A portrait of Saint John Henry Newman by Walter William Ouless
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COLLEGE RECORD
VISITOR
Her Majesty the Queen

PROVOST
The Lord Mendoza of King's Reach, MA

FELLOWS
Andrew Timothy Boothroyd, MA (MA, PhD Cantab); Professor of Physics; Rhodes Fellow and Tutor in Physics
John Michael Spivey, MA, DPhil (MA Cantab); Misys and Andersen Fellow, Tutor in Computer Science; Vice-Provost
Annette Marianne Volfing, MA, DPhil, FBA; Professor in Medieval German Studies; Knight Fellow and Tutor in Modern Languages (German)
David Michael Hodgson, MA (BSc Bath; PhD Southampton); Todd Fellow, Professor of Chemistry and Tutor in Chemistry
Lynne Suzanne Cox, MA (MA, PhD Cantab); George Moody Fellow and Tutor in Biochemistry
Teresa Jean Morgan, MA (MA, PhD Cantab); William and Nancy Turpin Fellow and Tutor in Ancient History
Oliver Edward Edmund Pooley, MA, BPhil, DPhil; Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy; Senior Dean
Bruno Gabriel Felix Currie, MA, DPhil; Monro Fellow and Tutor in Classics
John Edgar Huber, MA, DPhil (MA, MEng, PhD Cantab); TI Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science
Edward Wilfrid Stephenson, MA (MA Cantab), MCT; Treasurer and Bursar
Yadvinder Singh Malhi, MA (MA Cantab; PhD Reading), FRS; Professor of Ecosystem Science and Jackson Senior Research Fellow in Biodiversity and Conservation
Ian James Forrest, MA, DPhil (MA, MPhil Glasgow); Professor of Social and Religious History; Catto Fellow and Tutor in History; Fellow Archivist
Christopher Charles Bowdler, MA, MPhil, DPhil (BA Cantab); MacPherson Fellow and Tutor in Economics
Juliane Kerkhecker, MA (Staatsexamen Tübingen); Fellow by Special Election, Grocyn Lecturer and Tutor in Classics
Michael Peter Devereux, MA (MSc LSE; PhD London); Professorial Fellow in Business Taxation
Christopher Peter Conlon, MA (MB, BS, MD London), FRCP; Fellow in Clinical Medicine and Director of Clinical Medical Studies
Lucinda Anne Ferguson, MA, BCL, PG Dip, LATHE (LLM Queen’s University, Canada); Fellow and Tutor in Law
John Hamish Armour, MA, BCL (LLM Yale; BVC London), FBA; Professor of Law and Finance
Julia Carolin Mannherz, MA (MA London; PhD Cantab); Rhodes Fellow and Tutor in History
Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra, MA (MPhil, PhD Cantab); Colin Prestige Fellow, Professor of Metaphysics and Tutor in Philosophy; Senior Tutor
Lars Fugger, MA (MD, PhD, DMedSc Copenhagen); Mary Machin Fellow and Professor of Neuroimmunology
Ian Robert Horrocks, MA (MSc, PhD Manchester), FRS; Professorial Fellow in Computer Science
Sandra Robertson, MA (BA Edinburgh); Professorial Fellow in Finance; Chief Investment Officer, Oxford University Endowment Management

William Dalton Wood, MA (MA, PhD Chicago); Clifford Potter Fellow and Tutor in Theology

Kobi Kremnitzer, BA (MSc, PhD Tel Aviv); Fellow and Tutor in Pure Mathematics

Mungo Wilson, BA (MSc LSE; PhD Harvard); Non-Tutorial Fellow in Economics

Kathryn Jean Murphy, MA, MSt, DPhil (MA Glasgow); Fellow and Tutor in English Literature; Fellow Librarian

James Frank Sparks, MA (PhD Cantab); Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

Sean Bernard Power, MA (BA, MA Dunelm); Director of Development; Dean of Degrees

Lyndal Anne Roper, MA (BA Melbourne; PhD London), FBA, FRHistS; Regius Professor of History

Paul Wayne Yowell, MA, BCL, MPhil, DPhil; Benn Fellow and Tutor in Law; Tutor for Graduates

Justin Porter Coon, MA (BS Clemson; PhD Bristol); Emmott Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science

Hindy Najman, MA (BA Yeshiva; MA, PhD Harvard); Oriel and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture; Director of the Centre for the Study of the Bible

Luca Castagnoli, MA (BA Bologna; PhD Cantab); Stavros Niarchos Foundation Fellow in Ancient Greek Philosophy

Teresa Mia Bejan, MA (BA Chicago; MPhil Cantab; PhD Yale); Fellow and Tutor in Politics

Maike Bublitz, MA (Dipl Biol Dr rer nat Braunschweig); Ron Bancroft Fellow in Biochemistry

Patrick Emmet Farrell, MA (BSc National University of Ireland; PhD Imperial); Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

Víctor Acedo-Matellán, MA (BA Valladolid; BA, MA, PhD Barcelona); Fellow and Tutor in Linguistics and Spanish

Julien Devriendt, MA (MA, PhD Paris XI Orsay); Fellow and Tutor in Physics

Andrew Wells, MA (MA, PhD, CASM Cantab); Fellow and Tutor in Physics

Robert James David Wainwright, MA, MSt, DPhil (BA Dunelm); Fellow and Chaplain; Tutor for Admissions and Outreach; Dean of Visiting Students

Nicholas Gaskill, MA (BA Birmingham-Southern College; MA, PhD North Carolina); Fellow and Tutor in American Literature

Sumana Sanyal, MA (MSc Indian Institute of Technology; PhD Cornell); Fellow and Tutor in Medicine (from January 2020)

David Nicholas Maw, MA, DPhil, FRCO; Fellow and Tutor in Music; Director of Music (from January 2020)

Mark Robert Wynn, MA, DPhil; Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion (from July 2020)

ADAM DE BROME FELLOW

John Cook, MA

RALEIGH FELLOW

Charles A Potter, (JD Detroit)
ISOBEL LAING POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
Lisa Heather, DPhil (BSc Surrey); British Heart Foundation Intermediate Fellow

RESEARCH FELLOW AND DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
David Nicholas Maw, MA, DPhil, FRCO (to December 2019)

HAYWARD JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS
Luis Alberto Baena Lopez, (BSc, PhD Madrid)
Jerome Sallet, (BSc Marseille; MSc Toulouse; PhD Lyon)

JACKSON SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE
Constance Lynne McDermott, (BA Amherst; MSc Washington; PhD British Columbia)

JACKSON JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN THE ENVIRONMENT
Philipp Grunewald, (MSc, PhD Imperial; Dipl Eng Wedel), FICE

TURPIN JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN PHILOSOPHY
Martin James Pickup, MA, BPhil, DPhil (MA London)

SIR JOHN ELLIOTT JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN EUROPEAN HISTORY 1500-1800
Cecilia Tarruell, (BA Complutense; MA Universidad Autonóma de Madrid; PhD EHESS)

JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN TROPICAL ECOLOGY
Immaculada Oliveras Menor, (BSc, PhD Barcelona)

BRITISH ACADEMY JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN CLASSICAL LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
Frederico Favi, (BA, MA Rome; PhD Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa)

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW IN THE HEBREW BIBLE
Yael Fisch, (BA, MA, PhD Tel Aviv)

JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS – AGAINST BREAST CANCER
Andrew Nicholas Blackford, (BSc Dunelm; MRes York; PhD Birmingham); Against Breast Cancer Research Fellow in Oncology
Simon Richard Lord, DPhil, BM, FRCP; Against Breast Cancer Research Fellow in Oncology

SUPERNUMERARY RESEARCH FELLOWS
Eric Beinhocker, (BA Dartmouth; MSc MIT); Professor of Public Policy Practice
Max Crispin, MBiochem, DPhil, MRSC, FRSB; Professor of Glycobiology, University of Southampton
Nicholas Eyre, MA, DPhil; Supernumerary Research Fellow in Energy

DEANS
Holly Lois Sadler, BA
Charles Tebbutt, MSc (BA London)
Rebekah Elizabeth Van Sant-Clark, MPhil (BA London)
Abi George Yates, (MSci London)

GRADUATE TEACHING AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS
Julian Ashwin, BA, MPhil; Economics
Artem Kaznatcheev, (BSc McGill); Computer Science
Thomas Gordon Ham McConnell, MSt (BA Exeter); Classics
Phacharaphorn Phanomvan na Ayudhya, DPhil; History
Leandro Sánchez-Betancourt, (BSc UNAM; MSc KCL); Mathematics
Emma Slade, (MScI UCL); Physics
Nicholas Stenner, MPhil (BCom (Hons), BSc Auckland); Economics

EMERITUS FELLOWS
William Edward Parry, MA, DPhil; formerly Tutor in Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics
James Frank Offen, MA, FRICS; formerly Estates Bursar
Brigadier Michael James Fowler Stephens, MA (MA Cantab), CEng, MICE; formerly Bursar
Richard Granville Swinburne, MA, BPhil, DipTheol, FBA; formerly Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion
David William Maskell, MA, DPhil; formerly Tutor in Modern Languages (French)
Robert Anthony Beddard, MA, DPhil (BA London; MA Cantab), FRHistS; formerly Sir Zelman Cowen Fellow and Tutor in Modern History
Keith Owen Hawkins, MA, DPhil (MA, PhD, Dip Criminol Cantab; LLB Birmingham); formerly University Professor in Law and Society and Tutor in Law
Graham Francis Vincent-Smith, MA, DPhil; formerly Philip and Pauline Harris Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics
George Gordon MacPherson, MA, BM, DPhil; formerly Reader in Experimental Pathology, Turnbull Fellow and Tutor in Medicine, Senior Tutor and Tutor for Graduates
Lauchlan Glenn Black, MA, DPhil (BA Cape Town); formerly Fellow and Tutor in English Literature and Senior Tutor

Richard Henry Stefan Tur, MA (LLB Dundee); formerly Benn Fellow and Tutor in Jurisprudence
Mark François Edward Philip, MA, MPhil, DPhil (BA Bradford; MSc Leeds); formerly Fellow and Tutor in Politics
David Owain Maurice Charles, MA, BPhil, DPhil; formerly Colin Prestige Fellow and Senior Research Fellow in Philosophy
The Revd John Barton, MA, DPhil, DLitt (Hon DrTheol Bonn), FBA; formerly Oriel and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture
Douglas Kinnear Hamilton, MA, DPhil; formerly Emmott Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science
Pedro Gil Ferreira, MA (Lic Lisbon; PhD London); formerly Fellow and Tutor in Physics
Brian Lee Leftow, MA (MA, MPhil, PhD Yale); formerly Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion

HONORARY FELLOWS
Thomas Henry Bull Symons, CC, OOnt, MA, LLD, FRSC (BA Toronto; DU Ottawa; DLitt Columbia)
The Rt Hon The Lord Harris of Peckham (Philip Charles)
Professor Sir Michael Eliot Howard, CH, OM, CBE, MC, MA, DLitt, FBA, FRHistS; formerly Regius Professor of Modern History (deceased November 2019)
Sir Bryan Hubert Nicholson, KB, GBE, MA, FRSA
Professor Thomas Noel Mitchell, MA, MRIA (MA Dublin, National University of Ireland; PhD Cornell); formerly Provost, Trinity College Dublin
Lady Pauline Harris, DBE, DL
Seng Tee Lee, FBA
Professor Eric Foner, MA (BA, PhD Columbia); formerly Harmsworth Professor of American History

Professor Sir John Huxtable Elliott, MA (BA, MA, PhD Cantab), FBA; formerly Regius Professor of Modern History

Professor Charles Brian Handy, CBE, MA (SM MIT)

The Hon Sir Michael Wright, MA

The Rt Hon Lord Murphy of Torfaen (Paul), MA, KCMCO, KSG, PC

John Hegarty, (MA, PhD National University of Ireland), FInstP, MRIA; formerly Provost, Trinity College Dublin

Anthony Peter de Houghton Collett, MA; formerly Secretary to the Development Trust

The Rt Hon Lord Morgan of Aberdyfi (Kenneth Owen), MA, DPhil, DLitt, FBA, FRHistS

Sir David Geoffrey Manning, GCMG, KCVO, MA

James Mellon, MA

Professor Sir John Stuart Vickers, MA, MPhil, DPhil, FBA; Warden of All Souls College

Professor David Hearnshaw Barlow, MA (BSc, MD Glasgow), FRCOG, FRCP, FMedSci, FRSE; formerly Nuffield Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology; formerly Executive Dean of Medicine, Glasgow School of Medicine

Professor Robert Fox, MA, DPhil, FSA; formerly Professor of the History of Science

Sir Albert Aynsley-Green, DPhil, FRCP, FRCPE, FRCPH, FMedSci

Jonathan Barnes, MA, FBA

The Hon James Farley, QC, MA (BA Western Ontario; LLB Toronto)

Professor Colin Peter Mayer, CBE, MA, MPhil, DPhil; formerly Dean, Saïd Business School

Sir Crispin Henry Lamart Davis, BA

Robert John Weston Evans, MA, DPhil, FBA; formerly Regius Professor of History

Professor Patrick John Prendergast, (BA, BAI, PhD, ScD Trinity College Dublin) FTCD, MRIA; Provost, Trinity College Dublin

Robert McHenry, MA, DPhil; formerly Tutor in Psychology

Sir Michael McWilliam, KCMG, MA, BLitt; formerly Director of SOAS

Sir Derek James Morris, MA, DPhil (DSc Cran; DCL UEA; LLD NUI); formerly Provost

Thomas Colm Kelleher, MA, FCA

Jonathan Stewart Lane, OBE, MA, FRICS

Philip Strone Stewart Macpherson, MA, (MBA INSEAD)

Professor Julia Alison Noble, OBE, MA, DPhil, FEng; Technikos Professor of Biomedical Engineering; formerly TI Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science

John Albert, MA; formerly Adam de Brome Fellow; formerly President, Oriel Society

Robin Harland, MA; formerly Adam de Brome Fellow

Sir Paul Preston, KB, CBE, MA, DPhil, FBA, FRHistS; Príncipe de Asturias Professor, London School of Economics

Professor Peter Biller, MA, DPhil, FRHistS, FBA

Professor Sarah Coakley, MA (MA, PhD Cantab), FBA; Professorial Research Fellow, Australian Catholic University; Honorary Professor, St Andrews University; formerly Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity, University of Cambridge; formerly Tutor in Theology

The Rt Revd Frank Tracy Griswold, MA (AB Harvard); formerly Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church

Professor Stephen A. Smith, MA (PhD Birmingham), FBA
Moira Paul Wallace, OBE, MA (MA Cantab; AM Harvard); formerly Provost
Professor Malcolm Russell Airs, OBE, MA, DPhil, FSA, FRHistS, IHBC; formerly Professor of Conservation and the Historic Environment and Vice-President of Kellogg College
John Richard Shannon, MA, FCA

LECTURERS
Katrin Maria Kohl, MA (BA, MA, PhD London; MA CNNA); Fellow of Jesus College; Lecturer in German
Clive Newton, QC, MA, BCL; Lecturer in Jurisprudence
Julie Alexandra Evelyn Curtis, MA, DPhil; Fellow of Wolfson College; Lecturer in Russian
Giuseppe Antonio Stellardi, MA (DottFil, DipPerfFil Pavia; DEA, PhD Sorbonne); Fellow of St Hugh’s College; Lecturer in Italian
Simon Andrew Skinner, MA, MPhil, DPhil, FRHistS; Fellow of Balliol College; Lecturer in History
David Nicholas Maw, MA, DPhil, FRCO; Lecturer in Music (to December 2019)
Elinor Payne, MA (MA, MPhil, PhD Cantab; PG Diploma SOAS); Fellow of St Hilda’s College; Lecturer in Linguistics
Marion Elizabeth Turner, MA, DPhil (MA York); Fellow of Jesus College; Lecturer in English
Richard Tyrrell Coggins, MA, DPhil; Lecturer in Politics
Andrew William Kenneth Farlow, MPhil (MA Cantab); Lecturer in Economics
Nicholas Jackson Brett Green, MA, DPhil; Lecturer in Chemistry
Sarah Elizabeth Lilian Bennett, MSt, DPhil (BA York); Lecturer in English (MT 2019)
Hugh Robert Collins Rice, MA, MLitt (MA Sussex); Lecturer in Music
Pamela Virginia Lear, (BSc, PhD London); Lecturer in Medicine
A.K.M. Adam, (BA Bowdoin; MDiv, STM Yale; PhD Duke); Lecturer in Theology
Victor Lee, MA, DPhil (BSc, MPhil Hong Kong); Lecturer in Chemistry
Krzysztof Brzeziński, (BA, MSc Warsaw; PhD Manchester); Lecturer in Economics
Kirstin Gwyer, BA, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in German
Tomasz Czepiel, DPhil (BMus Lancaster); Lecturer in Music
Stefano Gogioso, MA, DPhil (MA, MAST Cantab; BSc, MSc Genova); Lecturer in Computer Science
Douglas Kinnear Hamilton, MA, DPhil; Lecturer in Engineering Science
Matthew Peter Mills, MA, BCL (LLM London); Lecturer in Law
Hannah Bailey, DPhil (MA York; BA Mount Holyoke College); Lecturer in English (MT 2019)
Arjen Feike Bakker, (BA, MA Amsterdam; MA, PhD Leuven); Lecturer in Theology
Stefanie Burkert-Burrows, MSt (Staatexamen Eichstädt; PGCE Manc Met); Lecturer in German
Suzanne Chiodo, MA (LLM Osgoode Hall Law School, JD Western University); Lecturer in Law
Panagiotis Doudonis, MPhil, MJur (LLB Athens); Lecturer in Law
Simone Falco, DPhil; Lecturer in Engineering Science
Tristan Emil Franklino, MPhil, DPhil (MA St Andrews); Lecturer in Classical Language and Literature
Aarti Jagannath, MSc, DPhil; Lecturer in Medicine
Francesco Manzini, (PhD UCL); Lecturer in French
Matthew Tranter, BA (PhD Imperial); Lecturer in Medicine
Coralie Schneider, (MA, ENS Cachan & Paris Diderot); Lecturer in French
Marie Kawthar Daouda, (PhD, MA Sorbonne); Lecturer in French
Claire Pearson, (BSc, PhD London); Lecturer in Medicine
Irina Voiculescu, (PhD Bath); Lecturer in Computer Science
Mohammed Amin Abolghasemi, (BA, MA Cantab; PhD Imperial); Lecturer in Engineering Science
Alessandra Aloisi, (PhD Pisa); Lecturer in French
Lucy Auton, MMath, DPhil; Lecturer in Mathematics
Jonathan Bulled, MChem; Lecturer in Chemistry
Kyle Bonnell, BA, MSt; Lecturer in Classics
Anna Bruzzone, (MA Bologna; MRes Panthéon-Sorbonne; PhD Warwick); Lecturer in History
Marie Chabbart, (BA Paris; MPhil Cantab; MSc LSE); Lecturer in French
Guus Willem Eelink, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in Philosophy

Aneurin Ellis-Evans, BA, MPhil; Lecturer in Ancient History
Amanda Holton, MA, DPhil; Lecturer in English
Vladimir Kuzetsnov, MA (MSc, PhD Moscow); Lecturer in Chemistry
Ayoush Lazikani, BA, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in English
Tanadet Pipatpolkai, MBiochem; Lecturer in Biochemistry (MT 2019)
Christoph Joseph Pretzer, (BA, MA, PhD Cantab); Lecturer in German (HT, TT 2020)
Róisin Watson, BA, MSt (PhD St Andrews); Lecturer in History

NEW SENIOR MEMBER JOINING ORIEL IN 2020-21

Timothy Eliott, BA (PhD Southampton); FMedSci; Professorial Fellow in Immuno-oncology
PROVOST’S NOTES

This academic year really has been unlike any other in our long history, and as I reflect upon it for these notes I am astounded by how much has happened in such a short space of time, and how our world has changed.

As I prepare this introduction, we have just completed an unusual admissions round. In contrast to the experience of many other Oxbridge colleges this year, on A-Level results day it became clear that an extraordinarily high number of Oriel offer-holders had met their conditions, enough on their own to fill our usual allocation of places. This included the overwhelming majority of offer-holders who had been identified as potentially disadvantaged. We offered clemency to as many students as we could to take us up to our maximum accommodation capacity, applying the same rigorous standards we use every year. Our clemency and admissions decisions are based on all the evidence available to us, which includes school references, predicted grades, contextual data, interview performance and aptitude test results. We are also making arrangements for a few remaining offer-holders to defer to 2021 so that we do not exceed our maximum accommodation capacity. We understand that this has been a very difficult and emotionally draining year for offer-holders and their parents. Admissions is a great responsibility, and not one we take at all lightly. I am very grateful to the Tutor for Admissions, Revd Dr Robert Wainwright, who has put an extraordinary amount of time and care into this admissions round.

This is just the most recent example of the twists and turns we have experienced this year, so perhaps I should start again at the beginning.

The familiar rhythms and events of Michaelmas Term took place as usual. We welcomed a new cohort of Freshers, watched them matriculate, got through Collections and then seemingly raced towards the end of term in a whirlwind of academic and social activities. Hilary Term got off to a good start with the launch of the Oriel Women’s Network in London and we welcomed Radiohead drummer Philip Selway to College as a guest to Chapel and dinner and he gave a thoughtful Provost’s Talk to students. Torpids was cancelled due to flooding, as sometimes happens – and then by early March it became clear that something extraordinary was happening, with concerning news of a new coronavirus spreading rapidly around the world.

Although students and staff remained on site until the end of Hilary Term, since the government-announced lockdown on 23 March we have been operating with a skeleton staff in College, with others furloughed or working from home. We had fewer than fifty students living in College accommodation throughout this period, most of them graduate students who did not have alternative accommodation or could not return to their home countries. Amelia and I have remained in the Lodgings throughout, and it has been an odd experience indeed without the usual buzz of College life surrounding us.
The Easter Vacation was spent hurriedly preparing to make the switch to online teaching and examinations, a huge challenge for all staff in the College and wider university. It is a great credit to our talented staff and academics, working in very difficult circumstances, that this switch went more smoothly than we could have hoped. I have received positive feedback from students about their online tutorials, and particularly some of the online examinations, which were administered as smoothly as we could have hoped for. Open Days also went virtual this year, making them truly accessible to everyone regardless of their location and ability to travel, and feedback on these has been positive too. It will be interesting to see what long-term impact this forced digital experiment has on how the university operates in the future.

Although spread around the world, our students managed to come together virtually throughout Trinity Term to retain the sense of community spirit for which our common rooms are renowned. They held virtual baking competitions, photo competitions, fundraised for charity, the Choir went virtual, and some of our medical students were involved on the front line, working as part of the John Radcliffe COVID testing team.

Our world-leading researchers also kicked quickly into action. Fellow in Medicine Sumana Sanyal, who joined Oriel in January, secured government funding for her research into how SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) spreads within infected hosts. Orielensis and Supernumerary Fellow Max Crispin and his team in Southampton produced the first model of a spike of the COVID-19 virus, showing how it disguises itself to enter human cells undetected, and the viral proteins which are the target of antibodies and vaccine
research. Jackson Junior Research Fellow in Energy, Philipp Grunewald, conducted research into how the COVID-19 lockdown impacted activities and energy use across the UK. As I write this, there is great hope that a team of Oxford researchers might develop the first useable COVID-19 vaccine. The very best of Oxford, the world-class research being undertaken here and the quality of the education our students are lucky enough to receive, has been on display for the world to see.

As Trinity Term passed by and we got to grips with our new normal, the world changed again. In late May, the death of George Floyd in the USA sparked protests worldwide, prompting individuals and institutions to reflect on issues of structural racism and inequality. In early June, following the toppling of a statue of Edward Colston in Bristol, focus returned to Oriel’s statue of Cecil Rhodes, which has long been the subject of controversy. In June, following the Governing Body’s expressed wish to remove the statue and plaque, the College announced the creation of an independent Commission of Inquiry. This was in acknowledgement of the complexity of the issues under consideration, as well as broader national implications raised by the debate. This was also reflected in the Commission’s remit, which is not only to look at Cecil Rhodes’s legacy to Oriel and the statue overlooking Oxford’s High Street, but also at how the College can improve access, attendance and experiences of BAME undergraduate, graduate students and faculty, and to review how Oriel’s twenty-first century commitment to diversity can sit more easily with our past.

We are very grateful to Carole Souter CBE, Master of St Cross College and former Chief Executive of the National Lottery Heritage Fund, who is leading this Commission. We are also very grateful to Geoff Austin (1983), Chair of the Oriel Alumni Advisory Committee, for taking a place on the Commission to represent our alumni body. The Commission’s report will be of great importance in deciding what steps the College will take. By the time you read this their work will be almost complete, with their final report due to be published in early 2021. Although the conversations around racial inequality and the re-examination of our own history are difficult and have the potential to cause division, I hope that our members will take the opportunity to move forward as a single community of Orielenses, with open minds. I truly believe that the work of the Commission, which promises to be thoughtful and thorough, will put us in an excellent position to move forward on a new path, and will make our institution a more resilient place in the future.

In an already extraordinary year, and in spite of all of the challenges posed by the pandemic and being separated from tutors and friends, our students have performed exceptionally well once again. Perhaps there is something to be said for an enforced nationwide lockdown removing many tempting Trinity Term distractions, as an astonishing fifty percent of our undergraduate Finalists this year have been awarded
Firsts. This, it almost goes without saying, is the highest proportion of Firsts ever achieved by a contingent of Oriel students, and we are all immensely proud of their well-deserved success, not to mention their forbearance. History was a stand-out subject, as two Finalists, Louise Edge and Patrick Hegarty-Morrish, were awarded Gibbs Prizes. It has been some years since History has had one Gibbs Prize winner, so two is quite an achievement! There were also a high number of Firsts in Engineering Science, Maths, Modern Languages, Music and English, although really there was a lot of success to celebrate across the board. I would like to acknowledge the huge effort put in not just by our students, but by our wonderful Fellows and Tutors who maintained their calm and commitment to see their students through the twists and turns that have been in abundant supply. It is so very disappointing that we haven’t been able to celebrate these achievements in person yet, but we hope to be able to do so before next summer.

We have had three new additions to the fellowship this year. I am delighted that David Maw, who joined Oriel as a lecturer in 1999 and has long been our Director of Music and a great contributor to Oriel’s musical and social calendar, has been made a Fellow in Music. In January, Sumana Sanyal joined us from the University of Hong Kong to become our new Fellow in Medicine. In July we sent out a warm virtual welcome to Mark Wynn, the new Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion. Mark studied for his DPhil at Oxford under Emeritus Fellow and former Nolloth Professor Richard Swinburne, and we are delighted that he has taken up this prestigious post. Emeritus and Honorary Fellows are very much a part of the Oriel family, and the whole College was very sorry to hear of the death of Honorary Fellow and former Regius Professor of Modern History Sir Michael Howard in November 2019 at the age of ninety-seven. Sir Michael was an inspiration to us all here, not only one of our most respected and revered academics, but also a great friend who is sorely missed.

There are also some changes in College Officers to report. Oliver Pooley has come to the end of his three-year term as Senior Dean, and hands over to Juliane Kerkhecker. I am so grateful to Oliver for the dedication and thoughtfulness with which he has undertaken his duties in what can be a very challenging role indeed. Mike Spivey will go on sabbatical next year, so hands over Vice Provost duties to Andrew Boothroyd. And Luca Castagnoli will take over as Secretary of Governing Body next year from Juliane Kerkhecker.

Our research strength continues to grow, in no small part thanks to the generosity of our alumni in supporting Oriel’s academic mission. This year we announced three new graduate student scholarships, all funded by Orielenses. Jim Mellon (1975) gifted the College £1 million to establish the Mellon Longevity Science Programme, which aims to help the most vulnerable in society by advancing research into health resilience in ageing populations. Jim is a great supporter of the work of Lynne Cox and her team, and his
gift also allows the creation, in perpetuity, of an Oriel-based DPhil scholarship in Ageing and Cell Senescence. His generous gift to the College also allowed for the refurbishment of the Harris Lecture Theatre, and we look forward to welcoming you back to see the results once some normality has returned. The second scholarship launched this year is the David N. Lyon Scholarship in Politics, which will support one student to undertake research into the politics of sex and gender equality in diverse societies. We hope that this exciting new scholarship will help to break new ground in the under-explored intersection between politics, sex and gender, religion and cultural traditions, and we are very grateful to David Lyon (1980) for the opportunity it provides for some truly progressive research. The third scholarship is in Engineering Science, kindly supported by an Orielensis who wishes to remain anonymous. The scholarship is intended to benefit a graduate student with a focus on Environmental Engineering, so fits very well with our already strong Environmental Science programme.

We continue to develop not just our academic mission, but also our never-ending conservation and restoration efforts. As I write we are making final preparations for a major refurbishment of the Hall and some of the surrounding areas, the results of which we hope to unveil for Trinity Term next year. This project is very close to my heart as it presents a once-in-a-century opportunity to update and renovate not only some practical aspects of the Hall such as lighting, heating, hearing-loop and roof repairs, but to work with one of the most important conservation architects in the country, Richard Griffiths, to undertake a careful and historically consistent restoration of this wonderful space that so many people
hold dear. The scope of the project will be ambitious and work will include the restoration and enhancement of the panelling, adding warmth and colour into the walls, furniture restoration and stained-glass window repairs. It is a very important project for the College, and is at the heart of our recently-launched fundraising campaign, ‘700 Years of Oriel: People and Place’. I am looking forward to being able to share the results with you in person.

This academic year has been exceptionally busy, and one of the most challenging that Oriel has faced in a long time. I would like to thank our administrative and domestic team for the dedication they have shown this year. Members of staff who were not furloughed at the beginning of the pandemic have worked extremely hard to keep things running. A skeleton Lodge team, led by Samuel Henry, continued to come into College throughout the lockdown, as did a small team of Scouts, whose work was vital in ensuring that those still in College remained safe and healthy. Domestic Bursar Steven Marshall and his Deputy, Helen Kay, along with other members of the Domestic team, have taken on an immense number of new responsibilities and assisted the Decanal team in taking care of students and staff, especially those who have had to self-isolate. Our Treasurer Wilf Stephenson has been leading the College’s COVID-19 Silver Response Team, responding at short notice to government guidelines that at one point were changing daily. Our IT Team, led by Simon Mortimore, had to manage an almost overnight switch to home working and online learning and did a wonderful job in supporting us through this transition, despite the fact that their resources are split between three colleges. Our Academic Office, led by Joseph Cole, worked flat-out supporting students and tutors as they adjusted to new ways of learning. Development Director Sean Power and his team raised important funds to enable the Library to purchase additional resources to support students. Our Fellows and tutors have also gone above and beyond to ensure that our academic mission has not been diminished. I could carry on, the list is endless. I am so proud of all that we have achieved this year, and of how our community has pulled together during these hard times. No doubt there are still more hard times to come, and the impact of the pandemic on the College’s finances is of course a concern. However, I feel confident that we can rise to any challenge that comes our way.

Floreat Oriel!

Neil Mendoza
TREASURER’S NOTES

To paraphrase a famous footballer: ‘it’s been a year of two halves’. We kicked off the year in good shape and looking forward to a thriving College community with some exciting projects underway and in development. The endowment had weathered market volatility over the previous year well and we had confidence that the approaching run in to 2026 would yield great things.

In December, as soon as term ended, I headed to China to meet about twenty universities, promoting our summer school programme run in partnership with CBLWorldstrides. It was an intense trip. The logistics were brilliantly organised by the CBL team in Shanghai and I was warmly welcomed everywhere. On 13 December I was in Wuhan. Little did I know that this would soon become the centre of world attention and that events taking place during my visit would define the second half of the academic year, a period when the College has been a state of semi-hibernation with many people working from home or on furlough.

In October we welcomed Jim Brown as College Surveyor and Master of Works. Jim came with extensive experience of building and project management in higher and secondary education. He has already made a significant contribution as we finalise our new masterplan and take forward revised proposals for the East Range. We expect to submit a new planning application by the end of the summer. Rethinking the plans for the kitchen, Bar and adjoining areas has allowed us to reorder our programme and bring forward renovations to the Hall. These will be carried out during Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, when social distancing rules will prevent large formal gatherings requiring us to make alternative catering arrangements in any case.

Refurbishment of Staircase Five was completed by Christmas but work to Staircase Eight (the Carter Building) was interrupted by the shutdown. The contractors have been working very hard to complete the accommodation before the start of Michaelmas Term.

The domestic team, led by Steven Marshall, continued to focus on their usual high standards during the first half of the year. Most have spent the last few months on furlough but the team in the Domestic Office, supported by a number of the housekeeping team, has been working harder than ever to support those requiring isolation and those who have continued to live in College throughout the shutdown period. The Deputy Domestic Bursar, Helen Kay, and Conference and Events Manager, Sue Drakes, deserve particular thanks for their unstinting work with the Deans to support those students remaining, whether in isolation or not.

Teams in College administration are small, so the loss of a colleague hits hard. The Bursary, led by our Financial Controller, Oliver Sladen, lost Gail Wilkins after a lengthy battle with cancer. Gail was a highly valued member of our finance team, who keep the vital financial processes moving accurately and efficiently. If our bills were not paid and
battels not collected the College would rapidly fall into financial chaos. The payroll is of course the most important of these processes and the government furlough scheme brought considerable extra work for our Payroll Officer, Natalie Lloyd. In addition to these challenges, Oliver Sladen has worked with our new Management Accountant, Naomi Bond, to carry out a zero-base budgeting exercise, the conclusion of which coincides with the need to make significant changes to our plans for the next financial year as a result of the pandemic. The sound financial management and strong investment performance of recent years have placed us in a better position than many colleges to protect our core education mission and other services to students and academic staff. However, recent cost increases have not been matched by increases in our income. In particular we are unable to pass on any of the increased costs of employing academic staff due to higher pension contributions. The underlying structural deficit this has created is unsustainable in the long term, so a thorough review of our operating model is now required.
Home working has become part of the ‘new normal’ in the second half of the year. Not long ago this would have been impossible. Our IT team, led by Simon Mortimore, has done an incredible job to support all of us who now depend on Teams, Zoom and a remote desktop to continue to work. This has only been possible because of the work Simon has led over the last four or five years to improve resilience and the team’s technical capability. The partnership with our neighbours, Corpus Christi and Merton, has also been important and gives us food for thought when looking at other areas of the College’s operations.

The dramatic changes to the way we work and the implementation of the furlough scheme have put exceptional demands on our HR team, led by Sheila Moore. We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Sheila’s knowledge and experience to advise on these matters and to help the management team to implement the changes we have made and will make. The College is an unusual employer with a very large number of employees relative to the size of our ‘business’, with a variety of types of contract and historically different employment practices. However, the College is also a single employer and the law is the same whether it applies to the Provost or a part-time Kitchen Porter. It is a Herculean task to bring our practices and documentation fully up-to-date.

Those of us who have been exceptionally busy in recent months can too easily forget the many members of the College team, so essential to our life in normal times, who have been on furlough for several months. The novelty of being confined to home paid to do very little must soon have worn off and I know everyone would love to be back supporting the College, its students, academic staff and fellow members of our community. I want to pay particular tribute to all of these members of the College family. I thank them and all those who continue to work so hard for their efforts, and look forward to seeing as many as possible back in College soon.

Traditionally I close with a comment about rowing. While it’s gratifying to retain the Headships for a further year, I know that all of our rowers would rather have been out training and competing in Torpids and Eights – and I’m as frustrated as them at not being able to resume my coaching efforts to see M3 back into the fixed divisions!

Floreat Oriel!!

Wilf Stephenson
The ‘heart’ of Oriel is never easy to articulate in words; let me show you its people any day. Our longest-serving member recently marked her forty-fifth anniversary at the College. Linda Boswell is one of our Scouts and the third generation of her family to work here. She has already seen to the senior staircase before the rest of us begin the day. I have come to depend on her: my sofa cushions are always plumped up and cake is never left trodden into the carpet. I am particularly gladdened when Scouts get to know their students and become an unsung welfare asset. The ‘heart’ is the friendly chat, the pride in taking care over the little things and the happy reminiscences of what Oriel has been.

Supposing one had wanted to mount a coup d’état in College, the first weekend of Michaelmas would have been the moment: numerous senior members were absent in Rome whither the Provost led the University delegation to the canonisation ceremony of John Henry Newman. Many students went along for the celebration in St Peter’s Square — bearing an Oriel shield for a papal blessing — and returned for a service of thanksgiving held in the University Church with the Bishop of Oxford, the Archbishop of Birmingham and Gerhard, Cardinal Müller. Newman’s motto cor ad cor loquitur (‘heart speaks to heart’) is engraved above the Oratory in the Chapel. It comes from Francis de Sales, who wrote that the ‘chief exercise in mystical theology is to speak to God and to hear God speak in the bottom of the heart.’ Prayer is offered there each morning for every student in turn by name.

In light of Newman I would be curious from an Admissions perspective to measure the anecdotal increase in Roman Catholic applicants to Oriel. This year’s Bible Clerk team at least has been particularly diverse, representing four continents and a range of denominations, traditions and OCBC crews. Working together has helped us learn the meaning of ‘all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas.’ Our Head Bible Clerk, Peter Hammerton (JCR), has been the voice of moderation; his legacy is more than a new hymn board for the Chapel.

At Commemoration of Benefactors the Treasurer shared his recollections of the recent legators he had got to know. The usual round of services gives rhythm to the year. Preachers at Evensong addressed the early chapters of St John’s Gospel and Jonah, while at College Communion we followed St Matthew’s Passion. Occasionally there is something to make the heart skip a beat, like thirty orders of service between a hundred congregants at All Souls’, or wondering whether the Archbishop of Wales would recover sufficiently from shingles to travel six hours to preach at Candlemas. The Choir magnificently premiered Henry Aldrich’s anthem O give thanks unto the Lord, newly-edited by Dr Dean Jobin-Bevans. Albert McIntosh (JCR) drove the introduction of a sung litany on Ash Wednesday concluding with Allegri’s Miserere — ‘a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.’
Newman’s old set sees a constant ebb and flow of visitors. Social events like Chaplain’s G & Tea or hot chocolate after Compline can be a natural setting for heart-to-heart conversations. It was a pleasure to have the American priest-theologian Fleming Rutledge resident at Oriel for a week in February, joining our discussion groups and delivering the most memorable one-liner at Evensong this year: ‘I did not come all the way from New York to tell you that Jesus Christ is a good example!’ Undoubtedly a highlight has been the Confirmation class, with N.T. Wright confirming four students in their ‘new heart’. The confirmands were doubly careful to revise their catechisms.

Oriel’s first cases of coronavirus emerged among the Chapel Choir. Students departed on the last day of Hilary Term for a vacation which would continue throughout Trinity. The impact on the College community was considerable: for a number whose loved ones died, for many whose exam arrangements changed, for staff on furlough, for those separated from family or friends, and for those working remotely without an Easter break. The Deans were on the front line equipped with masks, thermometers, and meal trays for students in quarantine; their dependability proved vital to our welfare response. Finalists deprived of their last summer in Oxford sat exams alone, many heartily donning full academic dress and carnations. The Chapel programme moved online with students recording homilies and a superb series of choral videos masterminded by Francis Judd (JCR), while the ‘post-Confirmation class’ persevered with enthusiasm on Zoom. Sadly the Choir’s ‘Newman Tour’ to Rome, like the Newman academic conference and two weddings, had to be postponed.

Our John Collins lecturer Dr Tom Simpson had spoken about Brexit divisions. At the end of the year, the fact that members of College were dispersed in lockdown meant that renewed protest against the statue of our benefactor Cecil Rhodes strained relationships among students with a peculiar severity. Comments on equality and free speech were traded on social media while many kept their own counsel. I was reminded of the Croatian theologian Miroslav Volf’s question: ‘How does one remain loyal both to the demand of the oppressed for justice and to the gift of forgiveness that the Crucified offered to the perpetrators?’ These issues ‘cut close to the heart of [our] identity’ as the Oriel community. ‘My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.’ Floreat Oriel!

The Revd Dr Robert Wainwright
Chaplain
On 23 February 2020, in the College Chapel, Gilbert Fenters, Simone Fraser, Alexander Pateman and Eleanor Thomson were confirmed by Bishop Tom Wright.

On 25 July 2020, in the College Chapel, Thea Moore received Holy Baptism at the hands of the Chaplain.
PREACHERS AT EVENSONG

Michaelmas Term 2019
13 October  The Chaplain, *Who Are You?*
20 October  The Revd Richard Coombs, *The Lamb of God*
27 October  The Treasurer, *George Moody and Other Recent Legators*  
            (Commemoration of Benefactors)
3 November  The Revd John Knowles, *A Wedding Took Place*
10 November The Revd Lt Col Jerry Sather, *Proving the World Wrong*
17 November The Revd Prof Charlotte Methuen, *Zeal For Your House*
24 November The Revd Dr Michael Ward, *Snakes and Ladders*
1 December  College Carol Service

Hilary Term 2020
19 January  The Chaplain, *Man On the Run*
26 January  Dr Yael Fisch, *Holocaust Memorial Sunday*
31 January  The Most Revd John Davies, *Feast of Candlemas*
2 February  The Revd Joel Knight, *Nineveh, That Great City*
9 February  The Revd Rupert Demery, *Love Your Enemies*
16 February The Revd Fleming Rutledge, *Redemption*
23 February The Rt Revd Prof Tom Wright, *Confirmation*
1 March    The Ven David Meara, *Wilderness*
8 March    The Ven Adrian Youings, *University Sermon for the Annunciation to the*  
            *Blessed Virgin Mary (Lady Day)*

*Divine Service in Chapel was suspended during Trinity Term.*
An extraordinary year for all of us has seen a much-reduced schedule of events and activities for Orielenses. Many familiar staples of the Oriel calendar, such as the annual London Dinner and College Garden Party, were cancelled and as I write we are putting together a schedule for a ‘virtual’ Alumni Weekend to replace the events which traditionally take place in College in September. New and enforced ways of working and interacting with one another can be disconcerting, but they can also inspire good outcomes and more imaginative ways that we, as a community, can connect with one another. It is my hope that this period will ultimately have a positive effect on the way Orielenses interact with their old College. There have been, of course, many great events this academic year. The Canonisation of St John Henry Newman (detailed elsewhere in this issue of the Oriel Record), an experience not to be forgotten by those present, and a well-received Alumni Weekend in September 2019 which focused on Philosophy were among the highlights. We look forward to welcoming you back to Oriel, as soon as it is safe to do so.

Fundraising remains a fundamental part of the work of our office, and has a real impact on all areas of the life of the College. This year has seen typical generosity from Orielenses and friends of Oriel. £2,631,401.69 has been raised in total in new gifts and pledges to Oriel. Funds this year have come from 834 individual donors, with twelve giving over £15,000 to the College. Those who donate £20,000 or more to the College over their lifetime are admitted to membership of the Raleigh Society; those who give over £100,000 are admitted to the Provost’s Court. There are currently 173 members of the Raleigh Society.

Legacies continue to provide an important source of funds for Oriel. All those who formally pledge a legacy to the College are invited to join the Adam de Brome Society, and we currently have 275 known pledges. This year £6,000 has been received by the College in legacy gifts.

In 2012 the 1326 Society was established to encourage regular giving to the College. Full Members give £1,326 a year, Young Members give £132.60 a year. Membership for this year stands at 131.

On behalf of all of us here at Oriel I would like to extend sincere and grateful thanks for all the financial support that has been made this year, and for the all the help, encouragement and friendship which is offered to Oriel by her alumni and friends.

Floreat Oriel!

Sean Power
Fellow and Director of Development and Alumni Engagement
The theme of this year’s Halfway Hall was ‘The Roaring 20’s’. Oriel Hall looked more beautiful than ever and it was a time, as always, to celebrate progress and community. Yet 2020 itself has unfolded in a manner that no-one could have imagined, and the impact of the coronavirus pandemic has challenged the understanding of what ‘community’ means to our undergraduates.

It should be no surprise to any Oriel alumnus that our JCR responded to the lockdown and term of remote learning with energy and innovation. Pub quizzes held over Zoom were extremely popular, with special new rounds focusing on bop photos and baby pictures providing extra entertainment. The creation of an online library facilitated the introduction of mock ‘invigilation’ exam sessions. The Poor Print carried on publishing the poetry, prose and artwork of the JCR, and our weekly baking contest produced superb creations. We put all of our competitive spirit into the inaugural Running Cuppers and concluded as runners up, finishing with an impressive cumulative total of 5,176km.

Earlier in the year, the College netball teams, Oriel A and B, were both undefeated in Division Two and are now ready for promotion. The men’s rugby team, the women’s football team and the alternative ice hockey team all reached Cuppers quarter-finals and the squash team continued to enjoy both social and competitive games. Infrequent outings due to the condition of the river did not put a damper on the spirits of the Boat Club, with the women’s team brightening up their training with Zumba sessions and Zoom workouts. The cancellation of Torpids brought the inaugural ‘Tug-of-Warpids’ in which Oriel stormed to victory.

Oriel College Music Society and our Arts Rep introduced a wonderful series of classical concerts, which culminated in a Christmas concert in the Senior Library. Charity formals, charity stash and our charity auction continued to be popular, and an end-of-term cake sale which also sold handmade earrings and knitted Christmas puddings was a particular success. We also had our first inter-college women’s formal with Merton and Corpus Christi, with an all-female high table. The organisers of other amazing events such Welfare Week, Equalities Week and Oxmas must be thanked for their hard work.

Some of our most important work was undertaken in the second half of Trinity Term. Our open meetings moved online as the JCR continued to discuss the complexity of the questions and issues that we faced. Physical distance proved no barrier to our collective effort. In the wake of the murder of George Floyd and subsequent Black Lives Matter protests, Oriel JCR took its first steps in what we wish to be a sustained commitment to our programme of anti-racism. We have pledged £2,500 to a programme – governed by a new subcommittee – of outreach and support for current and prospective black students, and have established in our constitution the continuing celebration of Black History Month and our dedication to educating incoming students on the legacy of Cecil
Rhodes. There is the greatest potential for these actions to be the catalyst for even greater collaboration within the College community as a whole in our united goal of effective anti-racism practices. The fact that tutors took the time to listen to and communicate with their students during the time of the debate is an indication of the kind of united action which may lie ahead. I was also deeply touched and amazed by the words and advice of the Oriel alumni who reached out to help our common room. Our most recent graduates will be greatly missed by us all.

I am proud beyond words to recognise the undergraduates who have worked so hard throughout the year as my peers. Immense gratitude is owed the JCR committee, who have tirelessly dedicated their time and energy to fostering happiness and togetherness in our community. It has been a joy to work with such an exceptional group of people, and I wish the incoming committee every success in continuing their outstanding work.

Kate Whittington

JCR President

The results of the JCR lockdown baking competition
As I write this from a College in lockdown, where Hall, the Library and Chapel have become uninhabited islands across a sea of potential infection, I reflect that this year has turned out differently from anything the MCR could have expected.

We started this year welcoming ninety-one new graduate students and forty-three Fourth Year undergraduate students, representing over forty nationalities. During a lively Freshers’ Week, the MCR committee collected their annual supply of compromising photographs to be used as extortion material against future successful members (an event commonly called ‘The Oriel Excursion’). To the Bar Manager, Nathan Helms’ delight, the Freshers (helped by returning members) made significant inroads into twelve bottles of Lamb’s Navy Rum found during a start-of-term cleanout of the store cupboard. With no correlation whatsoever between the quantity of rum consumed and the amount of enthusiasm displayed, the MCR had one of their most hotly-contested Michaelmas elections, filling all fifteen remaining committee positions with eager new Freshers and Fourth Years.

Michaelmas Term once again demonstrated why Oriel has the best MCR in Oxford. Organised by our wonderful Welfare Secretaries, Rebekah Wallace and Benedict Morillo, afternoon tea returned as a highlight of the week, with scarcely a crumb or crumpet left after 5pm. Led by the untiring Social Secretaries, Lola Salem and Colleen Cumbers, the MCR had successful exchanges with St. Anne’s and St. Hilda’s College, receiving such compliments as ‘well this is better than Wadham’. For the first time in memory, the MCR had a real Christmas tree delivered for Oxmas, which infused the MCR with a lovely pine smell and dropped fewer needles than a gramophone party.

The start of Hilary Term saw us running dangerously low on rum, with only a few litres remaining. The MCR was honoured to be invited to the SCR Burns Night ceilidh and lent youthful joie de vivre to the occasion, dancing enthusiastically with everyone present. The MCR returned the invitation to their own ceilidh a few weeks later but was surprised at the lack of SCR uptake.

Weather-wise, Hilary was characterised by a succession of storms, disintegrating the usual sporting calendar. Torpids was replaced with a tug-of-war competition, where seven MCR members were chosen for the 1st VIII and took home the inaugural Ropeship! Due to a relaxation of the usual participation rules, the team was made up of current, alumni, associate and mature members, demonstrating the strength of the MCR across its extended community. The rugby pitch was similarly turned into a boggy mire, but this did not stop Oriel winning coin toss match after coin toss match, only losing a Division 1 promotion with a badly thrown penny against Keble. Individual mentions go to Jemma Williams (victorious in Varsity Touch Rugby), and Achim Harzheim (selected for the Blue Boat for the second year running).
During Hilary Term, we started to hear news of coronavirus in Italy. During Torpids, we were reluctant to hug an MCR alum recently returned from Milan. By the start of Trinity Term, the College was in full lockdown and the majority of the MCR had scattered to their homes across the globe. With many members uncertain whether they would ever return to Oriel, these were challenging times for the community. To help members keep in touch, the social team established a new local pub (the e-Bear) and ran an international postcard exchange. Social Secretary and quiz master extraordinaire, Alexander Walls, hosted fortnightly quiz nights, improving members’ knowledge of College with the ever-present Oriel round (exactly which Orielensis and former High Steward of the University bequeathed the books that led to the building of the Senior Library?). Oriel Talks coordinators, Sam Speight and Jean-Christophe Spiliotis, ran a very successful online Oriel Talks event, complete with themed cocktail recommendations (e.g. ‘Social Distancing on the Beach’), and Dessert Representative, Deaglan Bartlett, hosted a weekly dessert competition with the overall winner receiving a basket of baked goods (congratulations Tatjana Schulze!).

It is in times of adversity that the MCR spirit is most evident. I have been inspired, and at times personally touched, by the effort and dedication all the committee has shown to the MCR. In particular, I would like to thank Vice President, Alexander Pateman, Treasurer, Sam Speight and Secretary, Srishti Arora. Next year will present new opportunities and challenges, and I am confident that incoming President, Marcus Williamson, and his committee will continue to lead the MCR into new adventures and maintain its position as the best MCR in Oxford. I wish them every success.

Eleanor Thomson
MCR President
## NEW MEMBERS 2019-2020

### FOR HIGHER DEGREES

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tr>
<td>AJMAL, Hina</td>
<td>DPhil</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>National University of Sciences and Technology, Rawlpindi, Pakistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>AKINREMI, David</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>Criminology &amp; Criminal Justice</td>
<td>York University, Canada</td>
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<td>ASPINALL, Jack</td>
<td>DPhil</td>
<td>Materials</td>
<td>Mansfield College</td>
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<td>BARBIERI, Noah</td>
<td>MBA</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Oriel</td>
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<td>Creative Writing (part-time)</td>
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<td>BARTLET, Deaglan</td>
<td>DPhil</td>
<td>Astrophysics</td>
<td>University of Cambridge</td>
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<td>BASSIRIAN, Pedram</td>
<td>DPhil</td>
<td>Condensed Matter Physics</td>
<td>Johannes Gutenberg University, Germany</td>
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<td>BEUTNER, Raven</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>BIELINSKA, Marta</td>
<td>MSt</td>
<td>Philosophy of Physics</td>
<td>Jagiellonian University, Poland</td>
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<td>BLATCHFORD, Katherine</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>Biodiversity, Conservation &amp; Management</td>
<td>Trinity College</td>
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<td>BREEN, Eloise</td>
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<td>BROCKWELL, Thomas</td>
<td>2nd BM</td>
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<td>CREMONA, Melanie</td>
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<td>MSc</td>
<td>Global Governance &amp; Diplomacy</td>
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<td>Modern Languages (French) and Linguistics</td>
<td>Université Paris Sorbonne, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REID, David</td>
<td>Modern Languages (Russian)</td>
<td>Eton College</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROSS, Caitlin</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>The John Cooper School, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANDERSON, Sophie</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Oxford High School GDST</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANDHU, Olivia</td>
<td>Classics with Oriental Studies</td>
<td>Nottingham Girls’ High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLADKOVSKY, Jaromir</td>
<td>Physics &amp; Philosophy</td>
<td>PORG International School Ostrara, Czechia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOENICA, Adela</td>
<td>Mathematics &amp; Statistics</td>
<td>Colegiul Național de Informatică Tudor Vianu, Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANG, Han Shin</td>
<td>English Language &amp; Literature</td>
<td>Hwa Chong Institution, Singapore</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOWNSEND, Anna</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Altrincham Grammar School for Girls</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHITE, Jemima</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>The Perse School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHITWORTH, Fleur  Modern Languages (French & Spanish)  St Aidan’s & St John Fisher Associated VI Form
XU, Daping          Physics                      The Barstow School, Ningbo Campus, China
YANG, Darren        Jurisprudence                Hong Kong International School, Hong Kong
ZAPOLSKI, Dawid     Physics                      Liceum Akademickie w Toruniu, Poland

VISITING STUDENTS
CHIN, Chi Wen (Athena)  Biochemistry  Barnard College, USA
CHEN, Yanlin (Elaine)   PPE        University of Notre Dame, USA
DUFFY, Kyle            Mathematics  University of Notre Dame, USA
SHI, Robert            Engineering  Princeton University, USA
KRETSCHEMER, Julius    Law & Greek Studies  Ludwig Maximilians University, Germany
ACADEMIC RECORD
DEGREES AND EXAMINATION RESULTS 2019-2020

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
ADNAN, Mohammed Sarfaraz Gani, (Geography & the Environment): The legacy of polders: Diagnosing complex flooding processes and adaptation options in the coastal region of Bangladesh.
ELLIS, Justine Esse, (Theology): Religious Literacy for a Secular Age: Approaches from Secularism Studies and Affect Theory.
ENDO, Suguru, (Materials): Hybrid quantum-classical algorithms and error mitigation.
FRUTH, Theresa Maria Antonie, (Particle Physics): PMT Studies and Loop Antenna Development for the LZ Dark Matter Search.
GUIRO CARVALHO DA ROCHA, Joana, (Pathology): Regulation of expression of RNA polymerase II-transcribed human snRNA genes.
HARZHEIM, Achim, (Materials): Thermoelectric effects in carbon nanostructures.
JONES, Sarah Elizabeth, (Medieval & Modern Languages (FRE) (Full-time)): The Doctor-Patient Relationship and Encounter in the Nineteenth-Century French Novel.
MAHDAVI DAMGHANI, Babak, (Engineering Science): Data-Driven Models and Mathematical Finance: Opposition or Apposition?
MCCONNELL, Thomas, (Classical Languages & Literature (Full-time)): Chronology, Dialect, Style: Studies in the Distribution of Linguistic Archaisms in Early Greek Hexameter Poetry.
POTTER, Deborah Louise, (Ancient History): Terra nova, provinciae novae? Roman intervention and Roman power in the western Mediterranean, ca. 295-167 BC.
RAAB, Nicolas, (Geography & the Environment): Non-Structural Carbohydrates Dynamics and Plant Productivity in Natural Ecosystems.
RONCA, Alessandro, (Computer Science): Rule-Based Stream Reasoning.
SLADE, Emma, (Theoretical Physics): Precision fits for the LHC and beyond.

ESPRC DOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMME
DAWSON, Mitchell, ((EPSRC CDT), Engineering): Aiding Diagnosis of Rare Diseases from Photographs using Machine Learning.

ESPRC & BBSRC DOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMME
WALLIS, Jamie, (Synthetic Biology (EPSRC & BBSRC CDT), Engineering): Formulation and Testing of a Liposomal-based Vaccine for Cancer and Influenza.

BACHELOR OF CIVIL LAW
GIORKAS, Konstantinos
MORILLO, Benedict

MASTER OF STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS
BIELIŃSKA, Marta

MAGISTER JURIS
LUKIC, Sebastian

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY YEAR 1
GAVIANO, Luigi Dante
QIAN, Anpei

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN ECONOMICS
AKKAR, Daghan
AL LAWATI, Baqer

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN POLITICS
HARRISON, Chase

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AFRICAN STUDIES
CORNELL, Nica

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ECONOMICS FOR DEVELOPMENT
LANFRANCHI, Edoardo
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FINANCIAL ECONOMICS
GAMILLSCHEG, Peter Distinction
GREENHILL, Russell Pass
WENDE, Kristin Julie Distinction

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND DIPLOMACY
FENTERS, Gilbert Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL FINANCE
FERNÁNDEZ SANCHEZ DE LA VIÑA, Javier Merit
YANG, Min Distinction

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
WHALLEY, Peter Distinction

MASTER OF STUDIES IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY
BREEN, Eloise Merit

MASTER OF STUDIES IN MUSIC (MUSICOLOGY)
SHARMA, Sharang Merit
WALLS, Alexander Pass

HONOUR MODERATIONS IN CLASSICS
HOLMES DAVIES, Harri II.i
JACKSON, Louis II.i
MUNCHOW, Rasmus II.i

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ANCIENT AND MODERN HISTORY
LEE, George II.i

HONOUR SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY (PART II)
ALLEN, Dominic I
KING, Alexandra I
MITCHELL, Jessica I
WALDRON, Adam I
ZHANG, Guige II.i
HUANG, Pinjie II.ii

HONOUR SCHOOL OF CLASSICS AND ENGLISH
MACGREGOR, Cora I
HONOUR SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE (PART B)
SLAKAITIS, Gabrielius
AYDIN, Yunus

HONOUR SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE (PART C)
SEAMAN, Graeme
STANCIU, Andreea
RADOI, Andrei-Alexandru

HONOUR SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY (PART B)
HOBSON, James
PHILPOTT, Daniel

HONOUR SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY (PART C)
CAMARASU, Teofil

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE (PART B)
AU, Chun Ngai
DAVIES, Daniel
FRASER, Orlando
MEHAN, Prateek
ZHONG, Fengyu

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE (PART C)
AGUREEV, Alexander
JUDD, Francis
RUBINI, Dylan
MCGUIRE, Alastair
STUART, Timothy

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES
SMOUT, Sophia

HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE COURSE 1
BHARUCHA, Natasha
WHITEHEAD, Chloe
CAWOOD, Aaron

HONOUR SCHOOL OF HISTORY
HEGARTY-MORRISH, Patrick
LEWIS, Evie
MAGEE, Natalie
FRASER, Simone
HONOUR SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND ECONOMICS
SYKES, Horatio II.i

HONOUR SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND MODERN LANGUAGES
EDGE, Louise I
HARRIS, Eleanor II.i

HONOUR SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS
O’DONOVAN, Matthew II.i

HONOUR SCHOOL OF JURISPRUDENCE
BATCHelor, Emma II.i
BOURNE, Alice II.i
CABRAL, Guy II.i
CHIA, Vanessa Qi En II.i
SHREEVE-MCGIFFEN, Maximillian II.i

HONOUR SCHOOL OF JURISPRUDENCE (ENGLISH LAW WITH LAW STUDIES IN EUROPE)
CROSS, Orlaith I

HONOUR SCHOOL OF LITERAE HUMANIORES
ANSTey, Charlotte I
BALL, Caroline I

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS (PART B)
BAMFORD, John I
WARNER, Albert I

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS (PART C)
SAVAGE, Rhiannon I
SHI, Yuyang I

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (PART B)
FRIGAARD, Hal I

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (PART C)
FAREBROther, Joseph I

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
DOODY, Max I
ROBINSON, Erin II.i
VUKOVIC, Jelena II.i
HONOUR SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES
CUMBERS, Colleen
HAGOPIAN, Alicja
PUIGSECH AUTONELL, Erola
TAVARES DE WAND, Saskia

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOCHEMISTRY (PART II)
WILSON RUILOBA, Carmen
BEER, Michael
O’DONOGHUE, Ailsa

HONOUR SCHOOL OF MUSIC
COTTELL, Joshua
HILL, Lauren

HONOUR SCHOOL OF NEUROSCIENCE (PART II)
KEELING, Joshua

HONOUR SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY
HAMMERTON, Peter
STANLEY-CUNNING, Joel

HONOUR SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS
EVANS, Benedict
MOTYKA, Szymon
AGBOLADE, Esther
FEARON, Sophia
GOMEZ GOMEZ DE LA TORRE, Mar

HONOUR SCHOOL OF PHYSICS (PART B)
HUANG, Jiale
WAJID, Abdul

HONOUR SCHOOL OF PHYSICS (PART C)
BATE, James
WRIGHT, Lucy

HONOUR SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION
HALL, Daniel
SECOND EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF MEDICINE (YEAR 3)
SATCHWELL, Francesca Pass
SHARMA, Jaya Pass
WILLIAMS, Matthew Pass

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, some examinations due to be held in Trinity Term 2020 were postponed until Michaelmas Term 2020 and others were cancelled. Results from the postponed examinations will be included in the 2021 issue of the Oriel Record. The cut-off date for inclusion in this year’s Oriel Record was 31 August 2020. All examination results confirmed after that time will also be included in the 2021 Oriel Record.

DEGREES AND EXAMINATION RESULTS 2018-2019
(announced too late for inclusion in the 2019 Oriel Record)

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
GORGY, Tommy Pass
HOPKINS, Christopher Pass
MONTGOMERY, Julia Pass
PRITCHARD, Alexander Pass
WILLIAMSON, Thomas Distinction

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY
NG, Jung Kian Pass
SHABOUN, Asmaa Pass
VOGT, Camilla Distinction

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIODIVERSITY, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
TEBBUTT, Charles Distinction

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
XIAO, Zhenzhong Merit

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND MANAGEMENT
HETTIPOLA, Sharmen Pass
NSOBYA, Claude Louis Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EVIDENCE-BASED SOCIAL INTERVENTION AND POLICY EVALUATION
THARMARAJAH, Saraniya Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GLOBAL HEALTH SCIENCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY
FADILAH, Ihsan Pass
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INTEGRATED IMMUNOLOGY
HUGHES, Francis Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND TROPICAL MEDICINE
AUNG, Zay Yar Phyo Pass
JAWITZ, Farah Pass
POL, Sreymom Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICAL MODELLING AND SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING
HYDE, Joshua Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SOCIOLOGY
LUO, Jiaying Pass

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN STATISTICAL SCIENCE
WANG, Siyuan Distinction

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN THEORETICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL CHEMISTRY
SELBY, Michael Distinction

MASTER OF STUDIES IN BRITISH AND EUROPEAN HISTORY, FROM 1500 TO THE PRESENT
BAYLISS, Maximillian Pass

MASTER OF STUDIES IN CREATIVE WRITING YEAR 2
BOWERS, Megan Pass
OWEN, Morfudd Distinction

MASTER OF STUDIES IN WOMEN’S STUDIES
GRODECKI, Maximilian Distinction

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION
PIKE, Amy Pass
BLANK, Ryan Partial Pass
MARRIOTT, Ross Partial Pass
AWARDS AND PRIZES

UNIVERSITY AWARDS AND PRIZES
Clifford Chance (Proxime Accessit) for the Second Best Performance in the MJur
  Sebastian Lukic
Cortegulatory First in Classics and English
  Cora MacGregor
George Webb Medley Prize for Best Overall Performance (proxime accessit) for the Msc in Economics for Development
  Edoardo Lanfranchi
Gibbs Prize in History and Modern Languages
  Louise Edge
Gibbs Prize in History
  Patrick Hegarty-Morrish
Kolkhorst and Arteaga Exhibition in Spanish
  Lily Parmar
Turbutt Prize for 2nd Year Practical Organic Chemistry
  Fiona Stewart Roper
Winter Williams Prize in International Economic Law
  Sebastian Lukic

COLLEGE AWARDS AND PRIZES
Audrey R London Travelling Scholarship
  Amira Ramdani
Eugene Lee-Hamilton Prize
  Jane Cooper
  (New College, Oxford)
H. Basil Robinson Prize
  Alice Bourne
Instrumental Award
  Not awarded this year
Shannon Prize in History
  Patrick Hegarty-Morrish
Shannon Prize in History for 2019 (not reported in the 2019 Oriel Record)
  Shekinah Vera-Cruz
Sir Derek Morris Prize in Economics
  Ben Evans

GRADUATE SCHOLARS

The following elections have been made for the academic year 2020-2021

Sir Walter Raleigh Scholarships
  Clara Butow
  Ross Halbert
Alec Bond Scholarship
  Benedict Williams
Oriel Graduate Scholarship in Engineering Science
  Han Kun Ren
Oriel Graduate Scholars
  Magdalena Drodz
  Charles Fletcher
  Tien-Chun Lo
  Dominic McLoughlin
SPORTS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

BLUES
Jasper Dix         Rugby (also joint secretary, OURFC)
Patrick Green      Lacrosse
Matthew Hamilton   Lightweight Rowing
Louis Jackson      Rugby (also joint secretary, OURFC)
Joshua Keeling     Hockey (Blues Captain)
Dominic McLoughlin Swimming, Water Polo, Modern Pentathlon
Jan Ole Ernst      Lightweight Rowing
Erin Robinson      Football
Hal Frigaard       Rowing (Selected for Blue boat, but race was cancelled)
Achim Harzheim     Rowing (Selected for Blue boat, but race was cancelled)

HALF BLUES
Farah Jawitz       Korfball
Leo von Malaisé    Rowing
Lucy Wright        Water Polo

OTHER UNIVERSITY-LEVEL SPORT
Dominic Allen      Hockey (Men's Fours)
Victoria Bagge     Tennis
Michael Beer       Powerlifting
Victor Carranza Singleton Badminton (Captain, Men's 3rd team)
Angus Denison-Smith Mixed Lacrosse
Hamish Dodd        Football
Kyle Duffy         Men's Lacrosse (Awarded MVP in 2nd team Varsity match)
Benedict Evans     Hockey
Joel Haines        Rifle Shooting (Varsity match against Cambridge)
Alex Jackson       Cross Country (Winner, Varsity Men's Thirds race)
Sarah Jones        Triathlon
George Lee         Gymnastics (Varsity match against Cambridge)
Thomas Lister      Triathlon (also Varsity Duathlon)
Eleanor McDonlad   Tennis and Squash
Amelie Mennerich   Sailing
Gladys Ngetich     Football
Jake Swann         Rowing
Beatriz Vicario Santos Volleyball (Women's 2nd team)
Leo von Malaisé    Rowing (selected for University 2nd boat)
Jemma Williams
Darren Yang

**OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**
Farah Jawitz
South African National Korfball Team at the International Korfball Federation World Cup in August 2019

**COLLEGE SPORT**
Peter Morris
Elis White Memorial Trophy for the most improved novice rower

Willem Tielrooij
Colours in College Squash

Peter Morris was the winner of the Elis White Memorial Trophy 2019-20

Jemma Williams was part of the Oxford Touch Rugby team that defeated Cambridge in the Varsity Match
As another busy academic year comes to an end, we reflect on two contrasting halves of the year. When we inducted our new Freshers in Michaelmas Term, we could not have predicted the unexpected challenge we would face in remotely supporting our students during the latter part of the year. The support of the Oriel community has been invaluable in allowing us to adapt successfully during these difficult circumstances.

Over the course of the year, the Library team has been working hard behind the scenes continuing to develop the Library’s comprehensive book and periodical collections. Over 4,200 titles have been loaned this year. We are delighted to see our extensive library resources being used to support our College members. We have increased our provision of assistive equipment and study aids this year, including USB daylight lamps and noise-cancelling headphones, which allow readers to adapt the study spaces in the Pantin Library to suit their preferred study environment.

The door to the Library Office sadly remained closed during Trinity Term.
The conservation of the Senior Library’s rare books and materials continues, in collaboration with the Oxford Conservation Consortium. Recently treated items included a book of rules, lists of items in the Library and ‘Registers of Borrowers’, the latter of which includes John Henry Newman. We continue to explore projects and initiatives that will enable College members and researchers to better utilise our invaluable collection of early printed books and Newman materials.

Michaelmas Term drew to a festive close, with the Senior Library hosting the Oriel Classical Christmas concert. The Senior Library was once again filled with wonderful music in February with the Music Society’s concert of Bach and Vivaldi. We look forward to time when we can host more concerts in these historic surroundings.

Our continued use of Twitter (@OrielLibrary) and Instagram (@orielcollegelibrary) has increased our contact with our users and we have enjoyed reaching out to current students, alumni, and the general public.

Sadly, the end of Hilary Term saw the sudden and unprecedented closure of the Library, removing access to our physical collections and study space. While the Library team worked hard to provide remote support to students through the use of e-resources, the inaccessibility of our well-stocked collections, compounded by the simultaneous closure of the Bodleian Libraries, was a huge challenge for us in providing library materials for our students.

In response to a direct appeal from Fellow Librarian Dr Kathryn Murphy, over 100 alumni generously made gifts to the Library, which enabled us to purchase additional copies of books (sent directly to students’ home addresses) and e-books. The overwhelming support shown by Oriel alumni has directly benefitted our current students throughout Trinity Term in their exam revision, Finals, and dissertations, and into the Long Vacation. We are immensely appreciative of all the alumni who have supported and continue to support the Library.

The College Library is also grateful for the donation of books and research material for the main library, Orielensia and the archive collections received from Miguel Garnett, Professor Stathis Gauntlett, Robert Good, Dr Iacovos Kareklas, Frankie Leung, London Rowing Club, The Rt Hon the Lord Murphy of Torfaen, Clive Newton QC, Edward Parry, Martin Salter-Smith, Professor Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra, Professor David Schoenbrod, M. Athar Tahi and many more who wish to remain anonymous, including several graduating students.

As always, the Library is thankful for the support of those who have generously donated books over the past year. Please get in touch if we have missed you.

_Eleanor Kelly, Librarian (Maternity Cover for Hannah Robertson)_
In Front Quad, it is not unusual to navigate your way around a visiting school group. Thirty pupils, eagerly absorbing their surroundings, hang on every word from our Student Ambassadors. Our students enjoy passing on their experience and helping to inspire more young people to aim for Oxford themselves.

Sadly, these visits were not possible in Trinity Term. We sought to continue our Outreach work remotely with resources on the College website and Virtual Open Days. It was not the summer we expected, but a great deal has still been achieved this year.

India Collins-Davies, our dedicated Outreach Officer, has clocked an amazing seventy-two visits this year, in spite of floods (in Worcestershire) and pestilence (everywhere). I accompanied her on a couple of her visits to schools in Worcester and Kidderminster, giving teachers involved in university applications the opportunity to ‘Meet the Tutor for Admissions’. It was great to see India in action building links with partner schools and demystifying the application process. Encouragement from teachers and parents is often decisive in whether or not a particular pupil submits an Oxbridge application, so this work is very important.

A particular priority has been the development of a West Midlands Consortium to intensify work in our link region. We are excited to be incorporating Herefordshire into our existing responsibilities for Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Worcestershire. This will not only increase the number of schools we work with but gives us responsibility for a number of state schools and postal areas identified by the University as particular targets for Outreach work.

Along with our partner colleges, Keble and University, India piloted a brilliant new Teachers’ Conference, which brought participants to Oxford to meet our staff and listen to bespoke talks and lectures. We are also working with our Outreach partner in Walsall, Newnham College Cambridge, and are exploring the possibility of a similar relationship with Girton College for our work in Dudley and Wolverhampton.

The College will be participating in the University’s new scheme for candidates from under-represented backgrounds called ‘Opportunity Oxford’. Tutors are asked to identify academically-able candidates who might not have been well-prepared for the demands of an Oxford education. Those who receive offers will participate in a bridging programme after they achieve their A-level results to help them acclimatise to Oxford.

The landscape for Outreach is changing in light of Government policy and University targets, so our methods of engagement need to be adaptable. I am grateful to India for her hard work, especially in building and maintaining good relationships with our link areas. We believe this remains an effective approach in the long-term.

Rob Wainwright, Tutor for Admissions and Outreach
This report is my first as Chair of the Oriel Alumni Advisory Committee (OAAC), a new committee of the College whose purpose is to represent the interests of all alumni and to help foster relations between the College and its former students, former staff, and friends. As I noted in my remarks in these pages last year, the OAAC is a ‘rebranding’ of the previous Oriel Society Committee, with terms of reference set out on the College’s website, and a membership which is intended to reflect over time the alumni base (current members listed below).

The last year has been a challenging one for the College and its alumni, with the COVID-19 pandemic bringing College life to a halt in March, and a revival of the campaign to remove the statue of Cecil Rhodes overlooking the High Street in June. I will address both of these subjects later in this report.

The year started well enough, with an Alumni Dinner in Hall on 20 September 2019, focused on the subject of Philosophy, attended by some eighty alumni and guests. There was a noble attempt to inject some academic rigour into the usual speeches by Dr Oliver Pooley, Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, and Dr Tushar Menon, Stipendiary Lecturer in Philosophy, who held a debate on the philosophy of time. Despite some surreptitious glancing at watches by those keen not to miss after dinner drinks in the SCR, the intellectual upgrading of the dinner was judged a success.

Some of us were privileged to take part in a trip to Rome in October for the canonisation of John Henry Newman, Fellow of Oriel from 1822-1846. On Saturday 12 October there was a tour of the Venerable English College in Rome, founded by Orielensis Cardinal William Allen in 1579, for fifty-five alumni and guests, and on the Sunday morning eighty of us attended the canonisation mass in St Peter’s Square. The mass was attended by the Prince of Wales, representing the Queen, our Visitor. There was a delightful lunch hosted by the Provost afterwards on the roof terrace of the Grand Hotel de la Minerve notable for the age range of alumni attending, from Dr Richard Whittington (1949) to current students.

The usual alumni programme continued with a Champagne Concert on 25 October in the Senior Library for ninety-five alumni and guests. The performers were cellist Armand D’Angour, violinist Erika Eisele and pianist Kobi Kremnitzer. Kobi is also a Fellow and Tutor in Maths at Oriel and both he and Armand were accompanists to Alma Deutscher at her celebrated concert in the Senior Library in October 2016.

At the other end of the cultural spectrum of alumni events the Decade Drinks – The Tens took place on 20 November in the Star Tavern in Belgravia, which is managed by Orielensis Ema Harker (2010) and infamous as the location of the plotting of the Great Train Robbery. With sixty alumni and friends in a relatively small pub there may not have been much room for plotting on this occasion.
In December Hugh Bryant organised his usual trip for Orielenses to the Varsity Match, at which Cambridge prevented Oxford from setting a record of eight wins in ten years. There was apparently much drowning of sorrows at the traditional car park entertainment afterwards.

In February we had the fourth Returners’ Dinner, a new event to replace the Finalists’ Dinners of previous years. Diligent readers of these reports will recall that Oriel Society Presidents would appear at the old events to urge on Finalists with the traditional speech perfected by my predecessor, John Albert, along the lines of: ‘Finals are awful, but they don’t much matter in the great scheme of things’. This was evidently a high-risk approach and it is probably just as well that the event is now held well after Finals. Since eighty-four out of eighty-nine undergraduates in this year achieved Firsts or 2:1s they had much to celebrate. Oriel ranked eighth in the Norrington Table as a result, and the consistency of academic results since the change in format of the dinner is noteworthy...

On 26 February the Oriel Women’s Network was launched, also at The Star Tavern. The panel at this inaugural event consisted of Claire Togood (1991), Barrister, Crown Office Chambers; Sara Vaughan (1989), Global Chief Purpose & Sustainability Advisor, Marie Claire; and Annabel Bosman (1993), Head of Relationship Management, Royal Bank of Canada. The discussion topic was ‘How to build up and support the women around you’.

The Noughties Decade Drinks on 11 March 2020 was the last event held for alumni before the lockdown announced by the government on 23 March. I hope that those alumni who were present at the ever-reliable Star Tavern were prescient enough to take advantage of the fact that the hostelry, and indeed much of the UK, were about to be closed down for several months.

Since then, the London Dinner at King’s College, the May Champagne Concerts, the Berlin Drinks Reception, various events for alumni in North America, the Summer Garden Party to coincide with Summer Eights, and many other events have all been cancelled owing to the pandemic.

The sympathies of the OAAC rest very much with the current students and Fellows, who were required to make extraordinary efforts to turn Oriel into a ‘virtual’ College from March onwards. Although this was reportedly remarkably successful, as alumni will no doubt understand, it is very difficult to replicate the Oriel experience virtually, and we all hope that a degree of normality can return for students and Fellows at least in September. Unfortunately the usual September weekend for alumni has become a virtual one, but I hope that alumni will engage with what will no doubt be some fascinating content from the College.

Now to matters Rhodes... Following a protest outside the College on 9 June, the Governing Body voted to launch an independent Commission of Inquiry into the key
issues surrounding the Rhodes legacy. They also expressed their wish to remove the statue and the associated plaque in King Edward Street. The Commission, launched in July, is chaired by Carole Souter CBE, Master of St Cross College and former Chief Executive of the National Lottery Heritage fund and, while noting the Governing Body’s wish to see the statue removed, has licence to consider a full range of options.

At the Provost’s request the OAAC sought informal views from alumni and wrote to the Governing Body following the protests. The OAAC recommended a measured process to establish a definitive and clearly-articulated position on Rhodes, involving an independent panel with appropriate expertise. The OAAC therefore welcomes the formation of the Commission of Inquiry, which I have been invited to join, and hopes that at the end of the process the College will be able to make a clear statement to the effect that it has decided definitively on how to deal with the Rhodes issue, and that the solution is a balanced and sensible one. In our view such a statement should emphasise the College’s continuing commitment to seeking out and nurturing the best candidates and, as part of a wider University effort, to ensuring that Oxford is appropriately diverse and inclusive of people from all backgrounds.

As the Commission does its work there will be opportunities for interested parties, including alumni, to give their views. My hope is that the Rhodes issue can be dealt with once and for all in a positive way that makes clear the values of the College which means so much to us.

My thanks to the OAAC members listed below and to the Development and Alumni Engagement Office for their continued help and support.

Floreat Oriel!

*Geoffrey Austin (1983)*

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**THE ORIEL ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Chair: Mr Geoffrey Austin 1983
Secretary: Mr Hugh Bryant 1969
Treasurer: Viscount Clive Mackintosh 1977
Dr Michael Kenworthy-Browne 1957
Mr John Cook 1965
Mr John Slade 1976
Mr Vincent Warner 1984
Ms Laura Dosanjh 1986
Miss Claire Toogood 1991
Mrs Sarah Kiefer 2003
Mr Markian Mysko von Schultze 2012
CLUBS
SOCIETIES
AND
ACTIVITIES
CHAPEL MUSIC

The exquisitely crafted phrases of Gibbons’ ‘This is the record of John’ inaugurated the Choir’s year, which was to be the occasion of several other repertory revivals: Howells’ coronation anthem, ‘Behold, O God’, made an appearance in Michaelmas Term; Haydn’s Missa Sancti Nicolai and Britten’s Missa brevis in Hilary Term; and having the services of two ace Organ Scholars presented too good an opportunity not to dust off the copies of Duruflé’s Requiem for All Souls Day.

Equally memorable were the new additions to the repertory. Christ Church’s late-eighteenth century Dean, Henry Aldrich (1647-1710) was – in addition to his skills as a theologian, philosopher and architect – an able composer. His O give thanks unto the Lord sets just the first verse of Psalm 118, but supplements it with extended sections of Hallelujah in a style reminiscent of the full anthems of his younger contemporary, Henry Purcell. The Choir’s performance in Michaelmas Term was its first liturgical airing since its recent rediscovery by the musicologist Dean Jobin-Bevans. The bristling diatonicism of Jonathan Dove’s I am the day, in which long lines rub shoulders with bouncing ostinati, was the anthem at the Candlemas evensong. Lassus’s resplendent Missa Bell’amfitrit’ altera for double choir and Duruflé’s intense and mystical Messe cum jubilo for male voices served the midweek eucharistic liturgy. Music for the confirmation evensong in sixth week focused on the work of a single composer, John Rutter, with introit, canticles, anthem and organ voluntaries all from his oeuvre. John Rutter was a student and later Director of Music at Oriel’s sister college in Cambridge, Clare. He turns seventy-five in September this year. The term finished with Josquin’s serene Ave Maria for Lady Day at the beginning of Eighth Week and the world premiere of Lauren Hill’s setting of Psalm 13 at the end of it. The tormented harmonies of Lauren’s composition seemed with retrospect prophetic of the lockdown that followed a week later.

The COVID-19 pandemic looked set to put an abrupt stop to the Choir’s activities in Trinity Term. Thanks to the internet, the amazing commitment of Choir members and the technical skills of Francis Judd and his team, this proved not to be the case – far from it. The Choir was active throughout the lockdown, producing a series of video recordings of individual pieces as well as a complete evensong for the Sunday of Ninth Week that helped maintain a sense of the College’s community and cultural identity through the challenge of enforced estrangement. Although this experience was a poor substitute for the regular meetings in person that punctuate a normal term, there were compensations. Thanks to the internet and the facilities of recording technology, the Choir could be accompanied by the organ of St Edmundsbury Cathedral, could enjoy the continued participation of a student returned to the USA, and could on several occasions experience the dubious effects of being directed and accompanied by the same person. Posting videos on the Chapel’s YouTube channel enabled the Choir’s work to reach a larger audience than normal.
Inevitably, the tour to Rome planned for July had to be shelved. The hope is that it will be possible to pick it up again in a year’s time. In place of the tour, through the social secretary’s organisational finesse, members of the Choir enjoyed a Zoom Italian dinner from their disparate locations; and the last of the virtual performances were posted as a ‘summer concert’.

As ever, the Choir has incurred many debts of gratitude during the year. First of all, our thanks go to the Chaplain, who has continually supported and encouraged our activities. Most of our performances are accompanied, and there we are grateful for the work of our brilliant Organ Scholars, Benjamin Banks and Harry Baigent. Their spirited contribution to the Chapel’s musical life and resourceful exploitation of the Chapel organ’s limited resources are an inspiration to all members of the community. We are immensely grateful for the exceptional efficiency with which Choir Chair, Hannah Soares, has run and organised the Choir’s routine. She has made herself irreplaceable and the expectations of her successor unenviable. Social Secretary Flora Clark (Magdalen), has served an essential role in replenishing the Choir’s stock of pencils and sunglasses and maintaining morale during the lockdown. Thanks go to all the Choral Scholars for their hard work and enthusiasm, in particular for their contribution to the magical moments of choral compline. Finally, special thanks are due to Francis Judd, Richard Mifsud (Worcester), Maxwell Penrose and John-Mark Shah Ostrowski, who passed many, many hours editing and assembling the Choir’s audio-video recordings during Trinity Term.

This year the Choir bids farewell to: sopranos Katherine Backler (All Souls), Lauren Hill (decani choral scholar), Charlotte Anstey (cantoris choral scholar) and Mary Pelson (American visiting student); altos Phoebe Tealby-Watson (choral scholar from Corpus) and Sara Salloum (choral exhibitioner from St Hugh’s); tenors Francis Judd and Albert McIntosh (both decani choral scholars); and basses William Cross (decani choral scholar
from Corpus), Guy Cabral, and the multi-talented Alexander Walls (sometime bass, tenor, grace-composer and occasional alto choral scholar). They have all contributed enormously to the success and prosperity of the Choir and will be greatly missed. The Choir will never be the same again; but an invitation is extended to these and to all former members to return and see what the Choir has become at the hands of new recruits in future years.

As I write, the prospects for next term are uncertain. Singing is still regarded in some quarters as a potentially hazardous activity. Will the Choir be able to reconvene next term, and if so in what form and under what conditions? The answer to such questions is unsure; but what is sure is that the Choir will rise to whatever challenges are posed of it.

**Distinguished Visiting Musician**

Craig Ogden completed his stint as Distinguished Visiting Musician at Oriel this year. In Hilary Term he presented an illustrated lecture on composing for guitar, demonstrating the sonic and technical resources of the instrument, highlighting some of the challenges of notating ideas and offering practical advice on how to proceed. He also gave a masterclass for young students, showing once more his skill at putting musicians at their ease in this intimidating environment and at incisively identifying the tweaks in rhythm, technique or posture that would transform their performances into something special. Plans for Craig to return to evensong in Trinity Term were rerouted into the Choir’s virtual format. We dusted off the arrangement of Gibbons’s Short Service that we had used two years ago and presented it online. Similarly, Craig revisited Vivaldi’s *Lute Concerto in D, RV 93*, which he had played as a voluntary on that occasion, and recorded it to accompany the Choir’s online ‘summer concert’. As our Distinguished Visiting Musician, Craig has proved an amiable, amenable and inspiring colleague over the past few years, and we hope that there will be opportunities for him to return to Oriel in the future.

*David Maw, Director of Music*
ALTERNATIVE ICE HOCKEY
Alternative Ice Hockey, fondly dubbed ‘ALTS’, is defined by a love (or perhaps tolerance) of the unrelenting darkness of night, the bustling din of the rink and the subtle camaraderie of the community. In this mixed non-contact Ice Hockey variant, Oriel’s veterans and novices train and compete twice a week at midnight. An influx of fresh blood has invigorated our ALTS community this year, with many Freshers introduced to the joy of wielding a stick while sliding upon knives attached to one’s boots. ALTS at Oriel had a great time at Cuppers, were influential in the university-wide ALTS society and maintained a vibrant social scene.

Oriel’s team ‘Nick-elback’ fought valiantly in ALTS Cuppers this Hilary Term, without capitulation to the mounting challenges or the long night. One remarkable quip encapsulated the intense intercollegiate competition: we were ‘undefeated till we lost’. Indeed, Orielenses watched each other’s (nick-el-) back and advanced top of the group to the knockout quarterfinals, amongst the thirty-one participating teams, without a single loss in the group stages. It is thus regrettable that our first defeat in the knockout stage became our final one. In a striking display of teamwork, Oriel fought neck-to-neck against Magdalen and came to a draw. The subsequent sudden death tie-breaker was less fortunate; it was Magdalen that struck the golden goal. Nonetheless, Oriel had made
multiple memorable moves on the ice. The vast improvements of our members’ individual capabilities, our teamwork and our strategy were evident that night. I thus deem it apt to congratulate the incredible progress made by our ALTS community, especially the courageous ones new to the sport.

Given Oriel’s regular presence at the rink, we became a significant part of the Oxford ALTS community. Naturally, many Orielenses took up positions in the university-wide ALTS society. Monim Wains served as secretary, Emma McIntyre as Vice Health and Safety Officer and myself as Vice Officer. For the upcoming year, Nicholas Ho will take up the role of Health and Safety Officer, while Monim will carry on as Vice Officer. It is heartening to see the unabating enthusiasm for the sport in Oriel.

Peculiarly, there has been regular attendance to the post-session hangouts, typically in the JCR and in the twilight hours. While some may deem it a deranged defiance against decent rest, I can only interpret this as the outstanding social success of the ALTS community. This feat would not be possible without Emily Widjaja and her stunning publicity efforts, as well as the zeal of everyone involved in one way or another.

It has been my utmost pleasure to lead the ALTS team. I hope Nicholas Ho, our captain-to-be, will continue this great tradition of ALTS at Oriel and share the joy of late-night slippery stick-slapping to all.

*Ruida Ding, Captain*

**CRICKET**

Having won promotion the previous year and gained a sizeable cohort of new members, expectations were high for Oriel Cricket Club as we entered a new season which also saw the switch from the previous forty-over format to a brand new T20 league. However, with the outbreak of a global pandemic and the subsequent move online in Trinity Term, these anticipations were never to be realised and all mentions of cricket were replaced only by the suggestion of a substitute football tournament the following Michaelmas.

The disappointment at this year’s loss of cricket was only exacerbated by the significance of the year; 2020 marked the one hundredth anniversary of cricket at Oriel’s Bartlemas sports ground, with plans for commemorative matches to be played over a weekend between teams of alumni and current students.

We now look forward to next year, where a hard summer spent on bowling actions and new sledges should stand us in good stead to bowl, bat and field our way to glory.

*Angus White, Captain*
FOOTBALL
MEN’S FOOTBALL
The excitement was palpable at the start of OCFC’s 2019-20 season as the previous year seemed to have set a solid foundation for future success. This animation was further enthused by the arrival of a particularly strong cohort of Freshers, whose tenacious footballing ability put the current squad to shame in the first training session of the season. It quickly became apparent that the new arrivals would be pivotal to our hopes of promotion as they added a real depth to the squad. However, these hopes took a heavy blow on the opening day of the season with a punishing loss at the hands of a St Hilda’s team that went on to win Cuppers. Promotion, it transpired, would not be as straightforward as it had first appeared.

Back-to-back wins in the ensuing games helped to restore some much-needed confidence, and the cameo appearance of last year’s captain from his year abroad proved vital in a hard-fought victory over Merton/Mansfield. You can take the man out of OCFC, but you can’t take OCFC out of the man. Once again, however, the team struggled with consistency as key players were bound to their academic commitments and as a result the team suffered a few avoidable defeats that ultimately proved crucial to our aspirations of promotion.

Meanwhile, Cuppers was cruel to us as we were drawn against a premiership side in the form of St. John’s. OCFC is not a team to go out without a fight though, and we made this clear as we led 1-0 for most of the game, only to crumble towards the end after a couple of dubious goals by them. Nevertheless, there was much to take from this performance as we showed we had the quality to compete against a top team. This was evidenced in one of the closing games of the season in a brilliant 5-4 victory against a Lincoln team that was eventually promoted. Evidently, we had the ability to fight at the top, however, we did not capitalise on this enough and finished the season in fourth place, with the sense that we could have done more.

The highlight of the season for many came in the annual encounter against the Old Boys. This is a fixture which has long been dominated by the Old Boys, however the current squad managed a resounding win which was later celebrated with good spirits by all, albeit with the warning that they will be back for revenge. The season was, of course, cut short by the pandemic which meant that Oriel was not able to participate in Futsal Cuppers where we had enjoyed a good run the previous year. I have no doubt that we could have improved on this run given the talent at our disposal, however it wasn’t meant to be.

With the close of the year, we said goodbye to a few stalwarts of the team whose invaluable experience will be missed, although we will relish the chance to meet again at the next Old Boys encounter. Looking forward, I am confident that OCFC will reap the
harvest that has been sown with the hard work we put in this year. With more and more players enjoying regular team football on the University squads and with the continued growth of this club, the future has never looked brighter for OCFC.

*Hugo Carranza Singleton, Captain*

**WOMEN’S FOOTBALL**

The 2019–20 season marked a major milestone in the history of Women’s Football at Oriel. As part of our joint team with Christ Church, colloquially nicknamed ‘ChChOriel’, the participation of girls from Oriel in the game is at an all-time high. In the league, the team successfully gained promotion for the first time in recent history and will be excited to face some new competition next season! However, the greatest success for the team was undoubtedly our Cuppers run. Our campaign began with an assertive 8-3 win over St Hugh’s College, followed by a 5-2 win at home against the joint Pembroke/Corpus team. This secured our place in the Cuppers quarter final – a truly incredible achievement! While we may not have been able to defeat the Foxes to reach the semi-finals, this year showed the team’s true potential for success – and I look forward to watching the women’s club grow and develop in the coming years. Honourable mentions must go out to Sophia Fearon, Natalie Magee and Esther Agbolade. Your enthusiasm and commitment were unrivalled, and it was a true pleasure to get to play alongside you this year. I sincerely hope
that this season’s success is the catalyst for many more girls to take up football—ensuring ChChOriel’s continuing success.

At a University level it was also a hugely important year for women’s football in the ongoing fight for equality within the game. Until this academic year the Men’s Blues simply had to play in the Varsity match in order to be awarded a Full Blue, while the Women’s Blues had to play and win their Varsity match to be awarded the same accolade. As President of the Women’s Club this year (OUWAFC) it was fantastic to be able enter an appeal to the Blues Committee to address this discrepancy. This resulted in a change in the Women’s Blues status to make our requirements (word for word) the same as the men’s—ensuring equal recognition for the first time in the club’s history. I owe a huge debt of thanks to the Provost, Neil Mendoza, for his support in this. Most crucially, he encouraged me not to settle for anything less than total equality, while I grappled with the idea that concessions may have increased the likelihood of successfully implementing change. Along with the Men’s President this year, it has been extremely exciting to change the governance structure of our University football teams, so that they will be served by one joint committee instead of separate men’s and women’s committees. Following successful election this May, I feel very lucky to be taking over as the new overall President of OUAFC—and will be in charge of both the men’s and women’s divisions of the club. Therefore, next season will mark another important year in the club’s history—as for the first time in nearly 150 years the men’s and women’s teams will be allocated equal
provisions for training, 3G access, and coaching. I hope that many of you will consider coming to support our teams at our annual Varsity matches – the culmination of what is sure to be an incredibly successful season! #bleeddarkblue

*Erin Robinson, Captain*

**NETBALL**

Oriel College Netball Club has delivered a stellar performance this year. Michaelmas Term got off to a shaky start with a vacant captain’s position in First Week, but our teams ended the year strong. By the end of Hilary 2020 both Oriel A and Oriel B had experienced eight weeks of unbeaten play, resulting in the promotion of the A team to the first division of the league! This amazing crescendo was supported by consistent commitment to the games, a healthy third and fifth position in the Michaelmas league, and highs of 24-0 against Lincoln in the Sixth Week of Hilary Term. Coincidentally, this goal-a-minute score took place on International Women’s Day – an apt celebration of 34 years of Oriel women joining Oriel men to make the College proud.

What has stood out over the two terms is the commitment to play across the year groups. As a Third-Year captain, it was a pleasure to see the OCNC community including new Freshers, previously undiscovered Second Years and steadfast Finalists alike. Long-standing support from golden oldies like Mar Gomez, Chloe Whitehead and Alice Bourne was met with new faces from the First Years. Celia Lugt, a Fresher Medic, gave energetic performances in centre court week-in-week out, whilst Noor Qurashi offered ever-improving defence on the wing. Jemima White was a superb goalkeeper for OCNC in early Michaelmas Term, before her finger was sacrificed for the cause. Joe Lever, on the other hand, came late to the game in Hilary but gave all centre-court opposition he encountered a run for their money. From the ranks of the Second Years, new faces largely unknown to College netball emerged. In particular, this Captain would like to commend Catherine Thompson for her commitment to umpiring, and Marianne Enget for her impressive
defensive skills. The truly incredible shooting skills of Emma McIntyre, too, stand as testament to the hidden talents that emerged during the 2019-2020 season!

As always, OCNC flourished on the sporting and social scenes with the help of an amazing committee. With Grace Dearden as social and kit secretary, new Freshers were kitted-out, pub quizzes were lost, and numerous pub golf beverages were sunk! As Vice-Captain, Tom Lister brought the energy of a newborn Labrador, despite his distractions with his dozen other sporting commitments. But most importantly, our previous Captain and go-to OCNC guru Alice Bourne provided everybody in the committee with a wealth of knowledge and support. Though COVID-19 stopped the best event of the College calendar, Netball Cuppers, taking place, this has been a seriously amazing year. What a note to end my time playing for OCNC on. It will be sorely missed by me!

Evie Lewis, Captain

POOL

Being part of the Oriel pool team has been a great experience this year. As Captain I had the pleasure of manning the stand at the Freshers’ Fair and I enjoyed welcoming many new faces to the club. The location of the pool table in the bar made it very easy for players to get to know one another and demonstrate their skills to an audience of fellow students. We began the season with the Michaelmas College League, facing tough competition from seven other colleges. A highlight of the term was the tense decider against Queen’s; we snatched a victory from the jaws of defeat with a strong doubles performance by two new additions to the team. The term ended with us retaining our position in Division 2b, I am confident we can be upgraded next year due to the strong set of Freshers coming through that are rapidly advancing their game.

In Hilary we entered the Cuppers tournament. We played five excellent team matches and had a great laugh in the process. Some keen players entered the singles tournament, where I managed to progress past the group stages before sadly being swiftly knocked out!

Ultimately, this was a fun year for Oriel Pool that was rewarding for all who got involved. I am awarding Colours to Hamish Dodd and Marcus Williamson in recognition of their particularly notable contributions to the team. I wish the club the best of luck in the future.

Orlando Fraser, Captain
ROWING
MEN’S ROWING

A highly unusual year began in a refreshingly traditional manner with the Freshers’ BBQ to welcome back returners and introduce the Boat Club to all the new faces. The sun shone, the BBQ roared, and spirits were high. The taster days came and we soon had thirty men’s novices eager to get going.

In Michaelmas Term, a sizable group of returners hit the ground running with outings on the Isis and at Wallingford. Our Coach, Matthew Aldridge, had strong knowledge of the Wallingford stretch and led many 1500m pieces down the Brookes straight – the perfect distance for bumps racing. However, it was only during Second Week that the Isis turned to red flag, and so it remained for the vast majority of term. Fortunately, for the weekend of Wyndham’s only, the river levels dipped and despite the persistent rain an enjoyable day at the Boathouse was had by all. In true Oriel spirit the novices made every opportunity count, sending out multiple boats every day the river allowed. Under the guidance of the Assistant Coach, Franny Curtis, they worked hard on their fitness and became well-acquainted with the Iffley rowing tank. Christ Church Regatta was reinvented as an erg competition, and the Men’s A Team put in a strong performance reaching the quarter-finals.

The seniors had been putting in the miles at Wallingford when river levels allowed. The Tortoise Dinner provided a welcome distraction from the flooding and alumni tales reaffirmed M1’s focus on retaining the Torpids Headship. Sadly, with the river levels of the Thames still high, Wallingford Head was cancelled. Fortunately, the Cam had suffered no such problems and as the end of term approached a youthful M1 headed to Cambridge to square up against the Tabs. Competing against crews who had a full term of training behind them proved challenging but was great preparation for Torpids. M1 walked away with a respectable and encouraging fifth place alongside the drive to retain the Torpids Headship in Hilary Term.

A fruitful training camp in January saw multiple boats out each day in Oxford and Wallingford. Sadly, the river levels rose yet again and after two weeks with no rowing, a quick 6km row the morning before, M1 headed to the Tideway to race at Quintin Head. Sadly, not even the journey to Putney was simple, with half the crew stuck just outside the M25 after a breakdown. With one man down and stuck on the hard shoulder, we climbed through a field, ordered an Uber and called the Tortoise I knew would be most likely to race on a moment’s notice – Stevan Boljevic. When other colleges scratched their entry, we pushed through each setback. The race was a good experience for the scratch crew, coming eighth in our category and providing more invaluable race experience. Seniors and novices fitted outings around flooding whilst the club-wide team runs and erg relays raised spirits. The determination of all rowers to continue training is worthy of mention.
A testament to their determination to retain the Headship, M1 frequently travelled to Wallingford with only a slim chance of an outing and replaced these outings with morning ergs. Sadly, the hard work of all crews was never to bear fruit when three consecutive weekends of storms resulted in the inevitable cancellation of Torpids. However, not to be deterred, the club came together and entered an unparalleled five crews into the Pembroke-organised ‘Tug of Warpids’. The Pembroke announcer’s exasperation at the number of Oriel crews entered was apparent and we weren’t just there in quantity, but in quality too. Oriel A and B both made it to the final four, before a questionable drawing pitted the two crews against each other. Oriel A came out on top and all that remained between us and ‘Ropeship’ was a familiar foe in Christ Church. The match quickly became the longest of the day, but the chorus of Oriel chants cheered the team to ‘Ropeship’ victory. Oriel A was very quickly up against Brookes for a ‘Varsity’ match but, tired from victory, could not quite complete a clean sweep. Finally, in their full Torpids kit Oriel M1 defeated Pembroke M1 in a classic grudge match. A fantastic Bump Supper was had by all that evening, although sadly there was no rope to burn.

Term ended with a short trip to Dorney for a race against Pembroke. Neither crew had rowed for over three weeks, and with our stoker ill, it was not the finest rowing ever displayed by Oriel men as we crossed the finish line 3/4L down. Little did we know it would be the final rowing event before a global pandemic ended the year for good. Although Trinity Term’s racing was never to be, with seven trialists returning to the squad,
I am confident the Eights Headship would have been retained and the rest of the squad were in a fantastic position to have successful campaigns.

In what has surely been one of the strangest years in OCBC history, the club has truly pulled together in ways no-one expected. It is a true testament to the Oriel spirit that so many students were keen to be involved in rowing despite all the setbacks, and I would like to thank everyone involved in the Boat Club this year for their contribution. There are some people without whom the club would not run and who thus deserve a special mention and thanks. To both coaches this year, Matthew Aldridge and Franny Curtis, who were fantastic in keeping the squad motivated. To the committee for your endless enthusiasm and ongoing support, especially to those members staying on next year. To the alumni and Tortoise Club for their continued support and making OCBC what it is today. To my Vice-Captain, Tom Lister, who epitomised the club spirit this year, never deterred by his novice’s lack of water time and constantly striving to improve their experience. A special thanks must go to Phil Grunewald for his contributions as Senior Member; he is invaluable to the club and helped my Co-Captain, Kate Culverwell and myself no end. Finally, a huge thanks goes to Kate. Although it wasn’t the year we expected, we made it to the other side and I’m immensely proud of the club that’s still standing.

In these uncertain times, I am excited to be handing over to Henry Hawkins who I have every faith will do a fantastic job in steering the club through the coming challenges. I wish him luck and hope that next year will see more races than this one. Floreat Oriel!

Zachary Zajicek, Men’s Captain

**CREWS**

**M1 Torpids** – who become Tortoises for their efforts:
Liam Willis (c), Andrew Mattimoe, Kristof Csaky, Zachary Zajicek, Robert Boswall, Peter Morris, Thomas Lister, Marcus Lima, Henry Hawkins.

**M2 Torpids:**
Alex Jackson (c), Oscar Powell, William Burrow, Nicholas Smart, Harry Gearty, Tobias Brennaninkmeijer, Raven Beutner, Aleksander Kaminsky, Daniel Hall.

**Squad:**
Fernando Almansa, George Barker, Cameron Bowskill, Thomas Brockwell, Aoife Ní Chroidheáin, Jack Delaney, Kyle Duffy, Peter Gamillscheg, Ben Gilmore, Thomas Farlow, Albert McIntosh, Abigail Phillips, Charles Qian, Marcus Williamson.
WOMEN’S ROWING

In what has been one of the worst years for rowing in Oxford history, Oriel’s spirit has reigned true. I have been incredibly fortunate to lead a large group of enthusiastic and determined women during an exceptionally difficult season. Neither flooding nor coronavirus has stopped us from training hard and building fantastic camaraderie. As we finish the year with Zoom circuit workouts from our own homes, there’s still a lot we can be proud of together despite not being able to show off our hard work down the racecourse.

Michaelmas began with a record number of swim tests completed by Oriel, a strong start to the year. Sadly, the weather soon drowned any promise of running Christ Church Regatta or a normal Wyndam’s. Once the Isis red flag appeared, it almost never left. Yet, it was a season in which we were fully able to appreciate the incredible asset of training on the Wallingford stretch. A huge thank you to the fantastic Phil Grunewald and Serenhedd James, who generously sacrificed their sleep to drive us all in the minibus at 5am throughout Michaelmas and Hilary to get us to training. Despite an often fast-flowing stream, we had more than twenty women down to row at Wallingford and a further number on the Isis for the occasional blue flag day, enabling us to retain a fantastic number of three VIII’s worth of athletes by Torpids Dinner.

As the winter weeks went on and the weather got worse, focus turned to the 1st VIII with our coach Sophia Heath, while the novices remained mostly land training with assistant coach and younger brother, Alfie Heath. Yet, whole boat club ergo relays, treasure hunt runs and the all-important zumba sessions kept all crews working together throughout the rainy days. For the 1st VIII, our annual trip to Cambridge for Fairbairns was the morale booster needed to end Michaelmas. It was many of the women’s first external race, or first race altogether, and the competitive experience was a push for everyone looking to the season ahead.

Training camp for all members just before the start of Hilary helped make up for some of the missed training from the previous term. This was crucial before racing on the Tideway at Quintin Head, where the women managed an impressive result despite little water time. The satisfaction of overtaking crews on our way down the Thames was a highlight of the season for many. Our training continued as Pseudo-Torpids was announced, and while many colleges pulled out, we were ready to show everyone how hard we had worked. I am still proud of the decision made as a team by Oriel women’s 1st VIII not to withdraw. In the end, we were one of two crews left in Division 1. Unfortunately, an official cancellation of Torpids meant the choice was out of our hands. Instead, ‘Tug of Warpids’ was soon under way with Oriel dominating not only in the number of teams entered, but also with the true Oriel spirit and camaraderie that we bought along with
us. With both A and B teams against each other in the semi-final and our A team winning overall, a Bumps Supper felt well-deserved.

The team’s training aims quickly moved on to blades at Summer VIII’s and to enter the prestigious Henley Women’s Regatta. Unfortunately, this was soon out of the picture as the pandemic spread and matters of health and family became top priority. As we complete remote learning in these bizarre and uncertain times, being part of a team has proven to be an important support system. Thus, despite perhaps being one of the most disappointing seasons, 2020 has shown that Oriel rowing isn’t necessarily grounded by results or even the sport itself, but that its foundations lie in its incredible community.

A massive thank you to our brilliant committee this year and my Vice-Captains, Ellie Greaves and Simone Fraser. Thank you, Phil, for being a fantastic Senior Member as ever and an invaluable part of the club. Thanks to Coaches Sophia and Alfie for managing to keep training fun and enjoyable despite the challenges. Thanks to our alumni who helped consistently throughout the year, particularly Lara Bonney and Ellie Juckes, who went above and beyond to help crews get on the water. Lastly, a huge thank you to my Co-Captain Zach, I can’t think of anyone better to share the burden of a year we definitely didn’t see coming.

Womens 1st VIII racing at the Fairbairn Cup
I am very excited to hand over the captaincy to Sarah Wisialowski and I have every faith in her ability to successfully lead Oriel’s women in a year that will hopefully see the return of Bumps racing. Floreat Oriel!

*Katarina Culverwell, Women’s Captain*

**CREWS**

**W1 Torpids:**
Max McGiffen (Cox), Kate Culverwell, Laura Brookes, Simone Fraser, Charlotte Anstey, Hannah Goode, Hannah Nentwich, Eleanor Thomson, Rochelle Moss

**Squad:**
Abigail Phillips, Aoife Ní Chroidheáin, Athena Chin, Bailey Cameron, Caitlin Ross, Coral Benfield, Eleanor Harris, Eliška Freibergerová, Ellie Greaves, Fanxi Liu, Guy Gabral, Jasmine Hay, Jemima White, Julie Wende, Justine Ellis, Katherine Blatchford, Pernille Danelund Diget Nielsen, Rose Bramley, Ursule Demaël, Veronica Munday

**RUGBY**

The 2019-2020 season was a successful one for Oriel College Rugby Football Club, with one of the strongest teams in the club’s recent years. Commitment and determination from the whole team led to a promotion as well as a great run in Cuppers.

The year began with a big recruitment drive, leading to some great additions to the squad from all experience levels, including several newcomers to the sport who showed real commitment and improved significantly throughout the year. Six previous University-level players enhanced the already accomplished team and so we were looking forward to a great year of rugby at OCRFC.

We were filled with confidence after our success in winning the Cuppers Plate in the 2018-2019 season. This did not necessarily convert itself into immediate success, but nevertheless, after some well-attended training sessions and team-building socials, the squad started securing results on the field, culminating in promotion into Division 2, where Oriel rugby hasn’t been for a long time.

We began Hilary with renewed belief in our ability and an awareness that we would have a great shot at an impressive Cuppers run. The first two weekends saw us play our initial games in the Cup, winning both by huge margins and confirming the strength we had as a team. One of these games was against Balliol, who at that time were in Division 1 with a very well-drilled team full of talent. Nonetheless we gave them nothing to work
with and showed our prowess on the field to win 60-0.

Now in Division 2, the Hilary Term season commenced with five challenging games against strong opponents, yet OCRFC showed incredible composure to win three of these games, and our two losses were against the strongest teams. We were proud to have secured third place, only one below promotion, having lost our last game by only four points, which prevented us from reaching Division 1.

To finish off our rugby season we had the Cup quarter-final against St. Edmund Hall, well-established as being one of the strongest sides in the college leagues. There were at least seven Rugby Blues in their squad and in the first half they appeared a very strong opponent, putting a lot of points past us. However, in the second half, OCRFC rallied to give one of the strongest performances I have ever seen from Oriel, making life very difficult for the opposition and suppressing their talent incredibly well to prevent them from increasing their lead. It is safe to say that they had a much tougher game than they anticipated. This game was followed by the annual Old Boys’ game and social, which had a great turnout and was hugely enjoyable.

As we move towards next season, I would like to thank all of those that helped with the organisation this year and to wish the best of luck to the large number of OCRFC players who are leaving. I look forward to the next year under my successor, Finley Bacon, and the incoming committee.

Bertie Warner, Captain

OCRFC 2019-2020 after the Cuppers quarter-final
SQUASH
Oriel Squash has been a pleasure to Captain this year, with both the team and casual players turning up regularly and enjoying the squash down at Rectory Road.

Oriel 1 were set to secure back-to-back promotions to the premier league before the coronavirus ended our season a couple games short, but this does not diminish the superb achievement of the players across both terms. Oriel 2 also performed admirably, with their form improving over the course of the year.

Former captain Francis Judd is sadly leaving us this year and he will be a great loss to Oriel squash. Leaving with him are Erik Miller and Olle Tielrooij, who were set to receive Colours for their excellent achievement and effort for the club this year. Tim Charteris also deserves a mention for consistently good results. Simon Norris will be taking up the captain’s position next year and may the enthusiasm for squash at Oriel continue!

Thanks to everyone who turned up for both social and competitive squash this year and I hope to see many of you again next year.

Michael Selby, Captain
The Tortoise Club at heart has two primary purposes: the recognition and celebration of outstanding Oriel oarsmanship and the financial support of the Oriel College Boat Club (OCBC). Any rower who achieved Tortoise status in their time at the College is automatically entitled to membership of the club including those previously members of the Blessed Virgins. The Club Council works to achieve the club’s fundraising aims alongside organising club events and acting as a point of contact for Boat Club captains seeking advice.

For years I have maintained that Wyndhams is one of the top five events on the UK/International rowing circuit. The 2019-20 season vindicated this belief, with every other race up and down the country cancelled by local flooding or global pandemics.

Kate and Zach have certainly been dealt the hardest hand of any Captains in the last seventy years and their perseverance through a year which saw less than a bumps campaign worth of rowable days on the Isis is a true embodiment of the Tortoise spirit. Never deterred by the mountains in their way, OCBC continued training and putting out crews when others had long since given up hope. Your efforts will not go unrewarded as this legacy lives on in the crews of 2021 and beyond.

November’s London Dinner took pride of place in the Tortoise social calendar this year. A Tortoise armada sixty-strong turned out in celebration of the men’s 2019 Torpids and Eights Headships. I hope we will be able to meet soon whether in London, Oxford or Henley to enjoy the magic of Oriel rowing.

Should you find yourself with a burning desire to support the OCBC after reading the Captains’ reports do not hesitate to reach out to me at tortoise-president@orielrowing.org or the club directly at captains@orielrowing.org. Crews returning for a reunion Boat Club dinner never fail to have a fantastic time. Beyond financial support, the Club Council always wants to hear from Tortoises interested in getting more closely involved in the operation of the club and those looking to return to the river.

Finally, to any current students looking back on the year and questioning whether to row again, the water is roughest just before the bump and you haven’t come all this way to turn back now. Floreat Oriel!!

Stevan Boljevic (2014) President
Another record turnout for November’s London dinner
On Wednesday 26 February 2020, the Oriel Women’s Network was launched at The Star Tavern in Belgravia, which is managed by Orielensis Ema Harker (2010). The goal of the Oriel Women’s Network is to foster a community for the College’s alumnae to meet, form meaningful connections and provide support for one another.

For the inaugural event, members of the alumnae community gathered to listen to a thought-provoking discussion with panellists Claire Toogood (1991, BA Jurisprudence), now a Barrister with the Crown Office Chambers; Sara Vaughan (1989, BA Modern History), Innovator, Creator of Brands with Purpose, Global Chief Purpose and Sustainability Advisor at Marie Claire; and Annabel Bosman (1993, BA Modern Languages), Head of Relationship Management at the Royal Bank of Canada. The panel discussion was moderated by members of the Development and Alumni Engagement Office.

The theme of the panel discussion was ‘How to build up and support the women around you’. Claire, Sara, and Annabel talked about how their time at Oriel helped shape their careers, the importance of mentoring others, creating diverse workplace cultures, and the best life/career advice they have received. Following the conversation, attendees enjoyed getting to know one another over food and drink.

Since the first Oriel Women’s Network event, the community has come together online. Groups have been set up on both Facebook and LinkedIn, with alumnae sharing their experiences of lockdown and reminiscing about their time at Oriel. It has been wonderful to see our alumnae community come together, and we’ve enjoyed sharing memories and seeing photos of pets, bakes and our beautiful College.

We look forward to the time when we are able to meet again, and are still planning events and activities for the future which we would like to hear your thoughts on. Please do get in touch if you have ideas for themes for our next events, content for our social media pages or if you are interested in being a speaker or hosting an event at your place of work or elsewhere in the future. Please contact: events@oriel.ox.ac.uk.

Kathryn Ferguson, Alumni Engagement and Events Officer
Some fifteen Oriel golfing alumni enjoyed a delightful day in September 2019 at our usual venue, Woking Golf Club. Woking is a most beautiful course with a fine clubhouse, ranked among the top thirty courses in England. While its deceptive greens present a challenge to the best golfers, its wide fairways are reasonably forgiving for the less talented – provided one stays out of the extensive heather. Richard Wells (1953), one of the founders of the thriving Oriel Alumni Golf Society, is a former captain of Woking, and attended to preside over a splendid, convivial lunch and to present the prizes for the morning’s eighteen-hole Stableford competition, for the Oriel Cup.

It was a pleasure to welcome new faces, including Tim Cumming and Marcus Paine (both 1981). The field included several former winners of the Cup, led by Mike Howard (1975), who has had five victories, the latest in 2014. For the last four years, the top spot had been won alternately by Simon Combe (1981) and Graham Davies (2005), who came to September’s competition level on two victories each. In a very tight contest, with several other contenders scoring highly, Graham narrowly prevailed with the score of thirty-seven points, one better than his handicap. As he was playing off only seven, the best among those taking part, that was an excellent achievement.

Autumn was followed by an exceptionally wet winter, which shut down the majority of golf courses. As spring approached, we were looking forward to the annual Oxford Intercollegiate Golf Competition for alumni over the Red and Blue courses at Frilford Heath in April, for which we had selected a strong team of ten with several able reserves who could have played for the individual trophies awarded alongside the team prize. Following our second place in 2019 we had some reason to hope for a first team win. However, when the news of the COVID-19 pandemic struck the organisers quite rightly took the decision to cancel.

The pandemic has brought tragedy to many and challenged science, public health, economic life and not least the pursuit of education. Sport is a subordinate concern. However, the months of lockdown have reminded us of the value of outdoor exercise and social life for mental and physical health. It is very welcome that, with a bit of ingenuity, some recovery has already been possible, golf being a sport where social distancing is relatively straightforward to achieve, on the course if not in the clubhouse. We hope that 2021 will bring better news of Oriel alumni playing this fascinating game together, enjoying one another’s company.

Steven Wood (1969)
FEATURES
GEORGE MOODY AND OTHER RECENT LEGATORS

Sermon preached at the Commemoration of Benefactors Service on Sunday 27 October 2019 by the Treasurer, Mr Wilf Stephenson

Think upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

Nehemiah 5, 19

Soon after I arrived as Treasurer of Oriel I was called by a retired professor. He had been given three months to live by doctors. Would I be his executor – that is take responsibility for administering his affairs – after his death? So began part of my job here that wasn’t in any job description and certainly hadn’t been mentioned during the interview process but that has been amongst the most rewarding and greatest privileges of my life.

Looking back through the files to prepare for this sermon reminded me of this former Fellow, eight other remarkable men and two remarkable women all marked out by their devotion to our College such that in their wills they gave Oriel a large share if not all of their wealth. My own role has been to ensure the wishes of all these benefactors are fulfilled and the maximum benefit is derived from their generosity. Sometime this is merely a matter of checking a Will and corresponding with lawyers, but sometime it is more personal and occasionally very complicated – attending a funeral as one of only two mourners (the other was my wife), making decisions about family heirlooms or selling a house, witnessing an auction, descending on a recalcitrant lawyer to ensure assets were recovered, and even returning a precious badge to the stewards of Henley Royal Regatta.

George Moody will be a name familiar to many people here. Some will have known him, for until his health started to decline he was a frequent visitor. He endowed a Fellowship (and a dinner!) in his lifetime, as well as at one time providing a guarantee to the bank as the College teetered on the edge of bankruptcy. So like a previous great legator, Cecil Rhodes, it can truly be said that he saved this College at a time of great financial need. George (or Eric as he was known by some of his family and friends) was born in 1913. He came up to Oriel in 1932 to read Modern History. He was a member of the 2nd VIII in his first year and watched the 1st VIII go Head of the River. He was a dedicated oarsman and rose rapidly from novice to the 1st VIII in his second year, an VIII good enough to successfully defend the Headship. He became Captain of Boats in his final year and led the club to another successful defence. He clearly had great powers of leadership for prior to rowing to London from Oxford for training on the Tideway, the coach thought they would struggle to retain the Headship of the fourth division!

On graduating, like so many, George headed for London and there joined Thames Rowing Club where he met his lifelong friend James O’Mara. In 1938 James and George
stroked two Thames eights which played Oxford and Cambridge for a staging of the Boat Race in the film *A Yank at Oxford*. George soon returned to his family home in Stourbridge to take a role in the family printing and publishing business. His love of rowing continued with support for Thames, coaching many Thames and Oriel crews, membership of the Leander Club and election, in 1967, as Steward of Henley Royal Regatta. After the Second World War George took over from his mother as managing director of the business but she remained as chairman until her death aged 104. He became a leader of the local community, a councillor, Rotarian, and a feofee (or trustee) of Old Swinford Hospital, a foundation set up in the seventeenth century for the education of poor boys. He served for nearly thirty years as a magistrate. In 1957 with others he established the Oriel Boat Club Trust and in 1970 was a founder of the Oriel Development Trust that did so much to rebuild the College’s finances over the next forty years.

When he died in 2012 he left shares in the family business to the College. The remaining shares were owned by his sister, Mrs Joan Braithwaite, then aged 102. Joan was still a director of the company and I was asked to join the board. Joan was a teacher and has been an Olympic triallist as a sailor. She almost singlehandedly funded the X Class fleet on the Solent, buying a new boat almost every year when she was racing. She too loved Oriel as she had agreed to leave her own shares in the business to the College when she died aged 104 and 331 days.

Peter Brunt took a Double First and won the Craven scholarship 1939. Set for an academic career, war service intervened. Unfit for military service he joined the Ministry of Shipping, later renamed War Transport, rising quickly to principal. He returned to Oxford as a Senior Demy (graduate scholar) at Magdalen in 1946. His doctoral research was on the influence of Stoicism in Rome. After four years teaching at St Andrews, he returned to Oriel as a Fellow and Tutor. He was a fully committed Tutor and Officer of the College, serving as Dean (there were no Senior Dean or Junior Deans then) whilst continuing to research and write. He also used his administrative and financial talents to serve the wider University as a member of the General Board and chairman of a committee to review the organisation of the Ashmolean Museum. After a short stint in Cambridge as Senior Bursar of Caius, he was appointed to the Camden Chair of Ancient History at Brasenose. However, his love of Oriel remained to the end of his life and he left his entire estate to the College. It took his colleagues seven years to prepare his final essays on the Stoics for publication, and every year we receive royalties from this and his earlier publications.

Owen Walker came to the College from Canton, Ohio as a Rhodes Scholar in 1933 after undergraduate studies at Brown University. He took a First in Jurisprudence followed by a First in the BCL. He spent his entire career with a major Cleveland law firm specialising in corporate finance and banking, a career interrupted by service in the
US Army from 1943 to 1946. He became a distinguished member of the Cleveland and American Bar Associations. He divided his estate between Oriel and Brown, becoming our largest ever American benefactor.

Kenneth Turpin was Provost from 1957 to 1980 and was Vice Chancellor of the University from 1966 to 1968. In his day there was no Academic Office or Admissions Tutor. He did all of their work himself with the help of the College Secretary. His sister Mary, a teacher, came to live in the Lodgings, as did their mother. Mary was a tower of strength, supporting Kenneth in his work as Provost, running the household, entertaining guests and visitors. She described her decision to come to Oriel as the best of her life. Kenneth and Mary established a fund to help students with financial problems – in Provost Nicholson’s words: ‘to help them pay off drinking and gambling debts!’ They endowed a Junior Research Fellowship – the first fully endowed post of its kind at Oriel. Mary used to come into see me with her dog, always concerned about the College, and particularly whether I was looking after the money well.

Cecil (Bill) Hodges came up to Oriel from Winchester College, another institution he loved for the rest of his life, in 1940. He took a first in Mods but was then called up to serve in the Royal Artillery, landing in Normandy on D-Day and fighting his way across France and Germany. He was one of the first British officers to enter Belsen. After completing his degree, he joined the Civil Service and began a successful career in the Treasury. He served in the UK Mission to the United Nations and also in the Cabinet Office and was appointed CBE. In retirement to the Cotswolds he was renowned for the dinner parties he gave with his partner until he finally moved back to a London flat which he left to Oriel and Winchester.

Basil Reeve arrived at Oriel to read history but on arrival switched to medicine and completed his studies at Guy’s Hospital. As a boy he had become a friend and piano partner of Benjamin Britten. After qualifying and working for a short time as a GP, Basil joined the Medical Research Council early in the Second World War. He befriended Ludwig Wittgenstein, who was working as a pharmacy porter, and employed him as a technician when the laboratory was relocated to Newcastle. Together they developed simple rules for assessing blood transfusion needs for use by paramedics on the battlefield. Later in the army in Italy, he saved countless wounded by replacing the routine use of sugar water to replace lost fluids with a salt solution. After the war he became a pacifist and emigrated to Denver, Colorado where he continued his research, particularly into proteins in blood and their regulation, which led to his study of blood clotting. He finally retired from medical research at the age of eighty-four to care for his sick wife.

Peter Baldwin took a double first in Mods and Greats before joining the teaching staff of Charterhouse school. Within a year he was promoted to head the classics
Bill Mason started work at the age of fourteen as an apprentice painter in a coachworks. He was called up to the army in 1944. After service in the Royal Artillery in Belgium and Germany he witnessed the freeing of concentration camp victims. Before he was demobilised he was able to take an education course at the University of Göttingen, his first experience of further education. Returning to work painting buses in 1947, he attended classes at the Workers Education Association in Spennymoor and in 1950 won a place at Ruskin College. He came to Oriel in 1950 after completing a diploma at Ruskin and went on to teacher training in Durham and a career as a history teacher. He became an expert on industrial archaeology, and the architecture of English country houses, and in retirement was a guide at Durham Cathedral. At his funeral he was described as a time-served craftsman, a scholar, a teacher, a councillor, supporter of his church, benefactor to his College and other causes, a friend to many and an all-round good and moral man.

Remarkable people indeed and remarkable for their love of this College and the thankfulness they had for all it did for them – we should all ask ourselves today and everyday – are we worthy of beneficiaries of such munificence? Almost two weeks ago I attended evensong in Christ Church Cathedral for the annual Court Sermon. This is an historic event, centuries old, formerly held in our church, the University Church, across the High Street, and known as the Assize Sermon. The great John Keble, then a Fellow of Oriel, gave the sermon in 1833 which marks the beginning of what has become widely known as the Oxford Movement (but by some the Oriel Movement). He caused a sensation by speaking of ‘National Apostasy’. The most recent sermon preached by the Dean of Salisbury drew parallels between this and recent events in our country and spoke of a state of ‘national antipathy’ and called for a return to better ways of consensus and dialogue rather than posturing and populism. I ask – has this College itself fallen into a state of antipathy? We the Fellows and all members of the College should I think reflect on this – are we indeed worthy of such munificence – can we indeed say truthfully and with a clear conscience: ‘for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks be given by many on our behalf’.
Many superlatives have been used to describe John Henry Newman. Defined variously as the greatest ever English theologian, or the greatest theologian of the nineteenth century, in his own lifetime he was celebrated and derided in equal measure. As the subject of a lawsuit he narrowly escaped a prison sentence for libel, while later in life he was elevated to become a Cardinal of the Roman Church. On his death in 1890 at the age of eighty-nine, thousands lined the streets of Birmingham to watch the funeral procession of a man who had been part of the fabric of national life for almost seventy years.

On 13 October 2019, however, John Henry Newman achieved the status and title to which all mortals ultimately aspire: that of sanctity.

In his later life John Henry Newman wrote that he never wanted anything more than ‘to live and die a Fellow of Oriel’ and credited our College, the many friends (and a few enemies) he made there, and the writings and sermons executed during his twenty-two years as a Fellow, as being the making of him.

In recent years Oriel has done its best to repay the compliment, and John Henry Newman finds himself in pride of place throughout the College, not least in the Newman Oratory, once part of his private rooms and now a place set aside for private prayer and contemplation.

For Oriel the Canonisation of John Henry Newman is a matter of huge pride. A delegation of over eighty Orielenses including a number of current students, led by Provost Neil Mendoza, travelled to the Eternal City to participate in the events around the Canonisation, as well as the ceremony itself. On Saturday 12 October Orielenses were, with the kind permission of the Rector (a Mertonian and sometime Fellow of Magdalen College), invited to a tour of the Venerable English College. Originally founded in 1362 as a hospice for English pilgrims visiting Rome, it was re-established in 1579 by Cardinal William Allen, another Orielensis and former Fellow of the College, to train English and Welsh men for the Catholic priesthood. It continues to do so to this day, and
as such is seldom open to the public. There followed a traditional Roman lunch at a local trattoria, which over fifty Orielenses and friends attended, much enjoyed by all.

The next day was an early start for those attending the ceremony in St Peter’s Square. In a ceremony presided over by Pope Francis, and attended by HRH the Prince of Wales, John Henry Newman was canonised alongside four women, hailing from Switzerland, India, Brazil and Italy, which gave a vibrant and international feel to the celebrations. Following the Mass, the Provost hosted a lunch reception for Orielenses on the roof of the Hotel Minerva; over eighty-five people attended including guest of honour Cardinal Gerhard Müller, a well-known Newman scholar and friend of the College.

John Henry Newman now joins the canon of Oriel Saints, alongside Thomas More (confirmed in his Oriel connection by Jeremy Catto in his 2013 Oriel College: A History), and Edmund Powell, another martyr of Henry VIII. There are, of course, many more Oriel saints than just these three. People we have known who are no longer with us; others down the centuries who are now long forgotten. As we celebrate John Henry Newman’s canonisation we can remember and celebrate them, too, and imagine them all meeting merrily in heaven.

On 8 February 2019 I met Pope Francis at the Vatican and remembered John Henry Newman to His Holiness. Two days later the Holy See announced that the Pope had confirmed his Canonisation, and that this would take place later in the year. A coincidence, perhaps, but I can only hope that, once again, Oriel played some further part in the making of John Henry Newman.

Sean Power  
Fellow and Development Director
In July 2020 the 300th birthday of the Hampshire naturalist – and Oriel alumnus – the Revd Gilbert White was celebrated, albeit in a rather more limited way than planned because of the pandemic. White had a lifelong connection to Oriel, where he was admitted as a commoner in 1739. He became a Fellow in 1743, remaining one until his death in 1793, and was Junior Proctor and Dean of Oriel in 1752.

It is recorded that as a student Gilbert studied quite hard, but played hard also – shooting, music, horse riding and many other outdoor pursuits are recorded. In later years, Gilbert was a regular – and welcome – visitor to Oriel. His biographer, Rashleigh Holt-White, notes: ‘Such was his happy, and indeed inimitable manner of relating an anecdote and telling a story, that the room was always filled when he was there.’

The burdens of study in eighteenth century Oxford were not as arduous as they are today. In 1783, Molly White, one of Gilbert’s numerous nephews and nieces – and a favourite – recorded in a letter ‘My uncle White says he remembers calling on two brothers who inhabited the same rooms and desiring to borrow a pen and ink and has been rather surprised with the answer that they never really had possessed any since they

Believed to be the only confirmed picture of Gilbert White – on his graduation 30 June 1743. This picture hangs in the Small Senior Common Room.

‘OBSERVING NARROWLY’ – THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY WORLD OF REVD GILBERT WHITE
came to the college, tho’ they been there two or three years.’ Though his connection with Oriel and Oxford was long and fruitful, it would not on its own have led to Gilbert being remembered three hundred years after his death.

After holding a number of curacies in the 1740s Gilbert settled in the village of his birth, Selborne, moving into the family home, The Wakes, in 1758. Catering to the spiritual needs of around 300 people was not exactly a demanding job, but Gilbert had firm views about being a parish priest: ‘A clergyman should not be idle and unemployed’. From childhood Gilbert had been fascinated by all aspects of nature. He now turned this into a disciplined study of his environment. ‘If people that live in the country would take a little pains, daily observations might be made with respect to animals, and particularly regarding their actions and economy, which are the life and soul of natural history.’ (12 May 1770).

Gilbert’s particular skill was for what he called ‘observing narrowly’. By carefully observing flora and fauna, noting the time, place and circumstances of each observation in a series of record books, Gilbert laid the foundations of modern scientific method. He is widely seen as the father of ecology. His biographer, Richard Mabey, states that: ‘Gilbert White’s book, more than any other, has shaped our everyday view of the relations between humans and nature.’

Gilbert was very much a product of his environment. What in others would have been a weakness he turned into a strength. ‘I am now become a very bad traveller. In general, foreign animals fall seldom in my way; my little intelligence is confined to the narrow sphere of my own observations at home.’

He made numerous discoveries about the natural world precisely because of his ability to focus on detail. He was the first to identify the harvest mouse (*Micromys minutus*) as a separate species: ‘They resemble much in colour the *Mus domesticus medius* but are smaller. They never enter houses and are carried into ricks and barns with the sheaves and build their nests up from the ground among the standing wheat.’

Even the smallest creatures attracted his attention. His famous observations on the humble earthworm established the importance of the species in the process of soil formation and renewal. ‘Earth-worms, though in appearance a small and despicable link in the chain of Nature, yet, if lost, would make a lamentable chasm. For, to say nothing of half the birds, and some quadrupeds which are almost entirely supported by them, worms seem to be the great promoters of vegetation, by boring, perforating, and loosening the soil, and rendering it pervious to rains and the fibres of plants, and, most

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1. Letters GW to Pennant 22 Feb 1770
2. GK 4 Dec 1767
of all, by throwing up such infinite numbers of lumps of earth called worm-casts, which, being their excrement, is a fine manure for grain and grass.’ This was to inspire one of Gilbert’s greatest fans, Charles Darwin, to produce his own book on worms, *The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms*, published in 1881.

After years of pressure from friends, Gilbert was finally persuaded to write *The Natural History of Selborne*. First published in 1789, it quickly established itself as a favourite with the public, and has been reprinted in countless editions since. ‘A more delightful, or more original work than Mr. White’s History of Selborne has seldom been published. I beheld the end of it with the pensive regret with which a traveller looks upon the setting sun’ (*The Topographer*, April 1789). ‘*The Natural History of Selborne* ought to have a place among the household books of every English family’ (*The Quarterly Review*, January, 1828).

Gilbert White is in many ways a man in tune with the concerns of the modern age — he was the first person to understand the basic principle of ecology, the interdependence of all living things. Human beings are simply one part of the whole. In Sir David Attenborough’s words, Gilbert was ‘a man living in harmony with nature.’

His own generation put it in slightly different words, ‘The great glory of the book is that it has stimulated so many young people to make a profitable use of their powers of observation, and, by studying the natural objects around them, to live happier and fuller lives thus fulfilling the aspiration of Gilbert White, in the Preface to his book, that he might have ‘induced his readers to pay a more ready attention to the wonders of Creation’.

*Philip Geddes*

*Trustee, Gilbert White & The Oates Collections*

Gilbert White’s house in Selborne, The Wakes, is open to visitors.
More information: www.gilbertwhiteshouse.org.uk

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3 NHS letter XXXV to Barrington 20 May 1777
4 Letters Vol 2 p 278
I’m just beginning a history of the Peasants’ War. These days, archival holdings have been photographed and digitised, and everything is online or in print, so you might think you could write it all from the Library, sitting in College. But I soon realised that I needed to be there, to understand up close the lie of the land especially around Mühlhausen, the area in present-day Thuringia where the German revolutionary and hero of the former Eastern Germany, Thomas Müntzer, was based. In 1525, the peasants fought a famous battle against the lords at Frankenhausen. No match for cavalry and disciplined soldiers, thousands of peasants were slain. Thuringia today in the former communist East Germany is not a major tourist destination; the biggest local town is Erfurt, two hours from Berlin by train; and Frankenhausen, which has no station, is a further hour-and-a-half from there. I knew that to get a sense of place, I would have to slow down, and a little googling revealed that a new cycle path had just opened, linking many of the towns and villages I wanted to see.

I rang the local bike shops to arrange a bicycle hire, but all they had were old Raleigh bikes with back-pedal brakes. No, I thought; I hadn’t spent the last twenty years cycling on grown-up bikes with cleats to end up on a Raleigh back-pedal, so I tried ‘Beyer Two-Wheel’ instead. Herr Beyer would not rent me a bike but he would sell me a Slovakian 23 speedster. That seemed reasonable, so I set off from Berlin. Trains in this part of Germany being not so reliable, I ended up at his Mühlhausen bike shop an hour later on Friday than I had planned.

Herr Beyer had opened his bike-shop in 1990, straight after the fall of the wall. He converted it from a set of flats and designed it to sell both motorbikes and bicycles. The shop is doing well, nearly thirty years on, and now his son runs it with him. Business has been pretty steady since the start, though some years he sells more motorbikes, some, more bicycles – Thuringia is the home of Marcus Kittel, the famous sprint cyclist, whose retirement was announced on the radio as I was buying the bike. It weighed a ton, had massive suspension on the front forks, and rode like a tank. I was dubious. This is what you need, Herr Beyer told me, and he turned out to be right.

It was closing time, so I asked to buy a map. No, Herr Beyer didn’t do maps. By now everything else had shut, and it was a public holiday weekend, so nothing would be open until Tuesday.
Ah well, I thought. I had seen the rough outlines of the path online, and I was sure it would be signposted.

Bike paths in Thuringia do indeed have signs with green arrows, and once you know roughly where and at what height to look for them, it’s a doddle. But what the signs don’t tell you is which bike-path you are on. I hadn’t realised this, nor that I would need to memorise the names of the villages through which I would be passing. I set off, following the green arrows.

After a few wrong turns, I went through Görmar, where Müntzer and the peasants had gathered before going out to the Eichsfeld. Here too they returned with their booty and divided it up. Next came Schlotheim, a pretty little place with a road that winds uphill past the church (with an impressive line of pastor’s gravestones) to a charming eighteenth century pink stately home. But there was something odd about the building, and as I got near, I realised that it was perched above what had once been a moat, with extensive fortifications. It was the remains of a medieval castle, burnt to the ground by the peasants. Now a home for disturbed children, it was fenced off from the church and the rest of the village. Here was where Müntzer had been brought on his way to execution, when he had been captured after the Battle of Frankenhausen; likely the ruins of the castle would still have been smoking as he was taken to the lords’ tent encampment.

The green arrows were becoming sparser, but I continued on, eventually finding myself in a wood on shady paths. In the middle of the forest I finally saw an arrow with a destination: Sondershausen, my goal for the day. Relieved, I set off, but I did notice
that the path was somewhat bumpy. It continued, getting worse until it was no more than a dried-up stream of boulders. I couldn’t cycle back up it, and I was now several kilometres further on; I had no idea where I was. At this point I met an elderly woman with her daughter. Yes, she assured me, this would eventually get to Sondershausen, but no, it certainly was not the bike path. Her son and daughter in law had also tried the new cycle-path, and they had got lost and had given up altogether.

The bike Herr Beyer had sold me now came into its own, especially the suspension, and I did eventually reach Sondershausen. The next morning I came to a former monastery, rebuilt, with only its fabulous Romanesque crypt original. It had been destroyed by the peasants in 1525. On the return journey I turned off at Ebeleben, where I found a deserted eighteenth century garden, some of its statuary still intact, its stately trees just as they had been planted, with some romantic-looking ruins in a corner. The ruins were the peasants’ work too, all that was left of a medieval castle, burnt to the ground in 1525: the temperatures were so fierce that the original bricks in the local museum still bear the burn-marks.

Everywhere I went, monasteries and castles had been burnt to the ground. Lordship had been flattened and only church spires were left. These days, after forty years of the East German regime which had no use for religion, the churches are all marked as ‘monuments’ with a small metal sign on the outside and are mostly closed; there are no congregations left to use them. Lutheranism, never really much of a peasant religion, has not outlasted the German Democratic Republic in rural Thuringia, and the Church is now saddled with hundreds of mostly padlocked churches it can’t maintain.

Now I had memorised the villages through which I had to pass, cycling the following days became much easier. The countryside was gorgeous, mostly open farmland, with the late summer scent of squashed plums and apples in the hedgerows beside the path. High up on the left I could now see the line of hills that ended with the Frankenhausen plateau where the peasants’ battle was fought. Cycling up the road to the monument itself was the only challenging cycling of the trip; at the top, there was an incongruous fruit-stall in the car park, with a local farmer selling apples and pears.
At 123 metres long and fourteen metres high, the Panorama of the Peasant’s War at Frankenhausen is the biggest painting in the world, and it took Tübke and a team of artists twelve years to complete. You climb the stairs to a low-lit ante-room, and then another flight to enter the hushed, darkened space of the circular picture. There is something deeply moving about its sheer colossal scale, on the site where thousands of people died. It opened in September 1989, just a few weeks before the regime that commissioned it finally fell. It’s a memorial to a world that no longer exists – the tragedy of the peasants, scattered and killed on that battlefield; and the German Democratic Republic that honoured them but barely survived to see the monument that celebrated its view of history as class struggle. And yet Tübke’s painting does not endorse a Marxist myth. Müntzer’s rainbow flag is lowered at the moment of his defeat, time is cyclical, not historical materialist and the gigantic canvas is a bravura ironic reworking of the corpus of sixteenth century print and art.

There were so many amazing things I saw in Thuringia. Friends took me to Allstedt Castle, where Müntzer preached his bloodthirsty Sermon to the Princes in 1524, in the presence of the Saxon Duke and his son: Müntzer roundly told them that the birds would pick the flesh from their bones as unjust rulers. We now know that the sermon was preached in the dining hall, where the nobles must have nearly choked on their chicken – and as we were there, the entire castle had been rented out to a wedding party, who straggled in wearing sixteenth century costume. From there we went to
Heldrungen Castle, where Müntzer spent his final days being interrogated and tortured. A handwritten sign hung on the castle door said it was shut for ‘several days’, but we could see tents and people dressed in sixteenth century clothes. Whoever made the sign had carelessly failed to lock the gate, so I went in, encountering a rather hostile-looking bunch of historical re-enacters who let me walk along the ramparts so long as I didn’t photograph anyone. They seemed harmless enough, but in AFD Thuringia you don’t know what kind of politics might go with historical nostalgia.

So what did I learn? Cycling brought home to me as nothing else could how the peasants remade the landscape, literally levelling lordship. They plundered the monasteries, fished out the ponds and drank the monks’ cellars dry in a carnival of togetherness while terrified lords swore brotherhood with them to safeguard their property. Carousing from village to village gave the movement momentum. Those who fought with their backs to the ‘waggon castle’ at Frankenhausen would have been able to see the land they were defending for miles around. No wonder they believed Müntzer when, echoing the symbol of the covenant they had sewn on their banners, a rainbow appeared on the eve of battle.

I cycled back to Mühlhausen, where Thomas Müntzer was town preacher in the months before the Battle of Frankenhausen and lived in one of the biggest houses in town, right next to the main church of the Virgin; he didn’t have time to enjoy its massive kitchen (that still survives) or its vast hall for long. It was evening and Mühlhausen was packed, with a fair and ferris wheel in full swing. A brilliantly-lit flashing big dipper drewfed the tower of St Mary’s. It was the ‘Kirchweih’, the yearly ‘church ale’, where everyone comes from miles around for a carnival of drunkenness that goes on for the best part of a week. Some things don’t change: church ales and carnival were how the peasant war began and to every question of the authorities, the peasants would reply: ‘we’re just taking carnival cakes to our neighbours’.

Lyndal Roper
Regius Professor of History
The prize was founded by the late Mrs Eliza Ann Lee-Hamilton by bequest in 1943, in memory of Eugene James Lee-Hamilton (1864) who died in 1907, in order to encourage the composition of the Petrachan sonnet in Oxford and Cambridge. The winning entry for 2020 is printed below:

UPON JAMES SADLER’S ASCENT FROM CHRIST CHURCH MEADOW

Before the roof unfurled and bore him, cupped
In glory far above the field, he caught
His fevered breath. They warned the skies were fraught
With cryptic fowl whose lair he might disrupt;
Lest he nudge a dragon’s tail or irrupt
Into the very heavens! Sadler thought,
Instead, of mighty Scipio who sought
True sight beyond the blue – but how abrupt
Was that first gust of air! All thought dispersed
As he forsook the ground and cleft the sky,
Now deaf to birds euphonious, now blind
To all but whirling silver, now submersed
In pulsing blood, dry tongue, the brimming eye,
The world below, the future far behind.

Jane Cooper
New College, Oxford
The view towards St Mary’s Church in Third Quad
BOOK REVIEWS
The Discourse on Metaphysics is one of Leibniz’s most important works, and Leibniz is a central figure in the history of philosophy. Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra has offered a brand-new translation of this work, with an introduction and critical commentary, which showcases the depth and breadth of Leibniz’s thought. This book is simultaneously a fine piece of scholarship which significantly contributes to the academic conversation, and also an excellent, focused introduction to Leibniz’s philosophy through one of his key writings. Anyone with an interest in Leibniz (and many of those without) would appreciate and enjoy this book.

Written in 1685/6 (though unpublished until 1846), Leibniz’s Discourse offers a systematic account of what the world is fundamentally like, and why it is that way. Leibniz outlines a picture of reality that starts by considering the nature of God and rattles through longstanding issues like creation, the nature of substances (including us), the natural world and our knowledge of it, and the character of minds and ideas. As Rodriguez-Pereyra points out, what Leibniz gives us is a metaphysics for Christianity: a system in which there is a perfect God who creates the most perfect of all worlds. This system has many interconnected and distinctive features, including i) the world is designed according to God’s plans and is perfectly ordered, ii) every individual thing is so completely specified that all its properties (past, present and future) are settled by its nature, iii) every thing reflects or ‘mirrors’ everything else in the universe, and iv) despite this, no two things ever truly interact, because they are wholly independent.

The Discourse is crucial for understanding Leibniz’s mature philosophy, as it provides a kind of manifesto for his worldview. Rodriguez-Pereyra gives a novel translation of this central text, with a contextualising introduction and a section-by-section commentary which is the first of its type in English. In his translation, Rodriguez-Pereyra has consciously stayed as close as possible to the original text, for instance in maintaining consistency throughout in the translation of terms. This allows Leibniz’s own voice to
come through, as it respects the terminological choices he made. As a service to those whose seventeenth century French is less than stellar, this new translation provides a reliable and authentic text from which to work.

It is the commentary, however, which will stand out to many. Rodriguez-Pereyra explicitly gives us a commentary just on the *Discourse*, not on Leibniz’s philosophy more generally. He only brings in other Leibnizian material to elucidate what is said in this particular text. This focus enables a level of detail and continuity of narrative which makes even those of us familiar with the text look at it afresh. By choosing to engage with the text section-by-section, rather than thematically, he brings attention onto previously overlooked parts of the *Discourse* and highlights its overall unity.

The varied topics of Leibniz’s sections are elaborated with care and precision, and a particular virtue is the way Rodriguez-Pereyra draws out the connections between these seemingly diverse sections. There is a special attention on Leibniz’s arguments for his claims, and Rodriguez-Pereyra points out where these are lacking (or missing). In this sense it is a properly *critical* commentary, where Rodriguez-Pereyra takes the role of a critical friend giving a forensic examination of Leibniz’s case. It is a mark of the respect with which Rodriguez-Pereyra treats Leibniz that he holds him to the very highest standards.

For several of the sections, Rodriguez-Pereyra’s reflections in the commentary constitute significant novel research on the topics. For just one example: in Section 16 Rodriguez-Pereyra offers a new criticism of Leibniz’s account of miracles. Because of Leibniz’s insistence that what happens to individual substances must come from within, nothing external can act on substances. But this means that not even God can act on substances. So miracles are therefore ruled out by Leibniz’s account of substance, despite his claims to the contrary, because a miracle must involve God acting on a substance.

There is much still to be learned from the *Discourse*, and this volume is a major contribution to that task. It is remarkable that Rodriguez-Pereyra manages to make such an impact within 200 readable pages (the commentary takes up 142 of these). Future generations of scholars and students of Leibniz will be grateful for this excellent book.

Leibniz’s thought has sometimes been described as labyrinthine (he himself was fond of the labyrinth metaphor for different purposes). Rodriguez-Pereyra is the ideal companion with whom to explore the maze. The reader is guided through the various twists and turns by an author who is both a world-class Leibniz scholar and a leading contemporary metaphysician. This book provides the mythical ball of thread by which the labyrinth can be navigated.

*Martin Pickup*
It is great to see Robert Wainwright, our College Chaplain, rework his DPhil thesis into a fascinating monograph on covenant theology during the English Reformation. Wainwright’s work functions as a detailed corrective to histories of the English Reformation which see it as an ‘insular’ phenomenon: studying concepts of the covenant promulgated by English and continental thinkers, he shows his readers that the English Reformation was inseparable from its European context. For him, the nature of controversy over the Biblical covenants in England indicated Swiss influence. English reformers were not acting in their own religious world, but engaging in the debates and differences emanating from Heinrich Bullinger’s Zurich, Martin Bucer’s Strasbourg and John Calvin’s Geneva.

The majority of the book focuses on the views of individual theologians. Chapters three and four take the reciprocal covenant as the marker of the Swiss Reformed tradition of Zwingli, Bullinger and Calvin, and trace it in the thought of English reformers Coverdale, Tyndale, Hooper and Bradford. This is developed in chapters five and six in an analysis of the same reformers’ approach to sacramental theology, to show that the concepts of covenant held among English reformers ‘can be helpfully interpreted according to continental patterns’ (p.329). Wainwright’s fluent analysis made the complex arguments and nuanced doctrinal differences that emerged in Europe and were received in England possible to digest. Introducing helpful explanatory methods such as distinguishing between mutual, conditional, unilateral or reciprocal conceptions of covenant and their respective influence, he engaged us with this somewhat unfamiliar area of history!

The main takeaway of the work for scholars of the Reformation is the monograph’s main claim – the extent to which Reformism on the continent influenced currents in the English Church. Yet this timely argument is also complemented by a scrupulous attention to the secondary material on the English Reformation. For example, Thomas Cromwell appears not as a bland bureaucrat but a cosmopolitan thinker whose continental links...
were vital for introducing Swiss Reformed ideas into English circles. Wainwright should be commended for how he uses his subject matter to paint a slightly sidelong perspective on other more extensively researched topics. He stitches together subjects from Cromwell and Anne Boleyn to Lollardy and humanism, and makes his work interesting reading for any specialist across the infinitely diverse field of sixteenth century studies.

Wainwright’s work also encouraged us to ask questions related to historical fields of our own interest. Taking inspiration from his continental, interactive approach, questions of how Swiss covenant theology was received, if at all, among the English laity and commoners, came to mind. Our own knowledge of the way in which another, interrelated theological controversy – between Luther and Thomas Munzter – played a key role in the popular upheaval of the 1525 German Peasants’ War made us think of ways Wainwright’s investigation could be probed to examine the potential for everyday as well as elite experience. He admitted that ‘the utility of the covenant in analysing Reformed convictions among the theologically-educated élites is not easily reproduced at the popular level’ – but we believe this could be a fascinating challenge for historians of the future.

Overall, then, a huge congratulations is certainly due to the Chaplain for this well-argued, excellently researched and thought-provoking work on the ideas behind the English Reformation. We were delighted to review it hot-off-the-press.

*Evie Lewis and Patrick Hegarty-Morrish*
NEWS
AND EVENTS
HONOURS AND AWARDS

The Provost was nominated for a life peerage in the Prime Minister’s Dissolution Honours List of July 2020 and has taken the title of The Lord Mendoza of King’s Reach in the City of London.

John Barton’s (Emeritus Fellow) book *A History of the Bible: The Book and Its Faiths* (Allen Lane/Penguin, 2019, paperback 2020), won the 2019 Duff Cooper Prize for non-fiction and was shortlisted for the Wolfson History Prize for 2020.

Hugh Collins Rice (Lecturer in Music) was a prizewinner at the Kazimierz Serocki 16th International Composers’ Competition 2019. His trio for clarinet, violin and piano, *Canto Celato* was performed at a concert in Warsaw by the Hashtag Ensemble and recorded by Polish Radio.

Keith Hawkins (Emeritus Fellow) was awarded a Legacy Award by the Law and Society Association.

Martin Pickup (Turpin Junior Research Fellow in Philosophy) won the 2020 Marc Sanders Prize in Metaphysics, a biennial prize awarded by the Marc Sanders Foundation to philosophers who are within fifteen years of the completion of their PhD, for his paper *The Situationalist Account of Change*.

Marion Turner’s (Lecturer in English) book *Chaucer: A European Life* was shortlisted for the Wolfson History Prize for 2020.

A rainbow over Front Quad, captured by Porter Kathy Goudman
**FELLOWS’ AND LECTURERS’ NEWS**

**Teresa Bejan** has been appointed to the Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Constitutional and Political Theory at McGill University in Montreal, Canada during the 2020-21 academic year.

**Andrew Boothroyd** writes: This summer my book on neutron scattering, *Principles of Neutron Scattering from Condensed Matter*, was finally finished, more than twenty years after it was begun. It is a graduate-level textbook published by OUP, and describes the different ways in which neutrons can be used to ‘see inside’ materials and measure how the atoms are arranged and how they move. I use this technique to investigate atomic-scale magnetism in solids whose electrons interact strongly with one another to produce interesting forms of cooperative behaviour, such as superconductivity.

**Lynne Cox** writes: My lab continues to study the molecular biology of ageing, and we were delighted to be awarded collaborative funding through the BIRAX scheme to work with Prof Dressner-Pollack in Israel to study the contribution of cell ageing (senescence) to bone fragility in type 1 diabetes. We have also received funding from UK SPINE to investigate ways of protecting the cell’s DNA from damage associated with ageing. At a national level, I was appointed to the Strategic Advisory Board and the Science, Genomics and Technology board of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Longevity, which officially launched at the Houses of Parliament in May 2019. After a busy year including a national consultation, in February 2020 we launched the APPG report *Health of the Nation: a strategy for longer healthier lives*, with a keynote speech by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. I have also given written and oral evidence on ageing science to the House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee. Finally, we are delighted to announce the immensely generous gift of £1m from Orielensis and philanthropist Jim Mellon (1975), to establish the *Mellon Longevity Science Programme* at Oriel. On a teaching front, the biochemistry students at Oriel continue to excel and we have been immensely impressed by their dedication and enthusiasm to their studies despite all learning moving online through the pandemic shutdown.

**Christopher Conlon** was one of three senior editors for the 6th Edition of the *Oxford Textbook of Medicine*, published by Oxford University Press in four volumes.

**Max Crispin** led the team at the University of Southampton that produced the first model of a spike of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The model showed how the virus disguises itself to enter human cells undetected, and the viral proteins which are the target of antibodies and vaccine research.
Sir John Elliott celebrated his ninetieth birthday on 23 June. Or, more accurately, he would have done so if Oriel had not been in lockdown, since one of the highlights of the celebrations was to have been a reception given jointly by the College and ARTES, an association of Spanish art historians of which he is the president. He spent an enjoyable day in the garden in spite of this and other cancelled celebrations, which might even be no more than postponements until his ninety-first.

Yadvinder Malhi was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Natural History Museum by the Prime Minister, and has begun an initial four-year term.

The Provost was appointed as the UK’s first Culture Commissioner, and is advising the government on how UK culture and heritage can begin the road to recovery from the pandemic.

Kathryn Murphy writes: This summer sees the publication of a long-term project: the book On Essays: From Montaigne to the Present, which I edited with Thomas Karshan, will be out from Oxford University Press in September. It consists of seventeen essays on the history of essays, including my own, on Montaigne, Francis Bacon, and the idea of experience; after ten years’ gestation, I’m delighted to see it in print.

Clive Newton QC co-edited Jackson’s Matrimonial Finance Tenth Edition which was published by Lexis Nexis in December 2019.
Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra published a new translation and commentary of Leibniz’s *Discourse on Metaphysics* with Oxford University Press (reviewed elsewhere in this issue of the *Oriel Record*). The book is fully an Oriel product, since the idea for the book originated from two undergraduate seminars on the *Discourse* Gonzalo gave in Michaelmas Term 2012 and Trinity Term 2013 for a group of spectacularly good Oriel students: Hugh Acland, Ksenia Harwood, Patrick Penzo, Philip Saville, Alec Siantonas, Anatole Sloan, Emily Smith, Amit Visana, and Alexandra Wilson; furthermore, among the many people with whom Gonzalo discussed parts of the book when writing it are the following Oriel academics and students: Maria Rosa Antognazza, Juliane Kerkhecker, Brian Leftow, Tien-Chun Lo, David Maskell, Thomas Møller-Nielsen, Martin Pickup, and Bill Wood.

Sumana Sanyal secured £0.2m in government funding for her research into how SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) spreads within infected hosts. The funding will assist in their work to develop strategies to arrest viral spread within and between individuals.

Richard Swinburne’s book *Are We Bodies or Souls?* was published by Oxford University Press last year.

Robert Wainwright published his new book, *Early Reformation Covenant Theology: English Reception of Swiss Reformed Thought 1520-1555*, with a foreword by Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch (reviewed elsewhere in this issue of the *Oriel Record*).
ORIELENSES’ NEWS

Mihnea Dumitrascu (2018) has passed the French Bar examination, and will join the Paris Bar School in January 2021.

Dr John-Mark Philo (2006) was looking for translations of Tacitus in the Lambeth Palace Library when he found a mysterious forty-two page manuscript. After some investigation, it was found to have been written by none other than Queen Elizabeth I.

Professor Suzanne Rab (1990) was selected as one of the six finalists for the Inspirational Women in Law Awards, in the Barrister of the Year category. Suzanne is currently a barrister at Serle Court Chambers.

Phoebe Eclair-Powell (2008) was named as the overall winner of the 2019 Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting for her play Shed: Exploded View. Her winning script follows three couples navigating family life and loss over thirty years through a series of non-linear short scenes.

PUBLICATIONS


Dr Margaret Dalivalle (2003) has published Leonardo’s Salvator Mundi and The Collecting of Leonardo in the Stuart Courts, co-authored with Prof Martin Kemp and Dr Robert Simon.


Clarissa Gosling (1999) has published Moving Abroad with Children, blends stories of her own move to the Netherlands with tips and ideas for an international move. She also published a second book, Raising bilingual children: when school speaks a different language which continues her writings on expat life.

Richard Humble (1963) has published Napoleon’s Admirals, his latest study of the twenty-six French flag officers whose names adorn the Arc de Triomphe with Casemate, Oxford. It provides an entirely new review of the long Anglo-French naval war of 1793-1814.

John London (1983) has published 100 Years of Futurism, which reassesses the Futurism movement from its Italian roots to its international ramifications.
Chris Merritt (2000) has published a new crime thriller, *Knock, Knock*, which features a Metropolitan Police detective and a clinical psychologist who team up to track down a serial killer in London. The book is a classic whodunnit, but contains a lot of contemporary themes, including toxic masculinity, male-female power relations and online misogyny.

Martin Salter-Smith (1966) has published *Twenty-One Twisted Tales*, a book of short stories. He has published three novels, the *Spanish Son*, *Gilgarran’s Will* and its sequel *Tangled Web*. He has also published *Our Stolen Years*, a compilation of his parents’ wartime memoirs and letters, numerous magazine articles and a collection of poetry, *Words from Stone*.

Vernon Sankey (1968) has published, with Katey Lockwood, *The Way: Finding Peace in Turbulent Times* (Improve Your Word Publishers, 2019). This spiritual self-awareness book aims to help readers identify and deal with negative thoughts, fears and anxieties to change their way of thinking so they can improve the world around them. It borrows from the teachings of Buddhism, Taoism, and other religions, as well as the authors’ experiences in mentoring and coaching. The book takes the reader through the seven key learnings of inner peace; it then explains the laws of the universe, before going on to propose some solutions for the problems that plague humanity.

Dr Rick Stevenson (1978) has published *21 Things You Forgot About Being a Kid*, which is based on his 5,600 interviews with children and young people across twelve countries.
OBITUARIES

PETER BOWMAN (1975)

The second of three children, Peter was born in 1956 in Ontario, Canada, where his parents had emigrated after the Second World War. A few years later, after the arrival of Peter’s sister, the family returned to the UK and settled in Derbyshire. Peter went up to Oxford from the Henry Fanshawe School in 1975 to read Chemistry as an undergraduate at Oriel College, staying to complete his DPhil in Organic Chemistry in 1982.

Peter then moved to London and embarked on his career in education. He taught first at Dury Falls in Upminster, where he was to meet his future wife, Angela. He then spent nineteen years teaching at St James Senior Boys’ School, where he would share with his pupils not only his love and knowledge of science but also his great passion for the outdoors and mountaineering. One past pupil remembers Peter as ‘an amazing teacher and really one of the best teachers I met in my life. He was a gentle, humble man and incredibly intelligent, caring and pleasant.’

In 2005, Peter began work at University College London as a Senior Teaching Fellow for Chemistry on the Undergraduate Preparatory Certificate for Science and Engineering (UPCSE). Later, Peter coordinated the science team and became admissions tutor for the UPCSE. He was awarded an HEA Fellowship in recognition of his commitment to education.

Peter maintained a lifelong interest in both practical philosophy and the ideals of social and economic justice. He worked with a number of groups seeking to achieve a more just economic system, in part promoting the introduction of a Land/Location Value Tax in order to rebalance the economy and prevent future economic crises.

He also served as the Chair of the Coalition for Economic Justice – a group comprising political/pressure groups and charities who came together in 2008 in response to the economic crisis. Justice was central to Peter’s philosophically-informed view of society and economics. In his own words: ‘Justice is the paramount virtue in society – with truth as its guide, peace as its child, and freedom as its constant companion. Where justice prevails, men walk without fear of anything. The purpose of economics is to point the way to such justice.’
Peter was most recently Head of Economics at the London-based School of Philosophy and Economic Science, which he had attended for many years since his youth. In this role, he would lead courses and lecture on Economics with Justice. A fellow member of the school wrote: ‘Peter was a rare human being, caring and full of humility. I admired his unobtrusive presence, his keen intelligence and deep wisdom. He had a wonderful love of humanity and his awareness of universality lifted our gaze.’

Peter married Angela in 1985 and together they had four sons. Peter’s many interests often took him away from home, but he is remembered by his family for his steady and quietly nourishing presence as a husband and father, as well as a gentle and loving grandfather to an adoring grandson. He is remembered for his love of the mountain air, his studious intellect, and his integrity as a man of principles.

Peter was diagnosed with cancer in March 2020 and was beginning treatment when he contracted COVID-19. He died on 17 April 2020 at the age of sixty-three. He will be greatly missed and warmly remembered by his family, friends, colleagues and students.

Written by his son, Nicholas Bowman

MICHAEL BOYE-ANAWOMAH (1959)

Michael Boye-Anawomah was born in the gold-mining Adansi region of Ghana. His father and mother were members of the Ashanti and Fante royal families.

After attending the Dunkwa Roman Catholic School, Michael worked in local government and education before travelling to Britain in 1959 to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oriel College. In 1967, he returned to Ghana to become director of programmes for the Centre for Civic Education, which aimed to educate and encourage citizens to recognise their rights and responsibilities in a democratic society.

Michael served as executive secretary to the Ghanaian prime minister Kofi Busia and was working with the Ghanaian trade mission to the UN in Geneva when, in January 1972, a coup deposed Busia – and Michael found himself on his way to London as a political refugee.

In the UK, Michael worked as an academic registrar at the Polytechnic of North London (now the University of North London) and as an administrator for the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, but threw much of his considerable energy into community activism and local politics. He was actively involved with the Africa Youth Trust, Camden Council for Community Relations, the London Fire and Civil Defence Authority’s equalities team and the Race Relations Forum. His commitment to justice was exemplified by more than twenty-five years’ service as a magistrate.

He joined the Labour Party and, in 1991, became the first black African Councillor in Islington. He served on the Council for twelve years, including one year as Mayor. After Michael’s death, his close friend Jeremy Corbyn tweeted: ‘I’ll miss hearing his wise words of advice.’

He died in 2018 and is survived by his wife, Marjorie, whom he married in 1963, and their children Margo and Philip.

Edited from an obituary by Nic Madge published in the Guardian on 25 July 2018
HERBERT CHAPPELL (1952)
Bert (as he was known) was born in 1934 in Bristol. He won a scholarship to the Bristol Cathedral Choir School where he was encouraged to compose by the Cathedral’s organist and, aged twelve, he had two choral compositions performed at the Cathedral. A state scholarship enabled him to study at Oriel for seven years from 1952, where his principal tutors were Barry Rose at Magdalen and occasionally at Lincoln Egon Wellesz, a pupil of Schonberg. After first-class honours for his first degree and a BMus, he embarked on a DPhil thesis on orchestration in British music.

Most of his time at Oxford was spent composing incidental music for College play productions and musicals and revues for the Oxford Playhouse and the Edinburgh Fringe festival. The arrival of independent television in 1955 brought the opportunity of freelance work for Granada and composing music for TV commercials. This activity continued while he was a music teacher at Cumnor House, a preparatory school in West Sussex, from 1959. The dedication of his most frequently performed composition, The Daniel Jazz, is to the school’s head, Hal Milner-Gulland, who was determined to provide music that would capture the imagination of his pupils. In 1962 Bert was appointed music producer and programme assistant for BBC schools broadcasting – introducing young listeners to popular orchestral music.

Bert made an early mark with a BBC Two workshop programme on Leonard Bernstein, greatly impressing David Attenborough, then controller of BBC Two. For a series of documentaries in the Omnibus series he worked with André Previn, the LSO’s principal conductor. In 1977 he took over production of André Previn’s Music Night, which led to a television version of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s Tell Me on a Sunday and a portrait of the American mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade. With A Life in the Country he won the Prix Italia award for his portrait of the great guitarist Julian Bream.

His own output ranged from music for the popular BBC TV drama series The Pallisers and a new signature theme for Songs of Praise to a Caribbean Concerto for guitar. Decca Records recognised his gifts as an impresario when they hired him to develop projects suitable for video cassettes and laser discs. The most successful of these was the celebrated concert of The Three Tenors (Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and José Carreras) in Rome during the 1990 World Cup.

Bert died in October 2019; he is survived by his widow Julia Cleare and their three children and two children from his earlier marriage to Claire Snow.

Adapted from an obituary by Sir Humphrey Burton in the Guardian

Peter Collett writes:
Bert Chappell was a refreshingly amusing friend of mine and of a host of Oriel contemporaries and was full of hilarious stories.

He most kindly composed a wedding march for me when I married in 1956. The village organist in the Austrian Alps had great difficulties with it but Bert duly gave me a disc of it played on the Oriel organ. In 1999 my daughter Amanda was married in the Oriel Chapel and she suggested she would like the same march that her parents had had. When I sent the disc to Bert he rang back immediately to say ‘I can’t believe I composed that rubbish! I will gladly compose a new one.’
ARThUR CRAGG (1964)
On Saturday 26 August 2017 the Schulich School of Business lost one of its esteemed faculty members, Professor Emeritus of Policy and Business Ethics and senior scholar, Arthur Wesley (Wes) Cragg.

Wes Cragg was a graduate of the University of Alberta and Oriel College, Oxford and an Alberta Rhodes Scholar. He was a Professor of Philosophy at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario.

He had served as a cross-appointed member of the Schulich School of Business faculty and York University’s Department of Philosophy since 1992, when he was also appointed as the inaugural George R. Gardener Professor in Business Ethics, a position he held until 2006. His work was pioneering at a time when business schools had historically embraced shareholder primacy and a purely economic view of the firm. The introduction of ethical considerations was initially met with substantial resistance, but he persevered, establishing himself as one of the world’s leading authorities in the field of business ethics. From 1992 to 2009, he led the George R. Gardener Program in Business Ethics as program director. He was also the project director and principal investigator for the Canadian Business Ethics Research Network (CBERN), headquartered at the Schulich School of Business.

His scholarly work covered a variety of themes including corporate governance, corporate codes of ethics, corporate social responsibility, sustainability, environmental ethics, business and human rights, ethical investment, the ethics of extractive industries and economic development affecting First Nations communities. Wes published more than seventy-five journal articles and wrote or edited fourteen books during his lifetime. He served on the editorial boards of several Canadian and international academic journals; the *Journal of Business Ethics*, *Business Quarterly* and *Interchange*.

Wes worked extensively with Natural Resources Canada, DFAIT, CIDA, a number of other federal government departments and Export Development Canada. Mining and nuclear waste disposal issues dominated his work as a private sector consultant and adviser.

He was a past president of the Canadian Philosophical Society and the John Howard Society of Canada.

*Written by Arthur’s wife, Mary Cragg*

WILFRED DE’ATH (1957)
The great comedian Max Miller often wound up his act by singing a glutinously sentimental song *There’s Always Someone Far Worse Off Than You*. Between 1997 and his death on 19 February 2020 aged eighty-two, Wilfred De’Ath wrote over three hundred columns that, *inter alia*, served to remind readers of *The Oldie* that Miller had a point – and that he, De’Ath, was the Someone. His seesawing fortunes were by any standard, extraordinary. In the early 1970s, he was seemingly a middle-class professional: a successful BBC producer; married to an ex-model; a father-of-two; and on the Committee of the Hampstead Labour Party. Then in the late 70s, everything came unstuck. His marriage collapsed, and the BBC fired him. De’Ath retaliated with an article that vilified nine of his ex-colleagues.
who promptly sued him for libel. He lost the case and all his money, and later said, ‘I was literally on the streets and, unlike most people who get their act together, I didn’t.’

But why not? Most people, with markedly less intelligence and fewer skills than De’Ath, contrive to pull out of even worse nose-dives and return to stability and solvency. So why did he spend the rest of his life as a delinquent tramp? Chronic anti-success mechanism, obsessive nostalgie de la boue, perverse exhibitionism – or all three?

While his life story provides some clues, De’Ath’s fall from grace remains mostly inexplicable. Born in 1937, he was the son of a travel-broker of Huguenot descent whose domineering German wife had once taken dictation from Hitler. Hence, De’Ath being bullied at school; hence, too, his fluent German which proved handy during National Service as a medical orderly in BAOR.

He came to Oriel in 1958, vaguely meaning to read Theology but soon switched to English. He got involved in the theatre – writing drama criticism for Cherwell, putting on plays with Kenneth Loach – and, on coming down, joined the Features Department of the BBC. There, he shared an office with Melvyn Bragg, and interviewed the likes of Mick Jagger, Judi Dench, and Jimmy Savile. He grew demonstrably impatient with meetings and bureaucracy, and left the BBC in 1970. After a short stint as press officer to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael Ramsey, he went freelance, writing book reviews and profiles – and, notably, interviewing Daphne du Maurier on BBC TV.

After disaster struck in 1977, De’Ath was homeless. Over the next ten years, he drifted between France and the UK, sleeping on the streets, on church floors, in shop foyers and sometimes in hotels which he left without paying, stays that often led to spells in prison. He also emptied church collection boxes, conned various religious groups, and sold stories about dodgy clerics to Private Eye. His lowest point came in November 2012 when, in the wake of the Jimmy Savile scandal, he was arrested for allegedly assaulting a fourteen-year-old at a film screening in 1963. In the event, his accuser dropped her charges.

In 1997, his string of transgressions prompted his Oxford contemporary Richard Ingrams to launch De’Ath’s ‘Down and Out’ feature in The Oldie. This enabled him to rent a room for a time in Cambridge. Here, his antics almost tipped into self-parody. W.H. Smith banned him for pinching a copy of The Oldie; the University Centre expelled him for making homophobic comments; a hotel, for bullying staff; a pub, for inappropriate advances to a barmaid. Like many another columnist, he may have been generating material for his monthly piece. Sadly, there was nothing factitious about his final column. He wrote it in hospital following a heart attack together with a mass of further ailments. Like all his Oldie articles, it was honest, witty, well written and bracingly unabashed. De’Ath will be much missed by his deservedly large following.

Written by Hugh Bredin (1955)
CHRISTOPHER DOWLING (1958)

The son of the poet Basil Dowling, Christopher Dowling was born in Wellington, New Zealand, on 16 June 1940.

Christopher came to England in 1952 and entered Highgate School in the same year. A fellow pupil, and lifelong friend, was the future historian Martin Gilbert. He was taught history by an Orielensis, Alan Palmer, and in 1958 took up an open scholarship in Modern History at Oriel. After coming down he spent an unhappy year in industry before returning to Oxford to study for a DPhil.

On completion of his thesis, Christopher was offered an appointment at the Imperial War Museum. He had landed the job of his dreams, and a job for life. His role as Director of Public Services gave him free reign over publishing, exhibitions, public relations, marketing, educational services and many commercial activities.

Christopher’s enthusiasm for history was infectious. He had an unerring instinct for historical themes that would interest the media and attract diverse audiences. By steering a course towards broadening the Museum’s terms of reference – with a strong focus on social and cultural history – he did much to raise its public and media profile. He was a stickler for detail but bored by ‘admin’ and committee meetings. His was a creative force; he loved to dream up ideas and run with them. His work schedule often verged on the impossible but as loyal members of his team remarked – ‘it was such fun’.

Exhibition themes included commemorations for the Armistice and D-Day, poetry of the Great War, T. E. Lawrence, the Spanish Civil War, and London at war. The cast from Dad’s Army turned up to launch a show on the Home Guard; Darcy Bussell, photographed by Lord Snowdon, fronted Forties Fashion and the New Look; Jilly Cooper and Joanna Lumley wrote books to accompany Animals in War and Forces Sweethearts; a show on ‘Dig for Victory’ inspired Christopher to ask Sir Terence Conran to design a gold medal-winning garden for the Chelsea Flower Show, and C4’s The 1940s House led him to oversee the construction of an entire suburban home inside the Museum. It was a hit with visitors for many years.

Apart from exhibitions there was a huge programme of events: talks, lectures, holiday adventures for children, chamber concerts, fashion shows – and Colditz the musical! One month it might be Dame Judi Dench or Sir Dirk Bogarde giving a reading, another a debate with Harold Pinter and Tony Benn. Surprisingly, for a naturally somewhat diffident man, Christopher was never happier than when organising parties. Politicians, journalists, sportsmen, writers, artists and actors – as well as countless veterans – were often greeted by a beaming Christopher wearing one of his memorably flamboyant ties.

He also initiated the IWM’s publishing programme with a series of personal experience accounts, the first of which, George Coppard’s With a Machine Gun to Cambrai, became a classic. Scores of successful titles on a wide range of subjects followed over the
decades. Christopher was awarded an OBE for services to museums in the Queen’s 2002 New Year’s Honours List.

Beyond the Museum, Christopher’s passions were for art, literature, classical music, gardening, and cricket — his cousin, Graham Dowling, captained the New Zealand team. During his retirement he was afflicted by a rare form of dementia. He died at home on 14 July 2019, in the arms of his wife of more than forty-five years. He is buried in Highgate Cemetery near his childhood home and the school where he spent so many happy days.

As Shirley Williams once remarked about Christopher: ‘such a lovely man!’

Written by Christopher’s wife, Angela Godwin

MICHAEL EDGAR CECIL DREW (1952)

Michael was born in 1931 in Ladock, Cornwall, where his father was the village schoolmaster and his mother played the church organ. He was awarded a scholarship for Truro School where he became Head Prefect and captain of the rugby and cricket teams. His talent on the cricket field, both as bowler and batsman, was a determining factor throughout his life. It probably accounted for the fact that he completed his national service with the Royal Navy without ever setting foot on a ship, although it amused him to refer to this period as his years before the mast. Instead, he was deployed as a coder educational in Plymouth, which ensured he was available to play at Mount Wise cricket ground and may have contributed to his flair for cryptic crosswords.

Michael went up to Oriel in 1952 to read Modern Foreign Languages. While it is unclear how dedicated Michael was to his studies, he certainly enjoyed an exciting social life with a lively group of friends and the extracurricular opportunities that Oxford offered. He played cricket for The Authentics, joined OUDS and enthusiastically supported iconic watering-holes in the city. After graduation, Michael spent a further two years in Oxford at St Stephen’s House training for the priesthood. His great love was for the Mass, which he found to be a life-affirming expression of human spirituality.

Following his ordination in 1957, Michael returned to Plymouth as a curate at St Peter’s. He was subsequently appointed to Pembroke College Mission just off the Old Kent Road in London. This involved spending time in Cambridge to encourage undergraduate participation in the work of the Mission as well as parish and community duties. Through some friends from Oxford he met and subsequently married Marion and started a family with her before leaving London in 1966 to become chaplain at Allhallows School in Dorset. In addition to teaching Religious Education and French, he coached the rugby and cricket teams and directed a production of the musical Oliver! which mobilised the whole school and whose run coincided with the birth of his and Marion’s fourth child.

The family moved to Honiton in 1972 where Michael taught French at the secondary modern school. This was a busy time: Michael renovated two properties, experimented with a self-sufficient lifestyle (complete with hens and goats) and started an amateur operatic society which continued to flourish for twenty-seven years. Michael moved to Exeter School as chaplain before resuming priestly duties as vicar of All Saints in Scraptoft, Leicestershire, where he served from 1983 until 1997.
Michael enjoyed a quiet retirement with his second wife, Lesley, firstly in Wellingborough, where they produced the weekly bulletin for St. Mary’s Church, and latterly in Queniborough, where Michael became an active member of the Labour Party in a constituency that habitually returns a Conservative candidate with a majority of more than 20,000.

Over his lifetime, Michael was very proud to become a husband, father of four and grandfather of four more, by whom he is sadly missed but lovingly remembered. In the aftermath of the EU Referendum he (only somewhat) jokingly identified as Cornish and European, which manifested itself in a love of Cornish produce – in particular saffron cake and Doom Bar ale.

Despite enjoying excellent health throughout his life, mortality eventually caught up with Michael. He received the diagnosis of pancreatic cancer earlier this year with courage and characteristic humour, resigning himself to the fact that a full and happy life had run its course. He died peacefully on 21 April 2020 in LOROS Hospice in Leicester.

Written by his daughter, Victoria, and his grandson, Freddy

PHILIP EVANS (1954)

My father went up to Oriel in 1954 after school at Rugby and national service in the navy where he learnt Russian and was subsequently stationed at a listening post on the Kiel canal. He studied modern History in a golden age of historians headed by George Clark (Provost), Christopher Seton Watson (Dean) and Billy Pantin (medieval tutor). It was his inspirational tutorials that led to a lifelong interest in history and inspired me to gain a place in 1979 in a later golden age under Jeremy Catto and Robert Beddard.

My father was awarded a Blue for athletics and cross country, described by Paul Wilcox, President of the Achilles Club, as ‘a very fine athlete holding his own with some of the world’s best’, including a ‘swift’ fourteen minutes, fourteen seconds three-mile time at the 1956 Varsity match, just behind Australian Olympian Ian Boyd. He enjoyed a strong circle of Oriel friends for life, especially Mike Armstrong, Tony Martin and the late Mike Harvey and Neal Burton. A particular highlight was a summer vacation spent with several of them restoring a chateau near La Rochelle.

He met my mother, Elaine Trevithick, at Oxford, when she was studying Agriculture at St Anne’s. After graduating, they married and my father joined Provincial Insurance. In 1959 he was posted to Arusha in Tanzania, then Tanganyika, where he built an underwriting business from scratch. He continued his love of running, coaching the athletics team of northern Tanganyika. He hosted some interesting guests. On one
occasion the explorer Wilfred Thesiger dropped in after walking the Rift Valley. Having parked his donkeys in our back garden, my father invited him to a dinner for the Royal Society of St George, in support of the ‘English way of life’ and whose President was Montgomery of Alamein. His other guest was our local doctor, Harald Strohschneider, Rommel’s former field doctor who arrived proudly sporting his iron cross. By all accounts the evening was a great success.

When the Africa posting ended, my father drove the family 3,000 miles from Arusha to Cape Town, stopping in Harare, then Salisbury, to stay with Oriel friend Martin Graham, a teacher at Peterhouse Boys’ School, before returning to the UK on Cunard’s ‘Windsor Castle’. In 1967 he was appointed overseas manager of English & American, the underwriting arm of CT Bowring and particularly enjoyed developing a pan-West Indian insurance business with the former test batsman and foreign minister of St Lucia, Sir Julian Hunte, which thrives fifty-three years on. My father was made Managing Director in 1976 and led the buy-out of the firm from Marsh & MacLennan in 1983, retiring ten years later.

My father loved opera and supported George Christie’s refurbishment of Glynebourne, providing sponsorship for the 1989 production of Stravinsky’s Rake’s Progress. In 2013 he worked successfully to get a blue plaque for his Uncle, the Shakespearean actor Maurice Evans and his grandfather, Alfred Herbert Evans, the first producer and adapter of Thomas Hardy’s novels for the stage, with the Dorchester Hardy Players.

After retiring to Devon he devoted himself to plant hunting, particularly rhododendrons, serving as the yearbook editor for the Rhododendron Society for ten years. He also undertook a series of expeditions to Bhutan, Tibet, Aranchal Pradesh and Yunnan. A particular highlight, after two weeks searching in Bhutan, was finding the rare Rhododendron R. Edgeworthii. He recorded in his diary, ‘I sit for half an hour watching the sun come down the pass. The mist on the magnificent fir forest rises like a graze curtain at the ballet. Earth has not anything so fair to show passes through my mind.’

Oriel remained important to my father for the rest of his life and he was involved in the ‘40 Years On’ fundraising campaign with Provost Ernest Nicholson in 1994. While evolutionary, the event helped the fundraising at the College. After a long fight with prostate cancer, Philip Evans died in Exeter on 29 December 2019. He is survived by my mother, Elaine, my brothers Robin and Simon and five grandchildren.

Written by his son, Nick Evans (1979)

SIR MICHAEL HOWARD (1980)

Michael Howard was the most influential British military historian of his generation. The unifying theme of all his work was the placing of military history and strategic thought in the broadest social and political context. His writing and lecturing was trenchant and accessible and his views were respected even by those who took a different stance.

Born in London, Michael was the youngest of the three sons of Geoffrey Howard and his wife, Edith (née Edinger), who
came from a German Jewish family. Among the Howards there were strong anti-war and humanitarian traditions: Michael’s aunt Elizabeth Fox Howard, a Quaker, helped objectors in 1914-18, and was later to be active in assisting victims of the Nazis.

At Abinger Hill, a prep school in Surrey, Michael enjoyed English and History. He then went to Wellington College, Berkshire, where he benefited from outstanding teaching. After the Second World War broke out in 1939, his call-up was deferred when he won a scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford, to read Modern History. He started his studies in January 1941 and got a First in the ‘shortened’ honours degree the subsequent year.

At the end of 1946, having resumed his studies but finding it hard to focus on academic work, he got a disappointing second-class degree. Unlike his two older brothers, and sensing that he was more intellectually inclined, he chose not to go into the family firm but went instead to lecture at King’s College.

Military history remained at the centre of his work. His masterpiece, *The Franco-Prussian War* (1961), reflected his interest in the changing nature of war and the role of force in the process of German unification in the 1860s and 70s. He viewed France’s decision to go to war as catastrophic.

In writing this book, Michael had from 1958 engaged as a research assistant Mark James. From 1961 onwards, they lived together and in 1964 they bought a house in the village of Eastbury, Berkshire – initially as a weekend and holiday retreat from London-based jobs, and later as a main home. There they pursued shared interests in music and gardening. At first the relationship had to be discreet and a distinction drawn between public and private life.

In 1980 he became Regius Professor of Modern History, an appointment in which the Prime Minister had the final say. As Regius Professor [with a Fellowship at Oriel College] he had to devote himself mainly to the Faculty of Modern History, helping to steer through some overdue reforms to Oxford’s excessively anglocentric syllabus.

His record of publication in his twenty-one years at Oxford was formidable. Nine major books in that period included the authoritative translation of Carl von Clausewitz’s *On War* (with Peter Paret, 1976), *War in European History* (1976), and the deeply reflective *War and the Liberal Conscience* (1978).

In 1989, a year before he was due to retire from Oxford, Michael resigned from the Regius Chair to teach at Yale University. At Yale, Mark was listed as a spouse, and Michael produced *The Lessons of History* (1991) and a co-edited volume on *The Laws of War* (1994).

After his ‘retirement’ in 1993, Michael continued to be intellectually active and publicly criticised the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Then came his memoir *Captain Professor* (2006), a frank account of his full, productive and fortunate life.

In his eighties Michael’s life gradually became a real retirement. On the first day on which it was possible to do so – 21 December 2005 — Michael and Mark entered into a civil partnership, rectifying, as Michael said, an anomaly of over forty years.

He died on 30 November 2019; Mark survives him.

_Abridged version of an obituary by Adam Roberts published in The Guardian on 1 December 2019_
PHILIP HUSTWITT (1950)
Philip was born in 1929. He attended Sherborne School in Dorset – not so far from the beautiful countryside of Worth Matravers, where he would later retire after a successful career as a patent agent in Aldwych.

Though passionate about what mattered and humorously clear about what did not, Philip was always among the most private, gentle, and softly spoken of men. An Orielensis through and through, he attended alumni events while able and supported both Oriel (as a member of the Raleigh Society) and Sherborne. Doubtless he has already been missed by contemporaries at the O & C Club and Oriel since stepping back from more active roles.

He loved English cricket through thick and thin, alongside golf and – rather less understandably to many – Arsenal FC. His library was stocked with sporting annals from over the ages; reading and remembering remained a great source of joy to his last.

However, the pursuit of pleasure was rather less important to Philip than his first love – serving the Church. He did so for many years in Bromley, particularly in the diocese of Rochester as Diocesan Treasurer. Despite being a generous man, Philip kept his good works close to his chest. His silence spoke loudly to those who benefitted.

In Oriel, shortly after the Second World War and with his National Service complete, Philip befriended a young undergraduate who had lost his father just before coming up. That man was Ron Ferguson (Oriel 1952), and later my father. Together, they attended a Scottish country dance at a women’s college – where one supposes odds favoured the few men in attendance. Some time after the dance, my father proposed to my mother Ruth. Philip not only consented to be best man, but would also become my godfather. He did not give his word lightly, but made each syllable count for nearly seventy years. This is testament to his loving nature.

Philip was tireless in both sport and spirit. He showed by example that wisdom and generosity involve not only giving your word but keeping it without wavering. I cannot thank him enough.

He was finally ‘taken home’ from a nursing home in Langton Matravers on 22 June 2020, leaving his loving sister Joan and others lucky enough to have known him as a friend. I spoke to Joan earlier today about Philip, whose closing words do him full justice: ‘He was very loving – in the end that is all that really matters.’ Amen.

Written by James Ferguson, godson and Orielensis

MICHAEL MOTT (1950)
Michael Mott was born in Hampstead, north London, to Eric, a solicitor, and Margaret ‘Totts’ (nee Berger), an American sculptor. Friends of the family included the artist Barbara Hepworth and the writer Geoffrey Grigson. Following Michael’s dismissal from two nursery schools, his anxious parents sought a diagnosis from another Hampstead neighbour, Anna Freud. Her prescient analysis was that he was suffering merely from a vivid imagination.

During the Second World War, he and his younger brothers John and Tony were evacuated to Totts’s family in Colorado. He boarded at Riverdale Country school in New
York. Following his return to Britain in 1944 aboard a destroyer, Michael attended Stowe School in Buckinghamshire. After studying History at Oriel College and Art History at the Courtauld Institute, in 1961 he became an art editor at Thames & Hudson in London before working at the Geographical magazine.

An invitation in 1966 to be poetry editor of the Kenyon Review – a literary magazine based at Kenyon College, Ohio – launched Michael’s academic career in the US, teaching creative writing, that would last for more than three decades. In 1957, the first of his eleven collections of poetry, The Cost of Living, was published. Four novels followed, including The Notebooks of Susan Berry (1962) and The Blind Cross (1969).

He married Margaret, a fashion designer, in 1961 and the following year they had twin daughters Sophie and Amanda and settled in Muswell Hill, north London.

He upheld a daily practice of letter-writing. He corresponded with family, friends and deep thinkers – most recently the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, the poet Tony Roberts and the religion and humanities scholar John Alden Williams. His correspondence, as part of ‘The Michael Mott Collection’, is kept at Northwestern University, Chicago.

In the 1970s, while teaching at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, Michael was involved in the civil rights movement and was instrumental in the city’s budding arts scene, receiving the governor’s award in fine arts in 1974 from Jimmy Carter. In 1985 Michael’s bestselling biography, The Seven Mountains of Thomas Merton, was runner-up for a Pulitzer Prize.

Following Margaret’s death in 1990, Michael became active in pastoral care in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he married Emma Lou Powers in 1992. His last months were spent being cared for by Sophie and her wife, Roz, surrounded by the things he loved most: family, friends, art and books.

Written by his daughter, Amanda Mott

NIGEL MURRAY (1968)

Nigel Murray was born in 1949 and went to Challow Court School in Maidenhead until he was eight years old. He was a boarder at Great Ballard Prep School at Camberley and later at Earham in Sussex. He loved acting, and enjoyed performing in Ali Baba and The Forty Thieves. He also became a Cub and a Scout. Later, he boarded in Chandos House at Stowe School, Buckinghamshire, where he remembered acting as Queen Titania in A Midsummer Night’s Dream. He enjoyed fencing, the debating society, and participating in the Cadet Corps – one day at Stowe, as a Colour Sergeant Major, Nigel drilled the boys in front of Lord Louis Mountbatten. Unfortunately, a wasp came too close and Nigel gesticulated wildly to bat it away. A line of boys misunderstood and chaos ensued! He also represented Stowe on the Sixth Form
Challenge on television. In his gap year, Nigel taught at Adisadel College, Cape Coast, Ghana. He went out to Africa as a very studious, serious young man and returned much more gregarious.

Nigel read History at Oriel between 1968 and 1971. He appreciated Oxford’s tutorial system very much – one of his tutors was Robert Beddard. Oxford life proved greatly enjoyable and Nigel made many friends, especially at Oriel. Nigel enjoyed debating at the Union and loved politics, having once said as a child that he would like to become Prime Minister. While at Oriel, he became the President of the Oxford University Conservative Association. He also continued to act, performing the role of Jack Chesney in Charley’s Aunt at an open-air production in one of Oriel’s quads. During one performance, the College tortoise squeezed under a low table on stage, which captivated the audience!

A very religious man, Nigel was confirmed at Oxford whilst he was an undergraduate. He was very pleased that his second-year rooms at Oriel were where Cardinal Newman had once lived and, more recently, delighted when Newman was canonised.

After graduating, Nigel spent a year training to be a barrister at the Middle Temple. He then decided to be an insurance broker, working at Willis, Faber & Dumas, Frizzell (in Germany) and other companies. During this time, Nigel became Chairman of Lambeth Central for the Conservatives.

Later, he decided to teach History. He did a PGCE at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge and taught at places such as Dr Challoner’s Grammar School in Amersham, Millfield School, Ryde on the Isle of Wight, Majorca and Hugh Christie School in Tonbridge. In 1990, he moved to Germany and taught at a school near Cologne. Later, he would teach Business English to businessmen and politicians (while the German Parliament was at Bonn) including Angela Merkel and Ursula von der Leyen. After the parliament moved to Berlin, he concentrated on tutoring businessmen and some schoolchildren privately. He moved to Bad Kreuznach, where he translated and voiced the Pilgrim’s Way for Hildegarde of Bingen. In his retirement, he lived in Idar-Oberstein, doing translations for clients and writing song lyrics with a friend.

Nigel died on 15 January 2020. We all miss him very much.

Written by Nigel’s sister, Lynette Szczepanik

ARNOLD CHRISTOPHER PENDLEBURY (1959)

Chris, as he was always known, was born in Bingley in the old West Riding in March 1940. His father was a Methodist minister, and his mother had a major influence on her two children. The family moved to York in 1942 and then to Halifax in 1947.

Early in his childhood, he became interested in sport. He attended Heath Grammar School in Halifax, but subsequently contracted rheumatic fever. Doctors recommended a move to the south west, so the family moved to Bristol in 1953. There, Chris attended Bristol Grammar School, learnt to play hockey, did very well academically and won a Classics scholarship to go up to Oriel in 1959.

Chris immediately settled in at Oriel. He played hockey for the College, and was described in the Record as ‘getting through a lot of work with no small degree of courage’
as goalminder. He became Hockey Secretary and then Captain, as well as playing for
the University second team. After becoming Captain, he was promoted from goal but
sometimes penalised for trying to play with his feet, rather than the stick!

A good Methodist, he attended Wesley Memorial Methodist Church and its
fellowship group. This was unless he was asked to play for a College sports team, for
which he was always available.

After five terms, he switched from Classics to Psychology, Philosophy and Physiology.
In 1962, he was elected Secretary of the JCR. This vote reflected Chris’s cheerfulness and
friendliness: everyone knew him, nobody disliked him. Being Secretary gave him a priority
room in College, and enabled him to offer coffee and hospitality to three of the year below
– one of whom is this obituary’s author. His eyes would sparkle at you from behind his
glasses and his pithy yet kind comments encouraged further conversation. We still recall
his warm kindness.

Following his degree, Chris studied for two years at Birkbeck College, London
to qualify as a psychologist. He then worked at Rolls Royce, organising courses and
advising the company on recruitment. He then did similar work for HTS, a management
consultancy near Windsor, and travelled extensively.

He married Jennifer Aucott in 1965. Their first child was born in 1968. During this
time, Chris was overworking. He became depressed and spent time in hospital. In 1971
– a few weeks before their younger son’s birth – he had a bad accident which left him
comatose for four months. When he woke, he was paralysed on his right side and had to
learn to think, talk, and walk again. Providentially, his parents were able to temporarily
move to Windsor to support the family during Chris’s recovery.

Chris’s life had changed drastically, but with great strength of character he started again.
In 1975, wanting to work again but hindered by his disability, Chris gained a job at Hargreaves
Quarries. Later, he worked successfully in the Birmingham Careers Department for many
years. He made new friends, joining the Quakers in Birmingham. He remained interested in
sport and current affairs. After being made redundant in the early 1990s, he gradually became
more disabled. This did not stop him from travelling, however, and he landed himself in some
difficult situations which were of great concern to friends and family, if seemingly not to him.

There is a great debt of gratitude to his parents, who gave up much of their
retirement to caring for him, and to his many friends, especially Yvonne Hylton, who stood
by him and helped find him better accommodation. His last three years were spent well
looked after at Broad Meadow in Dudley. He died in hospital due to a stroke on 3 October
2018, aged seventy-eight.

Written by John Lenton (1960)

DAVID ROWLANDS (1963)
Dave was born in 1944. After school at Christ’s Hospital, he read Greats at Oriel and went
on to a successful career as a teacher, and trainer of teachers, in further education in
London. With his wife Pam he raised a family of three sons. He enjoyed cricket and rugby
at Oriel, and afterwards played cricket with a club at Woodford, where he made his home.
He kept up with a number of us who had known him at Oriel.

What made Dave's life inspirational was the challenge which he overcame. He suffered a massive heart attack in 1978, about a month short of his thirty-fourth birthday, which destroyed half his heart. After further heart problems, including three cardiac arrests, he became one of the first heart transplant patients at St Bartholomew’s Hospital in 1989. A friend from Oriel recalls visiting him in Barts during his long wait for a donor, and his wry answers to a group of medical students who gathered round his bed.

He lived for thirty years with his new heart and, besides pursuing his career, he was a regular participant in the British Transplant Games, and then the European Heart Transplant Games which he never missed as they gave him an excuse to travel. To no one’s surprise, post-transplant, he returned to playing cricket on Woodford Green and coaching the under-10s at mini rugby – a brave man indeed! He remained throughout an avid and vociferous supporter of both Arsenal and the Welsh rugby team. Retirement at the age of sixty-five brought new health challenges arising from the side effects of the anti-rejection drugs. But with the unstinting support of his family – and a fair amount of bloody mindedness on his part – Dave coped with those too and lived to enjoy the company of four grandchildren.

In spite of the ill health which dogged him from childhood onwards, Dave was never bitter; he could be impatient on occasion, but not bitter. He was thrilled simply to be alive, and he was eternally grateful to the parents of the poor young man whose heart he had been given. Dave was genuinely interested in others, and he had a relaxed and relaxing manner that charmed people and enabled him to make friends easily. When young he was often ferociously witty, but even in his later years he was a fine conversationalist, warm, articulate, generous with the wine and always such good fun to be with.

He died on 7 January 2019. An Oriel contemporary, Alan Dashwood, was among those who contributed memories at his funeral.

An appreciation by Dave’s wife Pam Rowlands and Robert Horner (1963)

KELVIN SCOTT (1951)
My father Kelvin Scott came up to Oriel in 1951 to study French and Spanish, and went on to have an amazing life as an international civil servant with the UN – travelling and living all over the world.

He met and married Ruth Veevers in 1958 and they moved to Berkshire, where he taught languages at Douai School. My sister Sarah was born in 1959 and I quickly followed in 1960. The family emigrated to the US in the early 1960s, where he eventually joined the UN as a translator. From there we moved to Santiago, Chile.
then to Geneva, Switzerland where he worked for the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). In 1991, he retired and moved back to the UK.

Despite occasional bouts of ill health (connected to high blood pressure, kidney issues, failing eyesight and general old age!) Kelvin was doing well and living a good life up until a month before he died. He was independent and had all his faculties, including an amazing memory and a sharp brain that never let him down. Unfortunately, he deteriorated very rapidly after contracting COVID-19 – then collapsed and spent the last week of his life in hospital. He died in April at the age of eighty-eight. It was not how he wanted to go, but it was mercifully quick.

He is survived by his two daughters – Sarah and myself (his third daughter, Amanda, died in 2015) – in addition to his four grandchildren and great grandchild whom he missed meeting by weeks. He is greatly missed.

Written by Rachel Scott, his daughter

DECLAN WALTON (1949)
Declan John Walton was born on 13 August 1930, near Fermoy in County Cork. His father, Ernest John Walton, was a Yorkshireman who had worked for a lumber company in Siam before retiring to Ireland. His mother, Diana Florence Cooke-Collis, was a member of a County Cork landed family. His childhood was spent in a beautiful house overlooking the river Blackwater, the idyll spoiled only by the cruelties of an abusive governess. However, her strict discipline proved an asset when he went to boarding school and found that his powers of concentration took him to the top of the class.

He was educated at Castle Park School (near Dublin) and Radley College before entering Oriel, where he read Modern Languages. Oxford developed his love of French and German literature, especially the French poets of the nineteenth century. In his spare time, Declan joined the University flying club and trained as a pilot. He graduated with First Class Honours.

He then spent four years working as an ‘average adjuster’ in the world of marine insurance, with Marsh & McLennon in Montreal. When Ireland was admitted to the United Nations in 1955 he was ideally qualified for a post and in 1956 began work in the office of the High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. He was soon actively involved in the care of those fleeing from the brutal suppression of the Hungarian uprising.

From 1959 to 1962, he was the Commissioner’s representative in Morocco. In collaboration with the Red Cross, Declan held responsibility for the care of some 120,000 refugees displaced by the Algerian War of Independence and subsequently for their repatriation. He and Jeannette Müller, a Swiss colleague, were married in the same year. Their daughter Kathleen was born two years later – while Declan was in Rabat in audience with the King of Morocco!

He then worked in New York and Rome with the UN Economic and Social Department and World Food Programme respectively before joining the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organisation in 1968 as Chef de Cabinet to the Director General.

During Declan and Jeanette’s time in Italy they bought a tumbledown fifteenth
century farmhouse in the Tuscan hamlet of Oliveto, which they converted into an idyllic home. Here, Declan was well placed to pursue his interest in wines and was, for a time, Chairman of the Rome Chapter of the International Wine and Food Society.

From 1981 to 1985 he worked as an independent consultant, specialising in long-term planning, with assignments in Nigeria, Syria and the Netherlands. In 1986, Declan returned to the FAO as Deputy Director General, a post which he held for two years. He then undertook a number of international assignments on topics related to agricultural and environmental issues in India, the Ivory Coast, Colombia, Sri Lanka and Taiwan until finally retiring to England in 2003.

In retirement he and his wife settled in the Wiltshire village of Steeple Ashton. He joined the Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution, of which he became convenor of the World Affairs Group. In addition to organising lectures by prominent international figures, he himself gave talks on a variety of topics. This included the French symbolist poet Stéphane Mallarmé, of whom he was a passionate fan. Declan even paid for a new headstone on the Kensal Green grave of the young girl who was Mallarmé’s enduring love – whom he had uncovered in the course of his researches.

He died on 5 April 2020 of renal failure.

*Written by his brother*

**BRUCE WANNELL (1971)**

Described in the *Times* obituary published on 13 February 2020 as ‘a free spirit, an outsider, and a man with a deep knowledge of the Islamic world’, Bruce read French and German at Oriel in the early 1970s. He always dreamed of travelling around North Africa and South Asia and, a few years after graduating, this dream became a reality.

As mentioned in the *Times* obituary, Bruce was a writer, linguist and lecturer with a passion for travel. He spent a lengthy period of time in Peshawar in the late 1980s, where he initially worked for British charity Afghanaid assisting Afghan refugees. He utilised this experience later on in life, becoming a consultant to the UN and other agencies monitoring aid projects in Afghanistan. Bruce held a lifelong love for Afghanistan, and during the civil war travelled across the country on horseback. He also spent a lot of time in Iran, and had a passion for the Persian language. He read and spoke the language fluently, along with at least eight others.

Bruce’s aptitude for the Persian language led to his collaboration with historian William Dalrymple on his four histories of the East India Company, with Bruce translating texts from Persian and French. Dalrymple referred to Bruce as ‘probably the best translator of eighteenth century Persian.’ In addition to this legacy, Bruce contributed to a variety of academic texts on Islamic culture in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society.
During the last fifteen years, Bruce had worked as a guide. He led and guest-lectured on cultural tours to Iran, Central Asia, Egypt, Pakistan and India. He also lectured at Durham, Goldsmiths, the University of London, the University of Oxford and the Institute of Ismaili Studies.

Although he did not lecture at SOAS formally, he was invited from time to time over the years to give one-off talks or contribute to events and seminars. One such event was a public lecture and readings held in July 2019 entitled *Intimations of Immortality: An Evening of Persian Poetry* which can be seen at (https://www.soas.ac.uk/institute-of-zoroastrian-studies/events/04jul2019-intimations-of-immortality-an-evening-of-persian-poetry.html), where Bruce is introduced by Narguess Farzad, Chair of the Centre for Iranian Studies (from 31’54”) and he talks (from 32’40”). The SOAS website also carries an obituary to Bruce.

This anecdote by a fellow linguist perhaps illustrates how Bruce used his time at Oriel to the full. ‘As soon as he realised I had a car (a vintage Morris Minor Traveller), Bruce persuaded me to chauffeur him around some of the wonderful country houses near Oxford and I am indebted to him for broadening my cultural horizon in this way. On our way back from a visit to Chastleton House, we spotted a young man with a dog hitching a lift. It turned out that the young man was a shepherd. This suited Bruce admirably, as he was planning to put on a *fête champêtre* in his rooms in College but needed straw, a shepherd and, ideally, some sheep. The shepherd duly obliged and the evening was a great success. Possibly the College Porter was otherwise engaged when the sheep entered the College!’

Eland Publications has published a volume of tributes to Bruce, *Tales from the Life of Bruce Wannell*, which can be found at www.travelbooks.co.uk/shop-online-books/brucewannell.

*Adapted from an obituary published in the Times on 13 February 2020, with additional material supplied by Edward Hutton (1971)*

**DENIS WHITE (1952)**

Denis went up to Oriel to read Chemistry in 1952 after attending Mexborough Grammar School, South Yorkshire. He was always a keen sportsman and represented the University in 1953-54 and 1954-55, in the days when the Varsity matches were played at the old Wembley Stadium. Denis treasured his memories of his Oxford days.

After deciding to follow a career in education, Denis began teaching Chemistry at Portsmouth Grammar School for Boys; after two years he went back to Wath in South Yorkshire where he took up the post of Head of Chemistry. While working there, Denis wrote the text book *A Modern Introduction to Chemistry*, published by Pergamon Press and later revised it for a second edition.

His next promotion was to Deputy Head at Boundstone Comprehensive School, Lancing, West Sussex. Then, from 1974 to 1987, he was Head of Rydens Comprehensive School, Walton-on-Thames. Here, Denis exhibited his great teaching skills as an inspirational teacher and a strong leader who was always approachable. He was highly successful, always valued as a colleague, and known by students for his patience, compassion, and calmness.
After fourteen years as Head, Denis had to take early retirement owing to kidney stones. When Denis left, Rydens enjoyed a good reputation; owing to the efforts of every member of staff and every student, Rydens was known not only for its academic achievements but also for excellent standards in sport, music, and drama. What is more, for the first time in its history, the school had a waiting list.

When Denis recovered after his kidney stones were shattered, we both retrained to teach English as a Foreign Language. We ran our special courses for adults, mainly Swedish but from all walks of life. Denis’s reputation as a teacher grew even more.

Last year Denis had chemotherapy and radiotherapy to treat cancer of the oesophagus. He came through that extremely well but unfortunately the cancer was still there. He died peacefully at home, surrounded by his family. Our family have received wonderful letters of sympathy from all ages. All spoke of Denis’s patience, his careful listening before offering considered advice. He was described as a ‘legend’, an ‘inspirational teacher’ who would give a second chance to awkward students and turn their lives around.

He was a special gentleman, and leaves behind a strong family for whom he was a great role model. He is survived by: his wife Enid, to whom he was married for fifty-eight years; his children Christopher, Stephen and twins Deborah and Philip; six grandchildren; a great-grandson, and a great-granddaughter who was born on the morning of Denis’s funeral service.

Written by Enid White, his wife
OTHER DEATHS NOTIFIED SINCE AUGUST 2019

BRINDLEY, Mr Louis Peter (1958)  27 February 2019
BROOKS, Mr Donald (1943)  29 July 2019
BROOME, Mr James Nicholas (1960)  27 August 2019
CAMPBELL, Mr Iain (1957)  19 August 2019
CASEY, Mr David (1968)  27 September 2018
GIBBARD, Mr John Michael (1958)  15 April 2020
GRINDROD, Mr Joseph (1938)  26 October 2013
IVES, Mr Derrick (1952)  5 October 2019
KETTLE, Miss Joanna Elizabeth (1988)  3 April 2020
LEDWARD, Dr William (1976)  November 2019
MASSIE, Mr Robert (1950)  5 November 2018
SAWAII, His Excellency Teruyuki (1953)  12 February 2020
SHOTTON, Mr Michael (1957)  Early 2019
SINGLETON, Mr William (1954)  March 2020
SOMERVILLE, Mr Nicholas (1971)  8 February 2020
VALLAT, Mr David (1969)  Early 2019
WALSH, Dr Ciara (2013)
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<td>Mr S. Boljevic</td>
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<td>Mr A. Chalmers</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms M.C.M. Smith</td>
<td>2015</td>
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</table>
### TORTOISE BLADES

The Blades scheme was launched by the Tortoise Club in spring 2016 as part of a campaign to raise £20,000 a year in sponsorship for the Oriel College Boat Club. Tortoises with a regular annual commitment of £100 or more are invited to become Blades.

<table>
<thead>
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<td>Dr M.G.A. Machin</td>
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<td>2002</td>
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<td>Mr D. McCloskey</td>
<td>2002</td>
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</table>
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Oriel is most grateful to all those who have donated to the College during the year, whether by single gift or regular donation. Gifts received after 31 July 2020 will be recorded in the next Oriel Record. Every effort has been made to ensure that this list is accurate; please contact us if you believe there has been an omission.

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Mr A.J. Paterson
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Mr P.R. Romans+
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One anonymous donor

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Four anonymous donors
Oriel would like to acknowledge those who have supported the College in other ways over the past year. This includes – but is not limited to – contributions to publications such as *Oriel News*, hosting or speaking at an event, and offering career advice to current students and recent leavers. We would also like to thank those who given gifts of artwork and books to the College.

Oriel is always grateful to those who decide to remember the College in their wills. We remember with particular gratitude those from whom legacies were received during the year.

Mr P.B. Knowles  1948
Mr M.A. Poulter  1949
The Revd Canon J.D. Saville  1955

Oriel would like to acknowledge those who have supported the College in other ways over the past year. This includes – but is not limited to – contributions to publications such as *Oriel News*, hosting or speaking at an event, and offering career advice to current students and recent leavers. We would also like to thank those who given gifts of artwork and books to the College.

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* Deceased
+ Donors who have given for 5 years or more
DIARY

DATES OF FULL TERM
Michaelmas 2020  Sunday 11 October – Saturday 5 December
Hilary 2021  Sunday 17 January – Saturday 13 March
Trinity 2021  Sunday 25 April – Saturday 19 June

GAUDIES
From time to time we review our Gaudy scheduling, so please visit the Oriel website for the latest schedule. Please note that invitations are always sent three months in advance to those eligible to attend. There may be limited spaces available for those who have missed out to join an upcoming Gaudy (with priorities given to adjacent years). Over the next two years Gaudies will be held for the following years of matriculation:

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<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS
For full details of all Oriel College events for Orielenses, please visit www.alumni.oriel.ox.ac.uk/events.

Please be aware that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all of our future events are under constant review. If we do have to cancel any, we will inform all registrants as soon as possible.

2021
FRIDAY 30 APRIL
Returners’ Dinner
A dinner for Orielenses who graduated in 2020.

SATURDAY 8 MAY
Adam de Brome Lunch
Annual lunch in College for members of the Adam de Brome society and guests.

SATURDAY 15 MAY
Provost’s Lunch
A lunch in College for those who matriculated up to 1959 and guests.

SATURDAY 29 MAY
Oriel Garden Party
Annual Garden Party in College for all Orielenses and their families.
NOTES

ORIEL RECORD
The Editor of the *Oriel College Record* is Dr Douglas Hamilton, Oriel College, Oxford, OX1 4EW, and he wishes to record his gratitude to the College Development and Alumni Engagement Office for invaluable help. The Editor will be glad to receive news of Orielenses of all generations. In addition, all Orielenses and other interested persons are warmly invited to submit items and articles with a view to publication in future editions, whether about the College or about the past or present activities of its members. The Editor is grateful to Katie Brown for her invaluable help in preparing copy and to Peter Collett for compiling the Obituaries. Reminiscences or short notes for inclusion in the Obituaries in future issues of the *Record* may be sent to him at the College Development Office (development.office@oriel.ox.ac.uk).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS
Notice of any change of address or other contact details are gratefully received. All notifications should be sent to the Development and Alumni Engagement Office at Oriel.

PRIVACY NOTICE
Oriel College seeks to maintain a lifelong association with its Members. For this purpose, your data are held securely on the Development and Alumni Relations System (DARS) under the provisions of the 1998 Data Protection Act. The information that you provide may be used by the College and the University of Oxford for educational, charitable and social activities (such as for sending invitations or newsletters, or for fundraising).

If you have any questions or wish to update your communication preferences, please contact the Oriel College Development and Alumni Engagement Office at development.office@oriel.ox.ac.uk or write to us at Oriel College Development Office, Oriel College, Oriel Square, Oxford, OX1 4EW.