club admitted women members and gave them equal voting rights: "pulled a flanker on the Garrick Club", he told us proudly.

We slowly gathered that there were two Tims, the one on display in his professional and social life in Norfolk and another hidden one. Tim realised he was gay at school. He had great difficulty in coming out, particularly among the legal profession and in a socially conservative city like Norwich. He learned to compartmentalise his life and admitted to us that he would disappear to London at weekends, where anonymity allowed him to be his true self. It was his biggest regret that he felt constrained never to have a long-term, declared partner.

He retired from the law in 2010 after a serious illness left him in Intensive Care for many weeks. In 2014, a mental breakdown made him unable to cope with the outside world. After a few unhappy years, he sold his house in Norwich and went to live peacefully in a local care home. He kept very regularly in touch with family and friends by email, seemed to have plenty of visitors and continued to express forthright views about politics and events.

In early 2024, Tim was diagnosed with motor neurone disease. It progressed rapidly and by early summer it was clear he didn't have long to live. Charlie and I visited him in hospital, preferring to see him alive rather than attending his funeral. He died on 29th July in a Norwich hospice a mile or two from where he was born. It was his wish that his judge's wig and robes, together with his undergraduate gown were placed in his coffin with him. He is survived by sisters Jane and Celia.

Roman Hugh Wasilewski

28 October 1952 – 15 January 2025

Obituary by Teresa Wasilewski

After two years being controlled by Lewy Body Dementia of Parkinson's Disease, Roman Wasilewski died in Falmouth, Maine, USA. Those who knew him well speculated that he timed his departure to avoid the second Trump administration.



Roman was born in 1952 in New York where his father was undertaking a PhD (his first degree was completed in Cambridge, where he and other post war Polish soldiers were taken under the wing of William Thatcher at Fitzwilliam College) and the family returned to the UK two years later for work in London, then Liverpool. With a strong Polish accent sometimes mistaken for German, his father found it difficult to get work as a metallurgist in post war Britain, and the family returned to the US in 1956.

When visiting Cambridge where his parents had met (Wasilewski Senior, a tank commander during the war, almost knocked his future wife over while riding his bicycle -Roman's mother, Erica nee Croft had already earned her PhD in Physics and Mathematics and was one of three female scientists employed at the Laboratory of Colloid Sciences in the Cavendish Labs in 1947), 12 year old Roman declared that he too wanted a Cambridge University education. To this end, he left the US education system and studied for three years at Shrewsbury School before successfully sitting the Oxbridge entrance exam. After a European upbringing in the US, he seemed to fit in to Pembroke life studying History, enjoyed his second-year flatting in Emmanuel Road with Alan Dawson and Frank Ackermann, and generously introduced Nick Davies, Tim Sketchley and Paul Niedzwiedzki to his sister and her flat mates when they arrived in Cambridge to study nursing!

After his second year, Roman decided that he wanted a different direction for his life and left Cambridge, returning to the US, where he spent the next decade working for the US Postal Service and drawing lifelong inspiration from postal service co-workers, including immigrant professionals from around the world.

He joined the US Foreign Service in June 1984. Consistent with his intrepid spirit, he completed diverse assignments, including several involving personal risk. His overseas assignments included Peru, Jordan, Colombia, the Soviet Union and Brazil. He was Deputy Principal Officer in Kosovo, Political Counselor in Ukraine, Economic Counselor in Brasilia, and Senior Area Advisor at the US

Mission to the United Nations. In Washington, he served in the Office of the Coordinator for Assistance to the Former USSR, in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and the Nuclear Risk Reduction Center.

In 1995–96, as the US Representative to OSCE (the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) missions to Chechnya and Georgia, he conducted daily on-site investigations into massive human rights and other abuses. His experiences informed a January 1997 presentation to the Secretary's Open Forum, "Perspectives on the Role of the OSCE in Chechnya" in which he presciently warned US government senior leadership of the barbarity of resurgent Russian nationalism, based on personal observations, consultations with multinational contacts, and his analysis of political developments.

He was a gifted linguist, fluent in Polish, Russian, Spanish, and Portuguese, and able to get by in French, Serbian, and Ukrainian. Roman was also a great adventurer who delighted in kayaking, hiking, and exploring, climbing many of the world's highest mountains in, among others, Argentina, Peru, Nepal and the former Soviet Union. During seven lengthy mountaineering trips in Nepal, he was usually accompanied by the same Sherpa and was privileged to be included in his family network whenever he was in the country. His outdoor activities fitted well with his lifelong curiosity about people from all walks of life, and he forged friendships wherever he went, no matter how remote, efforts which informed his personal diplomacy and political/economic reporting.

Roman was fiercely proud of his Polish and English heritage and parents. After spending seven months in Poland prior to going up to Pembroke, he maintained strong familial relationships and friendships there, privately organizing humanitarian aid during martial law and participated as a private citizen in the movement to end communist oppression there. After the death of their father, the family established a summer scholarship for Polish metallurgists to study in Cambridge and Roman worked closely with the British Council and Clare Hall to ensure the recipients were able to make the most of their time.

Roman retired to Arrowsic, Maine and was active in the preservation of the historic Squirrel Point lighthouse. After his death, one of his fellow trustees wrote *'Roman was the most erudite person I had ever met. With his wide ranging knowledge, world-traveling experiences and a sort of old-world courtliness, he seemed to me as if he had stepped out of a book. I had read about people like him but never met one!'* He continued to entertain friends from around the world, and re-connected with Frank Ackermann, his flatmate from Pembroke who had moved to Maine some years earlier. After Frank's diagnosis of Parkinsons Disease, Roman visited regularly, observing his increasing dependence and was undoubtedly affected by the experience when he himself was diagnosed only months after Frank's death. He donated generously and bequeathed a substantial portion of his estate to charity. Predeceased by their younger sister, he is survived by his sister Teresa and two nephews in Dunedin, New Zealand.

Brian Watchorn

26 May 1939 – 27 August 2024

Obituary by Andrew Morris (2000)

Brian Watchorn, who for 24 years was the much-loved Dean of Pembroke, died at the age of 85. His contribution to the College, both during and after his long tenure as Dean, is immeasurable and he enriched the lives of thousands of Valencians over a 40-year period.



Brian was born in Nottingham on 26 May 1939. His strong interest in music became evident when he became a chorister as a boy treble in his local church. He then gained a scholarship to attend Nottingham High School before entering Emmanuel College, Cambridge, in 1958 on an exhibition, initially to read Modern Languages but, as he said later, ‘something happened’ soon after his arrival and he quickly switched to Theology. Whatever happened was to be the focus of his life from then on. He then proceeded to Ripon Hall in Oxford and Emmanuel’s sister college, Exeter, to prepare for ordination in the Church of England. After ordination in Manchester Cathedral in 1963, Brian served as assistant curate for three years at St Peter’s Church, Bolton, before returning to Cambridge in 1966 as Chaplain at Gonville and Caius College.

There is no doubt that Brian was a huge success at Caius and he clearly enjoyed his time there. Many former students kept in regular touch with Brian throughout his life, not least since Brian had married many of them or had baptised their children during his eight years there, a long period for a chaplain at any college. At Caius, as at Pembroke, Brian made the chapel a welcoming place for both students and Fellows, and both his fine singing voice and clear speaking voice during services were greatly appreciated, as were his sermons. Towards the end of his time at Caius, Brian felt the call to return to parish ministry and he was appointed Vicar of St George’s Church, Chesterton. Brian’s excellent pastoral skills were greatly appreciated by the diverse congregation at St George’s and many of his parishioners remained in touch with Brian long after he had left. In addition, Brian had a series of assistant curates, one of whom was Rowan Williams, the future Archbishop of Canterbury. Brian used to tell the amusing story of both Brian and Rowan appearing at the bottom of the pulpit steps one Christmas morning, both thinking that they were the preacher on that occasion. There was an altercation which went something like ‘Oh, I thought I was preaching’, ‘No, I am preaching’ which lasted for half a minute or so, and then Brian (as he later recalled) said that he heard himself say ‘I’m the Vicar’, which decided the matter.

One day, Brian was putting some rubbish out and noticed a somewhat dishevelled elderly gentleman in a very old coat coming into the garden. Thinking it was a homeless by-passer, he went over to him, only to discover that it was Tony Camps, the Master of Pembroke, who had come (to Brian’s surprise) to talk to Brian about his becoming Dean of Pembroke College. Brian became Dean and Chaplain, and Fellow and Director of Studies in Theology, at Pembroke in 1982.

Brian said later that he had not intended to move on to a college but that he was, in hindsight, forever grateful for this move and for the fellowship which Pembroke had given him. In return, he became a cornerstone of College life and a staunch friend to many. Brian was a true pastor who made Chapel a place of warmth and of quiet stability. He was keen that acts of worship should be appropriately dignified and theologically sound. He was also keen that music should be well chosen and performed, and with his great friend Sidney Kenderdine he ensured that good organ scholars were appointed to oversee this important area of chapel life. He would always accompany the choir on tour and would oversee the budget for these tours. Brian was also keen to continue to develop relations with college livings and he arranged for several of these parishes to attend chapel and dinner once every few years. Brian was engaged in every aspect of college life and took his role as a tutor very seriously indeed, as many former Pembroke undergraduates will testify. He used to say that, when a student asked what the difference was between the Dean and the Chaplain, he would say that the Dean reads the books and the Chaplain drinks the sherry.

Brian's academic interest was 19th and early-20th Century Church History, and he contributed to the teaching in the Faculty of Divinity throughout his time as a Fellow of Pembroke. His arrival at the College coincided with the introduction of women in 1984, something that Brian strongly supported. As part of his role as Dean he was tutor for rooms, a task that Brian thought was part of his pastoral role in the College. Rather than introduce segregated staircases, Brian chose to institute mixed stair cases with men and women on alternate floors – but with men on the ground floor, as he thought that putting women on the first floor and above would give them greater security. Another College role of Brian's was to serve on the Gardens Committee, for a time as Chairman, which he did with much pleasure, a considerable amount of knowledge and great attention to detail. He also looked after the College cat, Kit Smart. Brian's other principal activity was his work with Pembroke House. As Dean he was secretary and treasurer of the Trustees, of which he was one both while in post and in retirement, and he spent a huge amount of time on Pembroke House matters. There were times when the Mission (as it was known then) ebbed rather than flowed, and it is known both in Cambridge as well as in Walworth that there were times when Brian almost single handedly, with help from Sidney Kenderdine and Michael Kuczynski, kept the Mission afloat. Indeed, it is widely acknowledged that, without Brian's dedication to it, Pembroke House would no longer exist, let alone be in the fine condition we find it today. Brian's other great passion was College music and he was a great supporter of PCMS concerts and events. He became President of PCMS after the death of Sidney Kenderdine and, in recent years, when the Presidency became a student position, Brian became one of the Patrons of PCMS.

Brian was also an important figure in the Church of England outside the College. He was, for many years, one of the selectors of potential clergypersons in the Church of England. In 1994 he was appointed an Honorary Canon of Ely Cathedral, an unusual appointment for a college dean and one which shows that Brian was singled out as someone special. After the Care of Cathedrals Measure

of 1999, which took the running of cathedrals out of the exclusive hands of the dean and residentiary canons, Brian was made a Chapter Canon at Ely Cathedral, giving him a role in the running of the Cathedral. In 2009 he was made an Honorary Canon Emeritus. In addition, Brian spent a year from 2009 to 2010 at King's College, Cambridge, where he was acting Chaplain while the real Chaplain, Richard Lloyd Morgan, became acting Dean following the death of the then Dean of King's. One member of King's, who was a regular worshipper at the Chapel, so admired Brian's composition and selection of the prayers of intercession at Evensong that he claimed that King's Chapel had not had prayers containing such elegance, poignancy and thoughtfulness since the days of Eric Milner-White. Brian loved St Botolph's Church, where the College had worshipped in its early years before the first Chapel was built, and attended services there, sometimes assisting or preaching, over a period of some 40 years.

Brian retired from his Fellowship and the post of Dean and Chaplain in 2006 but took his role as an Emeritus Fellow very seriously. Indeed, he took on the responsibilities of Acting Praelector a number of times over the next decade and performed the role with much distinction and great aplomb. He was a frequent diner at High Table and was extremely valuable to the College in the hosting of College guests, firmly believing that the Fellowship had a corporate responsibility for the care of those who were not part of this house and who would look back on their time here with much pleasure.

In many ways, Brian Watchorn's death is the end of an era in Pembroke and those of us who were privileged to know him well have lost not only a wise counsellor but also a great friend whose wit, warmth of personality and steadfastness of character have given us a framework for our own lives. He was a priest who had both spiritual and practical gifts, who was both comforting when needed and firm when required to be. He cared deeply for the College, its members and its structure. He regarded College members as a good parish priest cares for his parishioners. He was passionate about the College structures, be it buildings and gardens or people structure and hierarchy, wanting these to be right and fitting for the benefit of those who followed in the future. In many ways, he was very much the successor to Meredith Dewey and he felt Meredith's legacy very much on his shoulders. Brian was someone who most people felt able to talk to on a personal level not only about faith and about life in general. For someone whose own life had been unusually straightforward, he was able to give remarkably sensitive and helpful advice about life, relationships and faith and was very straightforward in the delivery of his thoughts. The College chapel was central to his life for 40 years and it was totally appropriate that both his funeral and memorial services were held there and that the chapel was full to capacity on both occasions.

When asked why he never married, Brian always replied that he was waiting to find a rich French widow. In later life, he would say that he had found one – Marie de St Pol, Countess of Pembroke.

Christopher Thomas Henry Whinney

2 January 1934 – 1 March 2025

Obituary by Charlie Whinney

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Christopher Thomas Henry Whinney, aged 91. Christopher died in hospital after surgery.

Following his time at Pembroke (1953–56), Christopher worked for Shell and Dupont. He attained an MBA from Lausanne and had a long career as a Company Director. Later in life Christopher spent 20 years of rumbustious debate as an Independent Councillor and an Alderman for Reigate and Bansted Borough Council.

Christopher's Thanksgiving service was on 3 April at St Mary's Church, Reigate, where he was remembered by two of his Pembroke peers, John Cryton-Miller and John Fenwick. Christopher was husband to Fenella, father to Charlie and Harry and proud grandfather of six.

**Denys Broomfield Wood**

2 November 1923 – 7 January 2025

Obituary by Andrew Wood (1969)

My father Denys went to school at Radley College and then, at the age of 17, took up a place at Pembroke College in 1941 to read Engineering, achieving a first-class degree in the two year war-time course. He became President of the College Boat Club and was awarded a Half Blue for rowing in the Cambridge second boat, Goldie, in the 1943 University Boat Race.

It was at Cambridge that he met Jennifer, who was reading Natural Sciences at Newnham College. However, in 1943 war service took them in separate directions, and it was not until 1948 that they married – a union that was to last until Jennifer's early death in 1999.

Immediately on leaving Cambridge in June 1943, Denys joined the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) and was commissioned in January 1944. After officer training in the UK he was sent to India in late 1944 and ultimately to Japan as part of the Occupation Force, returning to India in May 1947. At the end of his war service, he was accepted for a regular commission and eventually returned to the UK in late 1947.

His REME career took him overseas to Germany and Malaya, and various locations in the UK. One notable tour was in 1966–7 as leader of a small tri-service team of observers of the American operations in Vietnam. It was in more generalist non-REME appointments that his career developed including as an instructor at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, a student and later Directing Staff at the Army Staff College and returning later as Chief of Staff at the Staff College. Ministry of Defence appointments followed with his final appointment



being as Director of Army Quartering in the rank of Major General. On his retirement from the Army in 1978, he was appointed a Colonel Commandant of REME.

After retiring from his first career, Denys undertook a series of appointments with the Council of Engineering Institutions, the Planning Inspectorate, the Law Society and the General Commissioner of Taxes. He retired from this work at the age of 75 and then became a volunteer for the National Trust.

He was a stoical and largely private man, with a strong sense of duty and service supported by his Christian faith. Above all, he loved, supported and encouraged his family of three children, seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Robert Yeatman

14 June 1933 – 2 June 2025

Obituary by *Linda Yeatman*

Robert came up to Pembroke in 1952 to read history, and was forever grateful for the three very happy years he spent in the College. Having contracted polio in 1948, he missed a year's schooling while in hospital, so he found he was one year younger than many of his contemporaries who had done two years' National Service before coming up, or one year older than those who came straight to College after school. He was also grateful to Pembroke for arranging ground floor accommodation within the College for all three years, and also for allowing him to park his car, a small Austin fitted with a hand clutch, in Fellows' Court.



After graduating, Robert took up a publishing career as an editor, working for Methuen, Macmillan and Longman Publishers, and for a time ran his own company.

In 1963 he married Linda and had three daughters, Catherine, Lucy and Rosanna, and the family moved to Cambridge in 1984. This enabled Robert to be a regular visitor to the College over the past 40 years, with the added bonus of keeping up with his many friends who would come back to Cambridge for Foundress' Feasts, and other College events.

Soon after moving to Cambridge, as he was going into the College, the Head Porter greeted Robert like an old friend, saying, 'Mr Yeatman, how good to see you!' He recounted a story from the early 1950s when as a very junior porter he was told one evening to go and lock up, and returned to the Porter's Lodge white-faced and scared, saying he had just seen a ghost. 'Oh yes' his colleagues asked, 'and where was the ghost and what was it doing?' 'Walking across Court in a white flapping robe and clanking as it went.' 'Ah, that will be Mr Yeatman crossing Court in his bathrobe to take a bath. He does that most evenings!' The clanking came from the long metal calliper that Robert wore to support his left leg, which had been weakened by polio.

One of Robert's favourite stories about his time at Pembroke was when a student, on his staircase, noticed that having parked his car in Fellows' Court that

Robert, for a lame man, had quite a long walk down Pembroke Street and in by the Porters' Lodge and back up to his rooms. 'Would it not be easier,' his friend suggested, 'for you to have a key to the door there so you can just walk through to your room. I can get you one if you like.' A key was duly delivered, no questions asked, and for several days Robert used it. Then one day while walking through the narrow Fellows Court passage he came face to face with his Director of Studies, David Joslin. 'Good afternoon, Robert,' said David in a friendly way, and after a short chat they both moved on, Robert fearing he would be up for some disciplinary measures. Nothing was ever said in the subject of the key, but by 8 am the next morning the locks had been changed.

Robert died a few days before his 92nd birthday, and is survived by Linda and his three daughters.

F. MEMBERS' CORNER



Photo by Keith Heppell

BOOK REVIEW

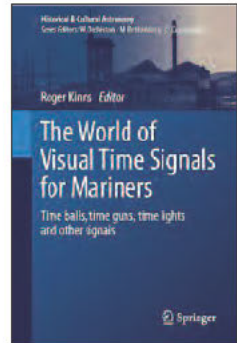
Jan Maciejowski

Roger Kinns, *The World of Visual Time Signals for Mariners: Time Balls, Time Guns, Time Lights and Other Signals* (Springer, 2024), 471 pp, with multiple illustrations.

Mariners have known how to establish their latitude since classical times. But longitude was impossible to measure until the invention of the marine chronometer by Harrison in the late eighteenth century. A chronometer is just a very accurate clock which can withstand the rolling and pitching motions of a ship over a very long journey. Nevertheless, over a long trip, such as London to Sydney – and even considerably shorter ones – the chronometer ‘drifts’ significantly, leading to considerably less accurate navigation on the return or onward journey. Since about the 1920s, when radio signals became generally available, it has been a simple matter to reset the chronometer anywhere in the world. But how could it be done before that? The solution since the 1830s has been the ‘time ball’. This was a ball, of diameter about 5 feet, at the top of a tower and/or hill, so that it was visible from all the ships in an anchorage. It was dropped at a precise time (usually 1pm local time, ideally accurate to 0.2 second), so that the navigating officer on each ship could reset the chronometer precisely.

The first time ball was trialled at Portsmouth, but the most well-known one, the one at Greenwich, was manufactured by Maudslay, Field and Sons in 1833 (and has operated almost continuously since then). Henry Maudslay was an early nineteenth-century pioneer of precision machining and manufacturing. He is commemorated in Pembroke by the Maudslay Research Fellowship in Engineering. Students are largely unaware of this Fellowship, but Pembroke Engineering alumni who have matriculated since 1980 may recall being taught by Jan Maciejowski, Norman Fleck, Robert Mears, Vikram Deshpande or Andrea Ferrari. All of these came to Pembroke as post-doctoral Maudslay Research Fellows. Roger Kinns, who is billed as the ‘editor’ of this book, but is actually the sole author of 25 of the 28 chapters, and joint author of one other, was the first of these, in 1971 – and there have been 15 so far. For many years Roger was Treasurer of the Maudslay Society and of the Maudslay Scholarship Foundation (which partly funds these Research Fellows). During these years his interest in the Greenwich time ball, and other time balls manufactured by Maudslay, Field and Sons was sparked by a chance remark. To cut a long story short, he has since become the principal authority on the history of time balls, and of other visual time signals for mariners – not his day job, by the way. This book is the result.

It is a magnificent piece of work. The first part (seven chapters) focuses on the historical development of time balls and other visual signals (such as flags, semaphores and flashing lights). It includes some of the science underlying performance of chronometers as well as details of the mechanical (and later electrical) design. Understandably, it has a separate chapter devoted to time balls



manufactured by the Maudslay company. Lots of fascinating details, but all accessible to the lay reader. The second part (21 chapters) is mostly a detailed description of time balls and other signals located all over the world, arranged geographically (Mauritius gets its own chapter). There were a lot of them: in 1922 the British Admiralty listed 129 time balls and 91 other kinds of visual time signals, and this was by no means a complete list.

The book has plenty of photographs, maps and sketches, quite a few of them in colour. Most of the photographs date from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. But many time balls have been saved and restored, despite no longer being needed for their original purpose. Some of them continue to drop every day, usually operated by modernised mechanisms. So there are modern photographs from Greenwich, Edinburgh, Cape Town, Sydney, Hobart, Lyttleton (New Zealand), Boston, Valparaiso and other locations. The book is saved from being purely for nerds by lots of little historical gems. Who knew that the established longitude of Lisbon was out by a couple of miles until 1880? Or that Vladivostok appears under 'Manchuria' in the Admiralty list of 1930, but under 'Russian Tartary' in 1922?

An unusual feature of the book is that it is structured like a collection of academic papers, each chapter having its own abstract, its own set of references, and even its own copyright notice. This does have the advantage of emphasising that the book can be dipped into in any order – for example, if you were particularly interested in time balls in the Black Sea, or if you wanted to follow the evolution of the Greenwich time ball from 1833 to the present day (in the chapter written by Douglas Bateman). And there are cross-references from one chapter to another when appropriate, as well as an extensive index. So the book comes across as one cohesive piece of work, not as a disjointed set of papers.

Should it be on your Christmas list? Yes if you are sufficiently nerdish and have a well-heeled relative (£150 hardback, £120 e-book). Otherwise this is probably a book for libraries rather than private collections. But definitely worth borrowing from your local library.

MEMORIES OF PEMBROKE

Sport with Swans

Christopher Smith (1955)

The team Pembroke has always had sporting heroes. By the mid-1950s May was no longer gracing Fenners, but we still felt entitled to take pride in his elegant centuries. During dinners in Hall we could look across to Maltby, who stroked the University eight to victory, and to Waddell, whose tactical kicking was already earning him selection for prestigious sides. These stars also made their contribution at the higher echelons of college sport, especially when push came to shove.

I am afraid, though, that I cannot, claim it was their example that led me to turn out to play hockey for Pembroke. My memory may be flattering me by suggesting it was the 2nd XI. At any rate, there were no difficulties over selection. You just wrote your name on a sheet of paper on the Common Room notice board and turned up at the time and place indicated. As sixteenth-century French literature was beginning to get me down, a change of activity seemed a good idea. So I added my name to the ominously short list. A couple of days later I ventured out of Orchard Building on a bracing afternoon, either just before Christmas or not long after. The first part of my route was very familiar, past the pub and over the bridge then along the footpath across Fen Causeway, crossed the road and arrived at a small playing field.

The teams were gathering. After asking two or three of us whether we were attackers or defenders, our captain agreed, sportingly or else stoically, that we might as well bully off, though only ten Pembroke players had so far shown up. The game started. Of strategy neither side seemed to have an inkling while stopping the ball and striking it in a suitable direction were skills some of us had quite forgotten, perhaps never quite mastered anyway. Still we ran hither and thither as fast as we comfortably could on the muddy grass, I suppose we fancied some show of zeal might cloak a lack of dexterity. Inevitably, though, the other side scored first. 'That was pathetic, Pembroke!' shouted our captain. Before anyone of us could find an apt response, in word or deed, to his despairing rallying call another, more diffident, voice was heard. 'Skipper, skipper, did you say Pembroke? ... Oh, I say, I should be somewhere else. Sorry!' And off he trotted, a slight figure smartly kitted out, but not very observant. It had taken him a good ten minutes to twig that his shirt was not the same colour as ours.

Handicapped now by the loss of our involuntary reinforcement, we struggled on. We gradually got used again to handling our sticks and even went so far as trying to keep in our right positions. So charitable spectators, if there had been any, might have discerned some sign of improvement. The difficulty was that by then most of us were puffing and blowing, and we were grateful when the umpire gave a blast on his whistle. It was not a stoppage for some infringement or other. No, something quite different. 'Swans!' he cried, pausing the game and allowing us a minute to stand and stare. In the almost horizontal clear light just before sunset on an early wintry evening a dozen swans were on their way from the river

to their roosts. They flew fast without deviation in a wedge formation behind their leader, a picture of single-minded urgent, strenuous and seemingly tireless resolution. In less than a minute they were gone, a fleeting, but impressive contrast to our earth-bound stumbling.

The game resumed and soon ended, without anyone worrying too much who had won. It had, though, been a good afternoon. Some might say we couldn't play hockey for toffee-nuts. Fair enough though a few aches told me next morning that I had stirred my stumps, but apparently not enough, and no one pressed me to play again. So ended my sporting career, and I was content to return to Rabelais.

Pembroke Days

Graham Parry (1958)

When I arrived at Pembroke College, Cambridge, to take the Entrance Examination in December 1957, the Porter directed me to the room I had been allocated, on First Court. I walked over to D staircase, close to the chapel. I found the access was by a spiral staircase that was made distinctive by the presence of the backbone of a whale that coiled around the edge of the steps, one vertebra after another. Bemused, I followed the trail of bones up to the door of my room on the first floor. The room was small and spartan. I soon discovered that the only heating was a small two-bar electric fire, totally inadequate against the deep chill of a December afternoon. I went and found a cup of tea somewhere, and then settled down immediately to continue reading my notes on English Literature that I had been compiling and enlarging ever since the beginning of the school term in September. I went down to dinner in Hall at the appointed time, then went back immediately to my room to continue my revision. The weather was bitterly cold that December, and the Cambridge cold was more intense than anything I knew from home. I remember sitting in an armchair in front of my meagre fire, swathed in a blanket from the bed, trying to concentrate on my notes. The written examinations took place over two days, and there was also a lengthy interview with two of the college Fellows that allowed them to form some idea of the candidate's personal qualities. I have no recollection of the written papers, but I can recall that in the interview I held forth on the connections between Keats's remarks in his Letters and his practice in his poetry. In retrospect, this was a strange topic to choose for the display of my literary perceptions, as I have rarely ventured into a discussion of Keats in the whole of my subsequent academic career.

Whatever I wrote or said was evidently effective, as I was awarded an Exhibition and invited to come into residence in October 1958. I left school, and went off to work in London for six months to earn some money for my undergraduate life. I took a job with British Railways in their International Freight Section at Euston, dealing with all aspects of the movement of heavy freight between Britain and Europe, and vice versa, a job that gave me many insights into the complexities of international trade when it was conducted by railways and steamships. I was able to afford a holiday in Italy and a visit to the International Exposition in Brussels on the way back.

October arrived, and my father arranged for a friend of his to drive us to Cambridge with my chattels, including my precious record-player and a lot of clean laundry. I was amazed at the amount of luggage that was piling up at the Porter's Lodge from all over the country: steamer trunks, chests, skis and racquets and all manner of paraphernalia. In comparison, I seemed rather under-equipped for the opening of term. My room was on H staircase in Red Building, the Victorian block on the far side of the chapel. Walking over to my new home, I noticed that the whalebones on D staircase had disappeared. I soon met my new neighbours, a Natural Scientist and a Mathematician, and later in the afternoon, walking around the college, I fell into conversation with another freshman with whom I felt an immediate affinity. This was Jan Evetts, who had come up to read Natural Sciences. He invited me up to his room for tea in the new Orchard Building, for he had already equipped himself with the basic necessities of life – tea cups, coffee mugs, plates and toasting fork – and was able to offer a rudimentary hospitality. We talked away the rest of the afternoon, then went down to dinner in Hall at six. I remember we sat at a table near the entrance, and soon we were joined by a number of other newcomers, most of whom were also reading Natural Sciences. With the ease and openness of those who are embarking on a common experience, we chatted away and shared our impressions of the college. After dinner, we decided to move on to the pub; someone knew that The Mill was the Pembroke local, so there we went. Gordon Williams, Michael Coala, Tom Vernon, Jim Morgan, Michael Walford, Jan Evetts and I made up this group. It is remarkable that this chance gathering on our first day should bring together individuals who remained good friends during the next three years, and who have maintained this friendship throughout our lives. It helped that we all lived in college for the first two years, so our paths constantly intersected and there was a strong bond of shared social life.

I went through the usual preparations for the beginning of term. Various tutors had to be seen and set books acquired. Almost all meetings with college tutors were accompanied by sherry, the universal embrocation for academic encounters. Top of the list came Mr Camps, the Senior Tutor, who had sent me the telegram a year ago announcing my success in the Entrance Examinations. Tall and thin and slightly stooping, 'he bade me welcome / But my soul drew back', for I had not learnt to reciprocate the courtesies of academic life. I did not know at that stage that he was the world's leading scholar on Propertius; indeed, I had never even read Propertius, so I was not able to show an interest in Roman love poetry that might have strewed flowers on my approach to him. But he kindly explained the shape of the English course that I was about to begin and his role in overseeing my time at Pembroke. Next I had to meet my Moral Tutor, Mr Combe, who was meant to keep an eye on my general well-being and ensure that I did not become too wayward. He too plied me with sherry and courteous goodwill. His teaching role was as the college French tutor; his manner was formal, and he had a gentlemanly bearing. He became a familiar figure to me, riding a high bicycle down Trumpington Street, stately and erect. Many years later, it became known that Mr Combe acted as the college contact for MI6, looking out for potential agents among the undergraduates. This was a most

unexpected revelation, yet the very improbability of Mr Combe as an undercover figure was presumably one of the reasons for selecting him. At some point, I went to a reception hosted by the Master, Sir William Hodge, a mathematician whose special field was Algebraical Geometry. He was a congenial man with a welcoming smile, but I never got to know him, for the occasions of our meeting were always crowded.

Finally I went to see my Director of Studies, Matthew Hodgart, who was responsible for my performance in the English trips. I would have a lot of contact with him over the three years, either as my supervisor for the weekly tutorials or as the overseer of my progress. Matthew was a Scot with a robust English voice, cheerful, sceptical and shrewd. He was my supervisor for many of my nine terms, doing his best to get me to articulate my literary opinions, reading or skimming through my weekly essays, and generally persuading me that English was the most rewarding degree course on offer at Cambridge. I found out later that he had an impressive war record, with medals, having been with a Special Operations unit in North Africa then Corsica, Italy and India; but he never spoke of the war. His literary strengths lay in Scottish Ballads, Samuel Johnson and Joyce, none of which subjects engaged me as an undergraduate. I can't say that I ever learnt very much from Matthew in his tutorials – at least I cannot remember anything that I learnt; I would say that their chief value was to instil the habit of regular literary conversation. He persuaded me to use a less florid writing style, to avoid generalisations that could not be sustained, to recognise the validity of different points of view from my own, and generally to take a more cautious, self-aware attitude to my opinions.

My usual companion for tutorials was Tom Vernon or Tim Longville. After a tutorial session, we would go off and have coffee together, or down to the pub, and continue the conversation. Tim was remarkably well read in modern European literature, and was particularly knowledgeable about contemporary English and American poetry. His father was a coalminer from Staffordshire, I believe, and Tim had attended the local grammar school before coming up to Cambridge. He was the brightest of the Pembroke group of undergraduates who were reading English, in my estimation, and he ended up with a Double First – almost the best result in the University – an exemplary beneficiary of the 1944 Education Act that had opened the way to higher education by means of state funding. Tom Vernon was strongly attracted to theatre and live performance. He played the guitar very well, and at times when he was feeling lively, was almost a one-man show in himself. He went on to have his own programme on television. I remember a tutorial with Tom one morning that was interrupted by a knock on the door followed by the entrance of a handsome figure. Matthew Hodgart lit up at the sight of him, and then introduced us to Ted Hughes. Sherry was produced, and Tom and I sat on the edge of the conversation until the end of the hour, when we departed. Hughes had been a former student of Matthew, but I really did not know who he was, so I had to be enlightened by Tom afterwards. His first two volumes of poetry – by far his best work – must have been displayed on the tables of the Cambridge bookshops during my undergraduate years, but I never bought them. Now those first editions are highly desirable and I profoundly regret I did

not buy them, but I was lamentably uninformed about contemporary poetry when I was reading English at Cambridge!

Students today complain a lot about the lack of contact time with their teachers, so it is salutary to remember that in the 1950s we only had one hour a week of obligatory instruction. The hour-long tutorial sufficed to keep us on track. It was the centre of our academic week. For this tutorial we would write a long essay, to be delivered the day before the session; the essay might or might not be discussed with the tutor, but the subject would be relevant to the topic of the week's tutorial. Writing the essay was the main business of the week. I would spend days in the University Library or the Pembroke Library reading up for it, and perhaps two or three days composing it, often staying up much of the night before it was due to be delivered. It was often twelve or fifteen pages long, and its composition developed the habit of fluent writing. When it was returned there were usually very few comments on it. There seemed to be a general understanding that the reading and research that went into producing this essay were the most valuable parts of the exercise. At this time, seminars were unheard of. The lecture courses were the other sources of instruction, but these were optional, and in most cases, not well attended. There were, however, a few who were exceptional.

From time to time one got caught up in the private lives of one's lecturers. This was enjoyably the case when my Director of Studies at Pembroke arranged for me to have Medieval tutorials with Elizabeth Zeeman. Elizabeth liked to teach from home, as she had a very small daughter, Nikki, to look after. I would go round to her house on Alpha Road and we would start by having coffee at her kitchen table. Then we would go for a long walk round the local streets, taking it in turns to push Nikki in her pram, while we talked about medieval matters. I remember Elizabeth explaining to me at great length the origins and the progress of the Cathar heresy in twelfth-century Languedoc as we walked along, occasionally pausing to pick up a toy ejected from the pram. I had never heard of this heresy, and I was fascinated by its strangeness. I followed up Elizabeth's introduction with extensive reading. On other perambulations we talked about the cultural consequences of the Crusades and the literature of Chivalry. Our walks would end with another cup of coffee and a choice of topic for the next week. I don't think that modern teaching committees these days would approve of the methods of instruction I benefited from, but they were memorable and effective.

My tutor for Medieval Studies in my third year was John Chilcot, who was a postgraduate student at Pembroke then. He was then engrossed in the literature of Chivalry and Romance. He helped me make sense of *Le Chanson de Roland* and *Le Roman de la Rose*, and I remember studying the thirteenth-century romance *Aucassin et Nicolette* with him, reading it in the original Picard dialect. We read a great deal of Chaucer, as well. John decided not to aim for a job in the academic world, and moved into the Civil Service, where he had a distinguished career. He played an influential role in the negotiating of the Good Friday Agreement in the time of Tony Blair, and of course he became known to a wider public as the author of the Chilcot Report, the protracted enquiry into the circumstances of Britain's involvement in the Iraq War. If the romance of

the Middle Ages had exerted a more compelling spell on him, he might well have become an eminent Medievalist. My own Medieval Studies came to a conclusion under the direction of a genuine eminent Medievalist, C.S. Lewis, whose course of lectures I followed in my third year. Lewis had been lured from Oxford in 1954 to become the first Professor of Medieval Studies at Cambridge. He brought a great reputation to the Faculty of English, and he was an accomplished lecturer. He reminded me of our local butcher at home, for he was large and burly, with red-veined cheeks. As I listened to him over the weeks, I gained the impression that he believed that no one could really understand medieval literature unless he were a practising Christian. Nonetheless, I learnt a great deal from his course. I had excellent medieval teaching at Cambridge, but I knew by the time of my third year that my serious interests were inclining towards the Seventeenth Century. The figure I should have got to know better was Basil Willey at my own college, who had a high reputation in Seventeenth-Century Studies. He was the Edward VII Professor of English, the head of the Faculty, and was not particularly accessible. He did not engage in college teaching, being exempt as a result of his eminent position. I did eventually get to know him, and he became one of my referees, but we were never on familiar terms. I recall Basil Willey telling me once that when he gave a lecture at Columbia University, New York, sometime in the Fifties, the academic introducing him said: 'Now, ladies and gentlemen, let us give a warm welcome to Professor Bally Wizzle!'

University life was full of interest and variety, but college life was where one's home was, as it were. At the time when I entered Pembroke, in 1958, about half the undergraduates had completed their National Service, and the rest had come up from school, after a nine month break since taking the Entrance Examinations in the previous December. National Service was still on-going, but coming to an end. If one had a university place, one could choose whether to do one's National Service before going up or defer it until after one graduated. Most people chose to get it out of the way before university, as it was too irksome to contemplate going into the Army after three years of student freedom. However, as it was known that the military requirement was likely to end soon, many of us decided to go to university as soon as we could, in the expectation that National Service would have been abolished by the time we graduated. So the younger intake found themselves mixed with those two or three years older who had already served. The difference was noticeable. Most of the older group had been officers, possessed of greater confidence and authority than their younger counterparts. Some had been on active service. My neighbour who occupied the largest set on my staircase had fought against the Communist insurgents in Malaya. Others had served in Cyprus against the EOKA nationalists, some had even been caught up in the Suez fiasco. Amongst my friends, Gordon Williams, Don MacIntyre, Michael Coala and Mike Walford had been in the forces, and Bernard Adams had even served three years rather than two in order to enjoy additional benefits. These veterans rarely spoke about their time in uniform, but their extra maturity could be felt by their younger contemporaries.

College life had its routines, naturally, not all of which I followed. Breakfast in Hall, for example, finished too early for me, as I always went to bed very late. Near

one's room there was always a little kitchen, known as a gyp room, where one could make one's breakfast at a time to suit oneself. Lunch in Hall was optional, but one was expected to take dinner in Hall as one was charged for it anyway. Gowns had to be worn for dinner, just as they had to be worn for tutorials and for lectures. Gowns marked the official procedures of university life. The dining arrangements surprised me at first. The ancient tables formed three long rows down the hall. Long benches provided the seating. The benches against the wall for the outside rows of tables could only be accessed, once diners had begun to settle in, by clambering across the tables. So, one might be drinking one's soup when a foot would plonk down by one's bowl as a latecomer launched himself over the table to get to a vacant seat on the other side. Other aspects of college dining included the throwing of buns when things got rowdy – the College thoughtfully provided bowls full of buns at intervals down the table. I remember seeing a bun bounce off the portrait of Edmund Spenser. On one occasion a student stood up and announced the imminent coming of Jesus Christ. Consternation and a muted hubbub. Meanwhile college servants would shuffle up and down the aisles, bearing plates and pretending that everything was normal. The food was never particularly good in those days following the end of austerity, so one was allowed to augment one's dinner with what was called a 'sizing', usually sardines or anchovies on toast. One was charged an extra shilling for this treat.

After dinner, people often went off into town for the evening. Concerts, lectures, pubs beckoned, or one might go to the cinema or the Arts Theatre. Wherever you went, you had to wear a gown after Hall. The Proctor and his two Bulldogs patrolled the town in the evenings, formally dressed in mortar board and top hats, to ensure that order was maintained in the streets. They were a formidable trio, who could stop you if something was amiss and put the threatening question 'Are you a member of the University, Sir?' The most common offences were not wearing a gown and riding a bicycle without lights. If you were caught, you were obliged to appear before the Proctor next morning, when you were usually fined 6/8d. The team was most active just after closing time. The College gates were closed at 11.00 pm, after which one had to ring the bell, but after midnight one had to climb in. At this point, one appreciated the usefulness of one's gown for it could be thrown over the spikes on the College wall to cushion the climb over the top. All colleges had weak spots in their defences, known to undergraduates and Porters alike, so climbing in was something of a game. The penalty for being caught was again 6/8d. The way into Pembroke was over the back wall on Tennis Court Road, where there was a lamp-post that got you to the top of the wall. The only problem was that the giant refuse bins of the college were situated just at the point where one fell. Jan Evetts' room was just next to the entry point, so late-night conversations there were punctuated by the occasional dull resonant boom as someone fell into an empty bin. Only later in my time in Cambridge did I learn that the Master of Pembroke thoughtfully left one of the doors to his garage unlocked at night so that students might come in unobtrusively. The existence of this loophole was not widely known.

The Arts Theatre was a frequent after-dinner destination. It offered an excellent range of plays. During my years in Cambridge there was a vogue for Ibsen. The very first play I saw at the Arts was his rarely-performed 'The Enemy of the People', and it seems to me that I saw most of his plays in the next three years, including the almost-impossible-to-stage 'Peer Gynt'. At that performance, I remember we sat immediately behind E.M. Forster. Shaw's plays also enjoyed an extended popularity, understandably so, I thought, as they were so stimulating and always led on to long discussions afterwards about their ideas and paradoxes.

College drama societies provided a rich fare, some of them managing to put on a production every term. The Pembroke Players was probably the best drama society in Cambridge, always able to field a strong cast. The group had recently increased its reputation through the involvement of Peter Cook, Dick Imison and Geoffrey Paxton. Dick later became the Director of BBC Drama and Geoffrey also ended up with the BBC, but it was Peter Cook who drew the most attention because wherever he was there was laughter. In my first year I saw him in N.F. Simpson's surreal play 'A Resounding Tinkle' at the Arts Theatre, and in a college production of Ben Jonson's 'The Alchemist', but as I got to know him I found he was as amusing off-stage as he was on it. He was like a fountain from which entertainment constantly flowed. I don't know that I ever really knew Peter's natural speaking voice, for he almost always spoke in one of the many voices of his characters. In theory he was reading French and German, with a view to a career in the Foreign Office, but by the time I met him, it was pretty clear that his future lay in theatre and satire. Already, in his third year, he had a review, 'Pieces of Eight', running on the West End stage. There was an annual college review called the Pembroke Smoker that took place under dim lights in the Old Reader, a room in the Library, where new sketches were tried out. Everyone wore evening dress and drank a lot of wine. You could hardly see across the room for cigarette smoke. They were marvellous occasions: sketches with a new kind of humour, brilliant piano playing from Hugh MacDonald, witty songs sung by clever women. Peter Cook wrote many of the sketches for the 1959 Smoker, a number of which were later included in 'Beyond the Fringe'. We knew at the time that something really new was happening in comedy, but we had no idea that it would completely change the national style of humour. Peter was an accomplished actor in the classic theatre as well. Every year the Pembroke Players took a Shakespeare production on tour to Germany after it had been performed in college; Peter's role was always the highlight of the show. I joined the Pembroke Players, but I never had the confidence to act, so I remained a moderately useful dogsbody, pleased to be in the magic circle of the society. For some reason, Pembroke seemed to encourage humorists and satirists: Peter Cook, Tim Brooke-Taylor, Bill Oddie, Tom Sharpe and Clive James were all in college within a few years of each other. There must have been something in the water.

Tea was the most hospitable phase of the undergraduate day. It was an opportunity to have friends round for a long conversation, and oftentimes these friends would be young ladies from Newnham and Girton. We went to some lengths to make tea a civilized occasion. Almost invariably it involved a preliminary visit to Fitzbillies, the best cakeshop in Cambridge, which was only

a few yards down Trumpington Street from Pembroke. The mainstay of my teas were buttered crumpets and malt loaf. Fitzbillies' crumpets were five for sixpence, and their incomparable malt loaves a shilling. One toasted the crumpets on the gas fire, then loaded them with butter. There was an affectation for Chinese tea during my undergraduate years, so Lapsang or Gunpowder was the usual offering. Much chatter, laughter, reviewing of lectures, films and plays, and talk about one's current reading filled the afternoon. After a couple of hours, it was time for sherry, and so the day went on. Visiting friends for tea in their rooms was the other side of the picture. Those visits gave me an opportunity to look around other colleges and get to know them from the inside. Walking around the colleges always left me heady with pleasure, so there was so much lovely architecture to take in and enjoy. The most stylish teas were offered by my old school-friend, Basil King, who came up to Trinity when I was in my second year. Not only did he offer a reliably good tea in his spacious room, but he would also give a recital of whatever Beethoven sonata he was currently learning on his grand piano.

Every year, one would have a ritual tea with the Dean of Pembroke, the Rev. Meredith Dewey. He made a point of inviting every undergraduate to tea at least once a year; in this way he got to know individuals, while discreetly indicating that he was always willing to help them if they had problems of any kind. Meredith himself was a most interesting man. He had had a hazardous beginning to the war, as chaplain on a vessel in the unsuccessful Narvik Campaign, and had continued to serve in the Royal Navy until the end. By the later 1950s he was probably the member of the Fellowship most widely known to undergraduates, noted for his love of the Chapel, his kindly nature and his unending hospitality. (He could also be sharp and critical, when dealing with undergraduate discipline). His travels to Kenya every summer were famous, culminating as they did in the climbing of Mount Kilimanjairo. He would bring back mineral specimens from his travels, so his room was cluttered with rocks. He too had a piano that he would occasionally play. He served tea with great care, for he used ancient Chinese cups, extremely thin, many of them cracked and held together by tiny copper rivets. 'I always like to put the milk in first, as it lessens the shock', he would say. I was surprised that the cups actually held liquid. Meredith spent a great deal of time in the garden in front of his room where he could usually be found on most dry days. Like his Master in heaven, he was sometimes mistaken for the gardener. These days, every time I walk past that garden, I expect to see Meredith bending over his spade. I had personal proof of his devoted attention to students in my third year. Late one evening I had been cycling back to my digs from a party at Elizabeth Zeeman's, when on the final stretch on Grange Road my gown had caught in the front wheel. I was thrown over the handlebars and knocked unconscious. When I woke up in Addenbrooke's Hospital next morning, I found the Dean sitting in a chair by my bed, full of concern. I never found out how he learnt of my plight.

Early in my second year, I formed a project to set up a college record library, and approached the Junior Common Room with a request for funding. I was given a generous grant, and the college central funds added some more, so

I was able to buy a considerable number of long-playing classical records, including quite a lot of operas, and set up the collection in my rooms. Since any member of college could borrow them, I came to know many contemporaries whom I might never have met, when they came to browse through the stock. One rarely locked one's rooms in college, so I would often come back to find someone riffling through the records, or even playing a sample on my gramophone. It was a time of almost complete trust in one's fellows. About this time, Jim Morgan built me a large amplifier to attach to my record player, so that I could enjoy the opera sets at a fuller volume, and let the college hear them too. I soon found out that many of my fellow undergraduates were not as enthusiastic about opera as I was, and was persuaded to reduce the volume of my fine new system. I still keep a letter from Bernard Adams requesting that we have less *Rigoletto* at midnight. I also ran the college picture loan scheme, which lent out framed reproductions to undergraduates for the decoration of their rooms. This was done by ballot. I remember that for two years running the most sought-after picture was Dali's *Crucified Christ hanging over the World*. I also had the pleasure of adding new pictures to the stock.

Much of my second year was given to strengthening friendships that I had made in the first, and to enlarging my circle of friends, a process that was helped by my having a good set of rooms in which to entertain. I grew more interested in the architecture that surrounded me, and started to explore the colleges more methodically, paying attention to the great variety of styles on display such a small area. College chapels in particular began to attract me, as I came to realise that their interiors were showcases for the arts of woodwork, plaster, glass and brass. I looked appreciatively at Pembroke chapel, Christopher Wren's first exercise in architecture. I took especial pleasure in going to concerts in college chapels, when I could listen to the music and soak up the architecture at the same time. At Pembroke, perhaps under the influence of Pevsner's lectures, I started to take an interest in the Victorian architect Alfred Waterhouse, who had both damaged and enhanced the college by his alterations in the 1870s. Approved by the Fellows, he had pulled down the medieval hall which he had declared to be unstable but had in the end been obliged to blow it up with dynamite because it proved to be more durable than he imagined. He replaced it with a larger Victorian hall, which in turn had been replaced in the 1920s with an even larger hall, sadly lacking in atmosphere. Waterhouse had also pulled down a fourteenth century range in the first court. In addition, he had proposed to demolish Wren's chapel in order to modernise the college, but the Fellows jibbed at that. However he had added a picturesque library building with a distinctive tower, and designed the Red Building, where I had lived in my first year, in an anomalous French fifteenth-century style, executed in red brick and white stone. Waterhouse was execrated when I was at Pembroke. Yet, looking at these additions and listening to Pevsner, I began to get interested in the Victorian dilemma of style. What architectural style was appropriate for buildings in the Victorian age when modern buildings had to fit into with existing buildings from times when styles were confident and assured? Was Victorian architecture imitative or innovative? Such questions interested me, but I knew no one with whom I could discuss them.

When my third year started in October 1960, I knew I had to concentrate on my academic work, for I would take my final examinations next May, and the results would condition what I could do in the future. I had to move out into digs for this year. As an Exhibitioner, I was entitled to two years in college, but now I took a room in a college-owned house on the Barton Road. It was a short bicycle ride from Pembroke or a twenty-minute walk. I preferred to walk, across Coe Fen where I shouldered my way through the herd of cows that lived there, then along the riverside path. There were five of us living in the Barton Road house. I developed a particular friendship with Bernard Adams, a man of many talents. He was reading Russian and Hungarian, an unusually difficult degree course. He rowed in the Pembroke Fourth Boat and gained his oars in his second year when that boat achieved the exceptional record of making five bumps in the May Races. He was a crack shot in the University Small-Bore Rifle Club, and an excellent musician. I have a vivid memory of Bernard accompanying the famous counter-tenor Alfred Deller and his son Mark Deller in a concert given in the cloisters of Jesus College on a lovely sunny day in May Week. It was the first time the Dellers had sung together in public. They performed the 'Ode on the Death of Henry Purcell' by John Blow for the first time since the seventeenth century, with Christopher Hogwood and David Munrow, both from Pembroke, on harpischord and bassoon, and Bernard playing the recorder. I can remember thinking to myself 'How can Bernard have acquired so many skills in so short a time?'

During the Michaelmas Term in 1960 I came to know a group of overseas students who had come to Pembroke to take a second BA in English, having already completed a first BA in the subject in a university in their own country. The Cambridge course was thought to deepen and broaden their original qualification. These newcomers had formed themselves into a discussion group that met once a week, as a supplement to the teaching offered by the college and the University. I soon joined this group, whose members were John Barnes from the University of Melbourne, Peter Lindenbaum from Harvard, Harold Love from the University of Queensland, Francis King from the University of Western Australia and Father Francis McCarthy, who was an established teacher in Australia. They were all slightly older than me, and Francis McCarthy was about forty. We got on extremely well together, for we all loved talking about literature. I found these meetings the most stimulating occasions for literary criticism of all my time in Cambridge. They were a good example of the observation I heard from several sources that at Cambridge one was more effectively educated by one's fellow students than by the University teachers. I began to spend more time preparing for these weekly gatherings than for my college tutorials. One of us would write a paper on a literary topic, read it out, and then it would be discussed in detail. We concentrated on later nineteenth-century topics. I still remember with pleasure the lively expositions of Hopkins, Pater, Wilde and Samuel Butler, but there were many other subjects, for the meetings continued for much of the year. All of us went on to become university teachers of English, except for Francis McCarthy who proceeded to a career as a headmaster in Catholic schools in Australia.

So the months rolled by, towards the culmination of our studies, the final exams in May. Besides the nine papers one had to sit, one was allowed to submit an additional piece of private work, if one wished. This might be a novel, a play or a collection of poems, or some research paper on a subject of one's own choice. This extra submission would be read by the examiners and given a mark which could be substituted for the lowest mark assigned to one's written papers. I thought this was a generous dispensation. I had become fascinated by the paintings of Hieronymous Bosch, so I decided to explore the religious background to Bosch's work, by finding out more about the unorthodox religious movements in Northern Europe in the late fifteenth century that might have contributed to the mystifying scenarios of Bosch's paintings. This exercise consumed a great deal of time when I was beginning to revise for Finals. Finals came and went, without incident. The chief examiners that year were F.R. Leavis and C.S. Lewis, so I felt I had been seriously examined. All that was left to do was enjoy May Week, which, as has often been remarked, is in June at Cambridge. A week of parties, concerts, plays in halls and gardens, and farewells. It was a lovely way to end three memorable years.

Some Memories of Pembroke, Far Away and Long Ago

Syed Tanvir Wasti (1961)

Pembroke College, Cambridge was by no means unknown to me even from my days as a toddler, because my father had returned to his teaching position (in what was then British India) after completing the Tripos in English in 1939 at Pembroke College. I spent my boyhood with my siblings in a flat in Karachi which, apart from containing hundreds of books, also had a couple of large, framed photographs of Pembroke College on the walls of the drawing room. As part of my Civil Engineering studies in Turkey, I spent several months in 1959 as an Engineer-Apprentice with a firm of Civil Engineers in London. This allowed me to pay day trips to Cambridge to see the Colleges of which, inevitably, Pembroke was the one most important for me. After a couple of years had passed, it was my turn to apply to Pembroke College for admission to postgraduate studies in Engineering on the strength of a scholarship that had been awarded to me by the Central Treaty Organization. I recall conducting correspondence by post with the then Adviser for Foreign Students, Mr Norman Scarlyn Wilson,¹ who encouraged me in my efforts.

Pembroke College informed me that I had been granted admission to begin postgraduate studies in Engineering and that I was to join the College at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term in October 1961. In my longhand correspondence with the College, I had been impressed by the fact that they had asked me if I wished to stay for the allotted period of one year in the room my father had occupied (O11) almost a quarter of a century earlier. I had replied that I would prefer centrally heated accommodation if it was available. The result was that I had been allotted room W11 on the ground floor of the Orchard Building, at the time the newest building in the grounds of Pembroke College. Entering the staircase with my bags, I found WASTI painted both above the door of my

bedsitting room and on a small wooden board at eye level that had an IN-OUT sign. From the window of my room, my father's old room and part of New Court were clearly visible. My lodgings secured, I entered at once into the life of the College. This began by my purchasing a Graduate Gown, meeting my genial and friendly Tutor, Mr Anthony Camps (who was later to serve as Master of Pembroke College), signing up for meals in the College Hall and taking care of a host of other matters. My academic supervisor, Dr Frederick Leckie,² was also a Fellow of Pembroke College, although we met regularly in his office in the Department of Engineering, a five minute walk away from Pembroke. And now to a few other Pembroke memories!

Like many Cambridge students, I had become a member of the Cambridge Union after reaching Cambridge in 1961. With my debating and radio broadcasting experience in Pakistan, I also took the opportunity of speaking in a debate about Britain joining the European Common Market at the Cambridge Union. Sometime in 1962, however, I began to take a greater interest in the Pembroke College Debating Society ('PCDS'). This Society had had a venerable past and, at a suitable juncture, it was decided to choose a new President for the Society by holding a Balloon Debate.

The scenario was that of a balloon losing altitude but containing several prominent people, each one being defended by a speaker who had about 10 minutes to argue why, in the interests of safety, the other candidates and not the one he was defending had to be thrown out of the balloon. Of course, all speakers had deliberately been awarded candidates whom they would not normally care to defend. As far as I recall, Chris Woon had to defend the Pope, I had to defend Jawaharlal Nehru, and others had to defend General de Gaulle, Ingemar Johansson, Edward Heath, Fidel Castro, Lord Beaverbrook and Lord Snowdon. It was a riotous and funny evening. The debate took place in the Old Reader and was well-attended. Chris Woon got a big laugh for revealing that the Pope's telephone number was VAT 69. I prepared my speech well and delivered it after putting on a thin 'Nehru cap' of white cotton which I claimed I had borrowed from a chef in the Pembroke kitchens. By acclamation, my defence was chosen as the best, and thus I took charge as President of the PCDS for three terms, starting with the Easter Term 1963.

The first debate of my term as President took place in the Old Reader on Sunday 28 April 1963 with the proposition: 'This House believes that charity rather than chastity is the supreme moral virtue'. There were four speakers for the motion (Richard Palmer, Barbara Flood, Howard Kirby and Anthony Moon) and three against (Hugh Motion, Charles Kelly and David Forbes). A large and lively crowd turned up for this debate. The second debate was held on Sunday 9 June 1963 with the light-hearted motion: 'This House considers that all short-sighted hens should wear spectacles'. The two speakers for the proposition were John Perry and Roger Stokes and, speaking against the motion, were Chris Woon and Eric Idle. It was another hilarious evening.

For one of the debates of the Michaelmas Term, which took place in the refurbished Old Library on Sunday 20 October 1963, I was able to cajole Sir Sydney Roberts into proposing the motion: 'This House is not quite what it used

to be'. Sir Sydney had been President of the PCDS in 1909 and to provide a counter-weight we requested the Law Fellow and former President of the PCDS (in 1926), Mr Bryan King, to oppose the motion. The other two speakers were Michael Rowan-Robinson and Yorick Wilks, both of whom went on in later years to become well-known Professors in the United Kingdom. The photograph below records this memorable debate with Sir Sydney putting forth his cogent arguments. I vividly recall, however, that at the end of the evening the motion was defeated!



L to R: Michael Rowan-Robinson; Sir Sydney Roberts; myself (with the Presidential trappings), Mr Bryan King; Yorick Wilks; Roger Stokes, Secretary, PCDS

A couple of terms and a few debates later, in the first half of 1964, it was my pleasure to hand over the office of President of the PCDS to Jeremy Rosen. My own time at Cambridge was drawing to a close, and I immersed myself in the preparation of my doctoral dissertation for the next few months.

End Notes

¹ Norman Scarlyn Wilson (1901–1996), well known as the author of the books titled *Teach Yourself French* and *Teach Yourself Spanish*. He was a Fellow at Pembroke and also held the ceremonial position of Esquire Bedell at Cambridge University. He was excellent company and a generous host. I also learned that he was the author of crime fiction under the pseudonym Anthony Webb.

² Professor Frederick Alexander Leckie hailed from Scotland and had had a brilliant academic career, finishing his PhD at Stanford University. He went from Cambridge to the University of Leicester, then to the University of Illinois and finally to the University of California, Santa Barbara. I was saddened to learn of his death in June 2013 from the *Pembroke Gazette*.

Connections and Continuities: Travels through Poetry, Anthropology and Music

Alan Trist (1961)

To be matriculated into a lifetime's membership of a Cambridge college is a formal event befitting its gravitas of expectation and promise. At the celebratory dinner in Pembroke in October 1961, Richard Burns (aka Berengarten) and I sat opposite each other at one of the three long parallel oak tables in hall, and thereafter our lives became entangled. More than 60 years have passed since that first meeting. It is a pleasure and a privilege to reflect on them.

Richard read English and ever since then has remained true and productive in his vocation as a poet. As a dedicated internationalist, he has consistently bucked against still-prevalent insular trends in English poetry. Over the years he has spent periods living in Italy, Greece, the USA, and former Yugoslavia; and he has worked extensively in many parts of the world as a poet, English teacher and lecturer. Since 1969, his homebase has been in Cambridge, where in 1975, he founded and launched the first international Cambridge Poetry Festival, a major biennial event that lasted until 1985. He has been an Academic Advisor at Pembroke since 2008.

As an undergraduate I read Anthropology, more on which below. I record here the names of several other good friends in our year at Pembroke: Andrew Chadwick (b. 1942), architect; Barrie Irving (1942–2013), criminologist; Robert (Bob) Adkinson (1943–2013), publisher; Robert Maurice-Williams (b. 1942), neurosurgeon; Jonathan Lynn (b. 1943), film director; Sebastian Santa-Cruz, economist.

After many years, Richard and I met on the occasion of his poetry reading tour of the United States in 2012, in the San Francisco Bay Area where I had been living since 1970. On that occasion, he presented me with a screenprint version of his 365-line chant-poem 'Tree' (1988), a simultaneous paean to life's heritage and continuity and – seen in retrospect – a presciently timely, plaintive warning for our ecological plight. We visited a 'cathedral' redwood grove, as if to imbue the poem with piney aromas and filtered light.

Some years later, in 2016, Richard surprised me with the news that he had just published a new book, *Changing*. This consisted of 448 poems, one for each hexagram in the venerable Chinese book of oracles, the I Ching, and one for each change-line. This is surely his masterwork to date. While Berengarten affirms that *Changing* is rooted in, structured by, and inspired by the I Ching, he is unequivocal that 'it is not a translation or a commentary'.

And therein lies a tale. In the newly born and self-informing communities of California in the 1960s, it was unusual not to find a worn copy of the I Ching on someone's bookshelf. I had started consulting the I Ching in 1961, and while my record of appeals to the oracle over the years has been haphazard, this ancient text has never been far from reach: a friend – stern, kind, reliable, trustworthy – and simultaneously enigmatic and direct. And in 2016, much to my surprise, I learned through *Changing* that Richard, too, had long been a dedicated student, since 1963.

His purpose in contacting me in 2016 was exciting. Such was the resonance of *Changing* among Sinologists, and poets and philosophers both east and west, that a book of essays was to be published on this work. Richard felt that, having worked with the *I Ching* for decades, I might add a different, practising voice to this collection with an essay of my own ('Zen of the Tao' in *Under the Sign of the I Ching*). While *Changing* professes to be no more than 'a poem, or a gathering of poems' – in my case it inevitably became an auxiliary text to the oracle, indeed its expressive variant, and even its valid representation, to be consulted alongside standard texts and translations. I actively treat Richard's *Changing* in the essay as a way into life's Way, in the spirit of Taoism.

As mentioned above, I read Social Anthropology. Those were the days of Meyer Fortes, Edmund Leach and Jack Goody. Initially, these studies led to employment at the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in London, where an interdisciplinary group of social scientists was studying the rapidly changing cultures of work organization in a post-WWII world. The Tavistock Institute had been co-founded by my father, Eric Trist, who himself had graduated from Pembroke in the 1930s. The practice of looking at the world through the lens of social science has never left me, even though my 'Way' soon took a different course.

In the late 1960s, I came to a fork in the road. In 1961, during a gap-year between school and taking up my place at Pembroke, I lived in California. There, while occasionally auditing classes at Stanford, I spent much of my time with a group of young artists, musicians and high-school graduates looking for ways into adulthood. These included members of what later became the rock group, the Grateful Dead. Happily for me, from its beginnings in San Francisco, by the late 1960s their music was taking off across America; and in 1970 members of the band invited me to join their management team.

The alternative road before me – a social science career in a changing British industry – did have its worthwhile attractions, but appealed personally less than participation in the generational changes then occurring, especially in the USA. So I chose to work for the Grateful Dead, and remained in my post with them, ending a career as their music publisher and retiring in 2016.

My gratitude for studentship in an ancient seat of learning has always been a palpable reality. For in various flexible working roles, backgrounds in both Cambridge Social Anthropology and work organization at the Tavistock Institute turned out to be useful. In accord with the times, the band members eschewed the then current forms and arrangements of the 'music business', preferring to work with friends and amateurs in what might well be described as a modern variant of a far older tradition: the cordial 'extended family'. In a Pembrokean grace note, Nicholas Meriwether, Director of the Grateful Dead Studies Association, and my colleague in current legacy studies was a Pembroke graduate student 1988–1990, and as a cultural historian now unearths new meanings from their lives, work and times.

Such, for me, are some of the delights of connection and reconnection, stretching across three generations, occasioned by membership of the Pembroke community. When I revisited Cambridge in 2019, Richard helped to arrange a

room in college. From the new Garden Court, I could see my old staircase in New Court. We also attended High Table. When the Fellows and we guests filed in from the Senior Common Room, all the students at the long tables rose and stood until we were all assembled for Grace, just as we had risen and stood in ritual respect half a century previously. Now, though, I was the oldest person in the entire space: the arc of history is rarely so poignantly symbolised.

Isn't this brief sketch of several intertwining paths in, through and out of Pembroke typical of how former students experience and think of the College? For haven't we all made lifelong friendships both within and across our so-called 'disciplines'?

Michael Llewellyn-Smith (1962)

I came up in 1962 and had a room on T staircase. There were no timber and glass doors in those days – the staircase was completely open. Short hair, collars and ties, sports jackets and blazers were still the norm. After a restless first night in a new bed, I awoke to a strange aroma wafting up the open staircase. Sitting on the bottom step was a Frenchman, Pierre, with very long hair, an open neck shirt, blue jeans and open sandals smoking marijuana. The Swinging Sixties and a youth revolution had arrived in the UK. The well-known route into the college after the midnight curfew was up the lamp post in Tennis Court Road, across the bicycle shed roof and down the drainpipe. But Pierre's claim to fame was that he was often climbing out of college using this route to go to parties in town when we were climbing in.

In my final undergraduate year, I lived in Mrs Kathleen Moy's hostel in Botolph Lane. Mrs Moy was the indomitable Domestic Supervisor and very strict about the 12-midnight curfew. I had the room on the ground floor and was often up late working on my drawing board for the current architectural project. Eric had the room on the top floor, and it was not uncommon for him to knock on my window in the early hours of the morning to open the front door and let him in. He and other members of the Footlights Club used to relax by playing soccer on Parkers Piece in the dark.

The Proctors only allowed two concerts a term in the Footlights Club so aspiring comedians used college Smoking Concerts to practice their material. The Pembroke smokers of the mid-sixties were famous. They were held in the basement under the library with the only access via an external entrance near Pitt's statue, now closed off. The setting was cabaret style with mandatory Black Tie and evening gowns. The atmosphere was full of thick cigar smoke and cheap Beaujolais wine. I acted as the House Manager and organised the tickets and set up the seating and stage. One year Clive James was the producer of the smoker. Tim and Bill did a sketch which was certainly a forerunner for one on the 'Goodies'. Eric played the guitar and sang one of his ditties accompanied by Jonathan Lynn on the drums. Clive himself delivered an hilarious monologue. But it was topped off by a guest appearance of an Australian artist 'Romaine Rand' who was actually Germaine Greer. Clive had known years earlier her from their Sydney University Revue days. She was then at Newnham writing a PhD.

'Romaine' appeared in a nun's habit and proceeded to do a strip tease down to a micro bikini which left little to the imagination. The smokers ran for four nights, and the Dons traditionally came on the last night and were rolling around laughing somewhat intoxicated. Clive accurately records this in his book 'May week was in June' but didn't name the Dons except the Dean, who Clive asserts bit through the stem of his pipe at the sight.

MA Degree

The following information concerning the MA degree may be useful to members of the Society:

Standing: a Bachelor of Arts may be admitted Master of Arts six* calendar years after the end of his or her first term of residence, provided that (which is usually the case) at least two years have elapsed since taking the BA degree.

Fees: a fee of £5 is payable by those who took their BA degree in 1962 or earlier.

Please give at least four weeks' notice before the Congregation at which you wish to take your degree. Correspondence should be addressed to the Praelector.

* For affiliated students, five years.

Dining Rights and Guest Rooms

Dining rights

Members who hold an MA or other Master's degree or a higher degree from the University, or are qualified for one of the aforementioned degrees from the University, are welcome to dine in College during Full Term or the period of residence in the Long Vacation. For the academic year 2025–2026, 'Full Term' means Tuesday 7 October to Friday 5 December, Tuesday 20 January to Friday 20 March, and Tuesday 28 April to Friday 19 June; residence in the Long Vacation runs for five weeks from early July.

- Dining for Members is available on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays during term or Long Vacation Residence, except on occasions when large College events take place.
- A Member may dine as a guest of the College at High Table up to four times each academic year (once a term and once in the Long Vacation Residence), provided a Fellow or other authorised person is present to preside. On one of those occasions, overnight accommodation is free of charge for the Member if it is available.
- If a Member is attending a Members' Evening with a guest, and sharing a guest room, the charge is waived. The waiver does not apply if this is not the Member's first dinner of the year.

It is regrettably not normally possible for spouses/partners to dine at the High Table. However, for the academic year 2025–2026, the College intends to hold nine 'Members' Evenings', when up to five Members and their guests (ten people in all) may dine at the College's expense. It is recommended that large parties of Members, or Members and their spouses/partners, should seek to use these evenings as particularly good opportunities to dine in the College. The dates of these occasions in 2025–2026 are: (in 2025) Tuesday 21 October, Monday 27 October and Sunday 9 November, and (in 2026) Monday 9 February, Sunday 22 February, Tuesday 10 March, Tuesday 12 May, Tuesday 19 May, and Monday 8 June. Attendance by a Member and their guest at such Evenings is restricted to two per annum, to allow as many Pembroke Members as possible to avail themselves of this opportunity.

On the evening that you have booked in to dine, we would be grateful if you could arrive at the Senior Parlour no later than 7.15 pm for drinks before dinner. The dress code is smart but it is not obligatory to wear a gown.

Guest rooms

- Overnight accommodation may also be available in College, at a reasonable charge (one person £736, two people £112 per night).
- Accommodation is available for a maximum of two consecutive nights.
- Guest rooms may only be booked by Fellows or Pembroke Members. If a Pembroke Member books the room, he or she should be the one, or one of the people, to stay in it. It is not normally possible to reserve rooms for non-Pembroke members.
- If available, overnight accommodation is free of charge for the Member, once a year, when a Member dines as a guest of the College at High Table.
- The College regrets that children under the age of 14 are unable to stay overnight at Pembroke.

The College has up to five *en-suite* guest rooms (one twin-bedded room in H staircase and four double-bedded rooms in H, K and WB staircases). Given these limited facilities, early notice is strongly advised when making inquiries.

The College would be grateful to be informed at the earliest opportunity if a Member's plans to visit have to be amended. Pembroke regrets that it will be necessary to charge a Member for the full cost of the room in the event that that Member should cancel his or her visit without giving at least 24 hours' notice.

College accommodation is usually available from 2 pm on the day of arrival. Guests are asked to check out and remove their luggage before 9.30 am on the day of departure (but the Porters' Lodge can store luggage until later in the day if necessary). Breakfast is not included in the charge but Members are welcome to have breakfast in the Servery (usually open Monday to Friday in term time between 8 am and 10 am and for brunch at the weekend between 10 am and 1.15 pm, 11 am – 1.15 pm out of term). Payments are accepted by card only.

How to book

arrangements for dining or for staying in a guest room should be made by completing and submitting the Accommodation and Dining Online Booking Form (<https://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/alumni-development/connecting-pembroke/dining-rights-and-guest-rooms/accommodation-and-dining-online>).

Bookings can be made between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday (although urgent enquiries can be dealt with outside those hours by contacting the Porters' Lodge on 01223 338100). A provisional guest room booking will be made on receipt of the enquiry. We ask that payment be made within one working day to confirm the booking by telephoning 01223 339079 with your payment details. A full refund can be provided if the booking is cancelled with at least 24 hours' notice.

If you experience any difficulties using the online form, please phone the Development Office on 01223 339079 or email dev@pem.cam.ac.uk.

