

The ST CATHARINE'S MAGAZINE

ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

2025



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This issue includes content and reports received by the Editorial Board from the College and the Society before September 2025. Reports received after that date will be considered for the 2026 issue. Contributions are welcomed and should be addressed to the Editor (editor@caths.cam.ac.uk).

Cover image: In Dawson Court, the fan-shaped leaves of the Ginkgo biloba tree (also known as the maidenhair tree) turn gold in the autumn. Photo courtesy of Matt Farr.

EDITORIAL



In previous issues of the *St Catharine's Magazine*, we have featured lost gardens (Walnut Tree Court and the Fellows' Garden, now a car park) as well as the omission of St Catharine's from recently published books celebrating Cambridge college horticulture. In this issue we celebrate what we do have – for though St Catharine's lacks the spacious acres of some nearby colleges, great efforts have been made in recent years to make maximum use of what opportunities exist for creative gardening – sheltered corners and containers strategically placed around Main Court, for example, not to mention the recent daring interventions into the sides and corners of our previously four-square lawn.

In the following pages we celebrate the horticultural delights of the Island Site and the gardens at St Chad's – planting to enjoy in every season. This same theme lies behind the choice of some images used for title pages in this issue of the *Magazine*, as we celebrate the trees, shrubs, climbing plants and perennials that lend visual variety to our gardens and turn them into inviting spaces for quiet relaxation.

This *Magazine* plays a very important role in helping to foster a sense of community and encouraging alumni to take a lifelong interest in the College. Its publication has been supported over the years by all parts of the St Catharine's community, including the late Dr Chris Thorne (Fellow 1963–2002, Emeritus 2002) who provided valuable editorial assistance over two decades. Chris sadly died on 9 August 2025 at the age of 90 and a full tribute to his many contributions to the College will be published in the 2026 edition. There will also be a tribute for the late Professor Sir Peter Hirsch (1943, NatSci, Honorary Fellow 1982) who died a month later on 12 September.



A recent and striking innovation has been the insertion of small flower beds into the corners and sides of the Main Court lawn, transforming the mono-coloured space into a multi-coloured tapestry.

The other main activity of the St Catharine's Alumni Society is the programme of events, including the annual Reunion Day in September, and the regional events that we report on later in the *Magazine*. Recent events have seen members come together for theatre performances, guided walks and tours, wine-tastings and dinners. Groups have met for dinner in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia, Japan, Australia and America.

The Society is now hoping to recruit more alumni who are willing to organise the occasional event. If only 50 out of our 10,000 alumni agreed to organise one event a year, we would be well on the way to becoming one of the most active of the Cambridge college alumni societies. Events are tremendous fun and not difficult to organise. If you think you could help, contact the ADO (alumni.office@cats.cam.ac.uk) who will send you guidance on what is involved and how we can help to promote the event and handle bookings. Our events sell out quickly and it would be wonderful to have a lot more of them!

Christopher Catling (1975, English)

COLLEGE REPORT



Simon Byatt (Porter) and Dave Dove (Head Porter) each celebrated ten years of service earlier this year, ahead of Dave's retirement in November – see Staff News.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER

ELODIE GIUGE



I am delighted to join readers of the *Magazine* in looking back on another wonderful year at St Catharine's, which is a shining example of everything we should value in a Cambridge College today. You really get a sense of the successes we have seen across so many facets of College life from the reports and photos submitted by my colleagues, our students, our alumni and the Society.

It is a source of great pride that our global network of alumni continues to increase in size and reach, as you can tell from the achievements, public service and impact reported in *Alumni News*. We had the pleasure of welcoming around 200 graduates into our alumni network this year, treading in some inspiring footsteps but set to start making their own mark very soon.

I am also proud that we have reached 550 years since a Royal Charter was granted to us on 16 August 1475, which declared St Catharine's 'a perpetual college'. Being the latest in a series of 40 Masters, I can appreciate that the College's survival in perpetuity requires us not only to nurture our community in the short term, but also to have clarity about where we are headed together. It also demands that all parts of our community continue to pull in the same direction.

After seeing the College in action every day since I arrived, I am convinced that our present-day community is thriving and that a new strategic plan is vital if we are to continue in this vein by addressing emerging areas of unmet need and protecting our position as an exemplary academic institution in an increasingly uncertain world. My attention over the last year has been focused on working with others to lead the development of a new strategic plan that will advance our ambitions for the years 2026–31 and beyond. This five-year strategic plan will be published in the New Year, but I am keen to let you know how we have tackled this important task.

Looking ahead to our new strategic plan

Front of mind for me and many others has been 'Our College, Our Future' (published in 2019) which set out the strategic priorities for St Catharine's between 2019 and 2025 – with clarity and conviction. It is impossible to overstate the impact of this strategic plan and the accompanying fundraising campaign, which achieved so many important goals, delivered a step change in our educational ambitions and visibly improved life at St Catharine's, not least through the Central Spaces project.

Our new strategic plan is being developed with a sense of urgency in order to build on the achievements of the last seven years. Overseen by me and colleagues on the College's Strategic Planning Committee, we have consulted Governing Body Fellows, other groups across the Fellowship, our Heads of Department and student representatives to hear from all parts of our community about what makes St Catharine's so special and where we need to focus in the coming years. I have also paid close attention to what students, staff and alumni have told me informally when we had the opportunity to meet and mingle at events over the last year. I have learnt a lot, so many thanks if you unwittingly let me pick your brains; you may even recognise our conversation in the text of our next strategic plan!

Everyone to whom I have spoken has agreed that we must be ambitious in our thinking. Among the questions that we will need to answer in the next strategic plan are:

- How will we ensure we continue to admit students with the greatest academic potential from a broad range of backgrounds?

- What more can we do to provide our students with the quality and breadth of support they need to flourish academically?
- What more can we do to extend our reach and impact by nurturing our research community and global alumni network?
- How can we be an exemplary, forward-thinking custodian of our spaces, including acquiring additional space where essential to our community's success and improving access to treasured green spaces (like those highlighted in the Editorial of this *Magazine*)?
- What other opportunities and challenges do we need to be mindful of in order to continue fostering the best conditions for excellence?

I look forward to sharing how we intend to achieve the greatest impact across these areas of strategic priority in due course. My intention is that our new plan will be a valuable source of guidance and inspiration for our community as the hard work begins to turn our aspirations into actions.

Just as 'Our College, Our Future' was accompanied by a successful fundraising campaign, our attentions will naturally turn soon to how we can rally all parts of our community behind our plans and raise the funds we need to realise our ambitions.

Here and now

Everyone involved in the development of the new strategic plan has been conscious of today's rapidly changing, and at times challenging, world. I wonder if many of you, like me, find yourselves from time to time torn between avoiding the news because it so often seems relentlessly bleak or the equally unhelpful habit of 'doomscrolling'. Conflict, global political challenges, economic uncertainty, the climate crisis all seem so difficult for us as individuals fully to understand, let alone resolve. Rapid technological change in the form of artificial intelligence seems to offer hope and uncertainty in equal measure.

So let my message to you this year end with the one thing that gives me tremendous optimism: our own community. The young people I meet at St Catharine's are generous, hard-working, energetic and enthusiastic. I believe they will make the world a better place and their chances of success are improved by the knowledge, skills, experience and connections gained at St Catharine's. Our Fellows include inspiring teachers and world-class researchers, and we have a fantastic team of dedicated staff to support our community and ensure St Catharine's remains a special place to live, study and work.

I am confident that with everyone's support we will have plenty of more reasons to be optimistic in the years to come!

Sir John Benger (1979, English; Master 2023)

ADMISSIONS TO THE FELLOWSHIP

ELY CATHEDRAL



*Honorary Fellow –
December 2024*

Mark Bonney DL (1975, Music) was ordained in 1985 and served for 16 years in the Diocese of St Albans, before becoming the Canon Treasurer of Salisbury Cathedral in 2004 and Dean of Ely in 2012. In addition to his concern for issues around social justice and inclusion, he has promoted art and music within the Cathedrals he has worked in and has always sought to make these spaces accessible to as many people as possible. He has been on the Board of Governors of the Church Commissioners since 2019 and was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire in 2023.



*Official Fellow –
October 2025*

Tim Dagleish FBA FMedSci is a clinical psychologist who works both as a clinician-researcher at the University of Cambridge and as a practitioner in the UK NHS. He is currently Programme Lead of the Cognition, Emotion & Mental Health Group at the MRC Cognition & Brain Sciences Unit. He adopts a translational approach, seeking to utilise insights from basic cognitive neuroscience to enhance clinical interventions for these conditions. As the Dawson Professor from January 2026, he will be advancing the science of young people's mental health and providing insight to inform the best possible evidence-based support for young people across Cambridge and beyond.

CSA



*Honorary Fellow –
October 2024*

Jenni Gibbons (née Sidey; Fellow 2016–24) first joined St Catharine's while she was the University Lecturer in Internal Combustion Engines at the Department of Engineering. In 2017, she was selected as an astronaut for the Canadian Space Agency and began training for and supporting space flights by other astronauts at NASA's Johnson Space Centre. In 2023, she was selected as the Canadian Space Agency's backup astronaut on Artemis II, a mission that will send humans around the Moon. This is the first mission in a series aimed at returning humans to the lunar surface for the first time in over 50 years.



*Honorary Fellow –
May 2025*

Douglas Moggach is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Ottawa, and Honorary Professor of Philosophy at the University of Sydney. He obtained his BA in political economy at the University of Toronto, and his MA and PhD in political philosophy at Princeton. He spent two terms at St Catharine's in 2023 as a visiting scholar and has held visiting appointments at Cambridge, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Queen Mary University of London, and in Modena, Münster and Beijing. He works in the history of philosophy and political thought and his most recent publication is *Freedom and Perfection. German Political Thought from Leibniz to Marx* (CUP, 2025).



*Official Fellow –
October 2024*

Martin Parker Dixon joined in September 2024 as Deputy Senior Tutor, a new role created to advance our mission to provide outstanding pastoral support to students and remain at the forefront of collegiate Cambridge in this area. A Bye-Fellow of Fitzwilliam, Sidney Sussex and St Edmund’s Colleges, Martin has served in numerous student-facing and pastoral roles, including Director of Studies in Music at St John’s and Sidney Sussex, as a Tutor at Fitzwilliam and Sidney Sussex, and as Deputy Admissions Tutor at St Edmund’s. He has also served as Senior Pro-Proctor for the University of Cambridge since October 2024.



*Official Fellow –
January 2025*

Hannah Pinnock (née Brinsmead; 2005, VetMed) graduated from St Catharine’s as a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2011. Since then she has worked in small animal first opinion practice, and enjoys all aspects of veterinary life. More recently she has returned to the University of Cambridge and is now based at The Queen’s Veterinary School Hospital, where she teaches clinical veterinary students and is passionate about supporting students as they move into the profession.



*Official Fellow –
October 2025*

Sebastian Raza is a Teaching Associate in the Department of Sociology. His research focuses on how agents assess, interpret and transform crisis situations. His aim is to explain and understand how crises transform – for better or worse – culture and institutions, as well as practical, biographical and historical self-understanding. He has a strong interest in intellectual history, sociological theory and cultural sociology, and will be teaching HSPS at St Catharine’s.



*Official Fellow –
October 2025*

Andrew Sagar was elected to a Teaching and Research Fellowship in Law at St Catharine’s, having completed his PhD at Gonville and Caius College. His research interests are in environmental law, intellectual property, social ontology, and law and economics. His doctoral thesis on legal evolution was awarded the Yorke Prize by Cambridge’s Faculty of Law. Before his PhD, he completed his BA and LLM at Caius, and worked as a research assistant in the Centre for Law, Medicine & Life Sciences in Cambridge. He is also the author of award-winning fiction books for children, which have been translated into German, French, Italian and Ukrainian.

ELODIE GIUGE



*Official Fellow –
January 2025*

Nell Whiscombe studied Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at Clare College before working for ten years in publishing. She returned to the University of Cambridge in 2019 to train for ordained ministry in the Church of England. In 2022, she completed her MPhil in Theology at Corpus Christi College, focusing on credal statements and syncretic faith in the early church. Nell joined St Catharine's as chaplain from St John the Evangelist in Cambridge, where she was Assistant Curate and a member of the Ely Diocesan Synod.



*Official Fellow –
October 2025*

Anne Willis OBE FBTS is Director of the Medical Research Council Toxicology Unit and Professor of Toxicology at the University of Cambridge. She obtained her PhD from Imperial College, London, and then did postdoctoral work at the University of Cambridge, where she also held a Junior Research Fellowship at Churchill College. In 1992 she was appointed to a Lectureship in Biochemistry at the University of Leicester, progressing there to Professor. In 2004 she moved to become Director of Cancer Research Nottingham, while also holding a Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council Professorial Fellowship. In 2010 she returned to Leicester as Director of the MRC Toxicology Unit, which transferred to Cambridge in 2018.

FAREWELLS

Tristan Cummings served as an Official Fellow of St Catharine's from 2021 until 2025. He was appointed Baker-Fellingham College Assistant Professor and served as Director of Studies in Law. His research focuses on the intersection of family law, human rights law and religious freedom with a particular interest in the regulation of religious family law through a systems theoretical and reflexive law model. He started as lecturer at the Open University in September 2025.

He commented: 'I have enjoyed my time at St Catharine's very much over the last four years. I am grateful for the opportunities I have had to work with talented colleagues and students and I am proud of all that we have achieved together'.

Sophie Koudmani joined St Catharine's in 2021 and benefited from the College's Bowring Junior Research Fellowship in Astronomy, including a year as Flatiron Research Fellow at the Center for Computational Astrophysics at the Flatiron Institute in New York City. Her research aims to unravel the physical processes governing galaxy formation, especially the interface between galaxies and their supermassive black holes. She was recently awarded a University Research Fellowship by the Royal Society, which will start in January 2026 and enable her to start her own research group.

She said: 'I have really enjoyed being part of the College community and learning about the wide range of activities and academic endeavours that make Catz such a vibrant place. My time as a Junior Research Fellow at Catz has been truly incredible. The unparalleled support I received to carry out independent research opened up exciting opportunities, both in the UK and internationally. I am very grateful to the College and looking forward to staying in touch with the Catz community in the years ahead'.

Christa Lundberg joined St Catharine's in 2022 and was awarded the Dame Jean Thomas Junior Research Fellowship in History. Her research specialises in the history of early modern universities, books and knowledge. She started as a *Pro futura scientia* Fellow at the Swedish Collegium of Advanced Study and Lund University this autumn, a role offering five years of funding to continue her work on scholarly plagiarism in early modern Europe.

She said: 'being part of the community at St Catharine's has been a real gift. The Junior Research Fellowship gave me space to think long-term and pursue research with a level of freedom that's increasingly rare. Just as sustaining, though, was the quiet encouragement of colleagues through the ups and downs of my job search, and the many inspiring conversations over lunch – thank you!'

Jason Tarkin joined St Catharine's in 2021 as a Junior Research Fellow. He remains a Wellcome Fellow and an Honorary Consultant Cardiologist at the University of Cambridge. He plans to continue his research in cardiovascular imaging as a group leader at Cambridge's Heart & Lung Research Institute.

He said: 'my time as a Junior Research Fellow has been a truly fantastic experience, which I will remember fondly. I wish to express my highest gratitude to the St Catharine's community for welcoming me as a member of college for the past three years.'

COLONEL THE RT HON SIR GEOFFREY PATTIE

17 January 1936–8 October 2024. Matriculated 1956 (Law); Fellow Commoner 2005–07, Honorary Fellow 2007–24.

Sir Geoffrey's son Andrew Pattie writes:

My father was born in the freezing January of 1936 in Eaglescliffe, County Durham, as the Second World War loomed. He grew tall and straight, taller than his parents by 14 years old when he was already playing in men's sports teams. He was fast too, very fast. At 18 he ran in the national sprint finals, coming seventh. After leaving Durham School he spent two years of National Service as a second lieutenant with the Royal Green Jackets. In 1956 he headed south to Cambridge and St Catharine's College.

It was while studying Law, that he found the stage. He was starring in a College revue when he was talent spotted by the 1957–58 Cambridge Footlights. This was period of great talent with Bron, Bird, Slade, Cook, Gowers and Birdsall all involved. McKellen (1958, English; Honorary Fellow 1982), Jacobi and Frost were also part of the artistic mix of the moment.

Two things then happened which were to shape Geoffrey's life for the next half a century.



Geoffrey and Tuema c. 1970. They married in 1960 and had two children.

The first was when he met Tuema Eyre-Maunsell at the Circuit of Ireland Rally in 1958. Tuema was studying at the Belfast College of Art and they fell in love immediately. The second was the news upon graduation that members of the Footlights were to perform two one-act plays in London by NF Simpson; it was clear he would not be returning north after Cambridge.

London in the early 1960s was a lightning rod for talented and energetic young things as they poured in from the regions. He performed cabaret at the Room at the Top with Adrian Slade, wrote jokes for Dick Emery and soon found himself drawn to advertising and the welcoming arms of Collett Dickinson Pearce & Partners – an organisation full of dynamic young mavericks that fuelled both his creative appetites and his profound need for hard work.

He also served with the Queen's Royal Rifles (4th Royal Green Jackets TA) for seven years after graduation and was latterly Honorary Colonel of its volunteer battalion and then Deputy Commandant of the regiment.

With a young family and a burgeoning business career, Geoffrey's attentions turned rather surprisingly to politics. He was elected to the Greater London Council in 1967, chairing the Finance Committee but with sights set across the Thames. After two unsuccessful attempts to unseat Tom Dryberg in Barking, he fought the newly created seat of Chertsey and Walton and was elected to Parliament for the Conservatives in 1974. He served the constituency faithfully until his retirement in 1997.



Geoffrey's sense of humour (he is wearing a Comic Relief nose here) on display at an event with his wife and Michael Heseltine, now Baron Heseltine.

Sir Geoffrey's political career (not least his appointment to the Privy Council and knighthood in 1987) and business acumen (including as founding Chairman and Director of Strategic Communications Laboratories) are a matter of public record. It is probably not known that he was a keen member of the Parliamentary football team and he also regularly turned out for the Lords and Commons cricket team. He also received the first ever mobile phone call in the UK as Minister of State for Trade and Industry. Always well turned out, Geoffrey was awarded 'Tie Man of the Month' in 1976 ahead of Noel Edmonds. Perhaps his most important and lasting political legacy came after the fall of the Berlin Wall when he led the mission to introduce parliamentary democracy to the fledgling states of the former Eastern Bloc.

Throughout his life Geoffrey loved four things above all: his family, his God, opera and Middlesbrough Football Club. He was a member of the General Synod throughout the 1970s and he lived his life on the simple idea that he was to be of service, either for the public good or for individuals in need of help or advice. Anyone who met him came away with the impression of a devout man, full of wit, kindness and wisdom.

SENIOR TUTOR'S REPORT

ELODIE GIUGE



This year started with a feeling of deep excitement as we progressed our ongoing programme of work aimed at supporting students to thrive during their time at St Catharine's and beyond. The focus this year has been integrating academic support into the high standard of pastoral support we currently provide our students, and we have a new team helping us to achieve these goals.

We started the year by making appointments to the newly created roles that I mentioned in my last report. Dr Martin Parker Dixon (Fellow 2024) joined St Catharine's from Fitzwilliam College in September 2024 to become our Deputy Senior Tutor. We were delighted to appoint Martin to this role; he settled into our close-knit community seamlessly and has not only provided exceptional support to our students, Tutors and Directors of Studies, but has also been a truly delightful colleague to work closely with.

We were delighted to appoint Professor Peter Wothers (1988, NatSci; Fellow 1997) to the new post of Lead Postgraduate Tutor; Peter has been a longstanding advocate for our postgraduate community and is now also helping to oversee the Harding Distinguished Postgraduate Scholars Programme at St Catharine's and strengthening our connections with the Judge Business School.

We also welcomed our first cohort of Bye-Fellows in October 2024. I am pleased to report that we have had a successful first year, with our Bye-Fellows contributing to the world-class teaching and academic opportunities provided to our students. We have since appointed six new colleagues to join us in October 2025 (see *Acta*).

I would like to thank our incredible Tutorial Office team (Kati Sexton, Hannah Currington, Charlie Ferguson and Elaine Hurrell) for all their hard work this year; the final phase of which includes collating nominations for our many student prizes (see *Acta*). This is a special moment in the academic year relished by our Directors of Studies, Tutor and supervisors as it is a chance to celebrate our students and their academic or non-academic endeavours. The generous financial support made possible by our alumni and donors continues to allow us to give individual students prizes, financial assistance and travel grants, as well as accommodation bursaries for those pursuing summer internships.

We had plenty of academic successes to celebrate this year and I particularly want to congratulate our finalists on their excellent examination results: 92.9 per cent were awarded Upper Second-Class results or higher (2024: 90.6 per cent), which put this cohort in joint third place across all Cambridge Colleges.

This year, Sir John Benger (1979, English; Master 2023) has been leading us in developing our new strategic plan. This body of work will embrace the best of what we have achieved to date together and identify emerging areas of need – and where we can be bolder – over the coming years. The higher education landscape for a Cambridge College changes rapidly with the passing of every academic year and we can remain at the forefront of Collegiate Cambridge by approaching any uncertainty with confidence and by challenging ourselves to innovate. I look forward to providing an update on these plans in my next report. In the meantime, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues, who make St Catharine's a very special place to work, and our alumni and donors for their continued support in allowing us to pursue our goals of providing the highest quality of academic and pastoral support to our students.

Holly Canuto (Fellow 2020), Senior Tutor

ADMISSIONS AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION



Professor David Bainbridge
and Dr Ivan Scales

It has been another busy year in admissions, as we aspire to keep ahead of changes in applicant preferences, selection processes and the world of widening participation. Our aim is always to admit applicants with the greatest academic potential across a wide range of courses.

To achieve this, we receive superb support from Megan Walsh, who manages our large number of undergraduate applications, Hannah Currington, who oversees postgraduate admissions, and Emily Lawson-Todd as our new (since late 2024) Schools Liaison and Outreach Officer.

This year, the number of undergraduate applications increased and we look forward to welcoming a cohort of 135 students this October. Applicant numbers fluctuate between the subjects and are affected by UK-wide trends in teenagers' beliefs about post-university employability, so we work hard to support applications to every subject we offer. Interviews remain a cornerstone of our selection process and we continue to conduct them online, partly to reduce the cost to our applicants, as well as reducing their nerves.

We are also fortunate to receive applications from superb candidates for postgraduate study. Our postgraduate population is a diverse community mostly studying one-year courses and PhDs. St Catharine's has recently developed even stronger links with the Judge Business School and we receive a disproportionate number of excellent applicants who are pursuing the Judge's innovative and world-leading courses.

One major priority is encouraging applications from disadvantaged students and students from under-represented groups. Emily has continued working with schools in the link areas assigned to us (Suffolk, Rutland and North Yorkshire) and it is rewarding whenever we discover that a student was inspired to apply by our outreach events. North Yorkshire presents different logistical challenges to our other link areas, so we continue to collaborate with Oxford's Brasenose College to reach as many schools as possible through our roadshow visits. Meanwhile, our participation in the Aspiring Scientists Training Programme, STEM SMART, Melanin Medics and VetCam programmes, as well as subject-specific Taster Days, have encouraged prospective applicants to visit us and learn more about student life here.

2024–25 outreach snapshot

- 3,822 participants in outreach activities
- 34 visits to schools
- 20 school visits to St Catharine's
- 3 residential events
- 3 subject taster days in History, Medicine and Modern & Medieval Languages

2024–25 admissions snapshot

<i>Undergraduate</i>	<i>Postgraduate</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 765 applications in autumn 2024 • 135 applicants were offered places, met their conditions of entry and will start their studies in October 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 284 applications • At least 135 applicants were offered places, met their conditions of entry and will start their studies in October 2025

David Bainbridge (Fellow 2003), Ivan Scales (Fellow 2008) and
Valentina Caldari (Fellow 2018), Admissions Tutors

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

St Catharine's has understood for some time just how essential strong, College-based pastoral support is for students to flourish. University life offers incredible opportunities, but it also brings a unique set of pressures. When students face challenges, whether it's academic expectations, mental health concerns, difficulties with sleep, or other life pressures, it's important they know they're not alone. At Catz, students are encouraged to reach out to a range of people: Tutors, Directors of Studies, our Chaplain and the Wellbeing team.

I took on the newly created role of Deputy Senior Tutor in September 2024, as work began on developing our new strategic plan (as mentioned already by the Master in his message). There's consensus across the College community around the need for us to incorporate how we are going to advance the support we provide to our students as part of this strategy. It's been great to see an appetite for a more ambitious, joined-up, whole-College approach to the Wellbeing team's activities as we look to the future.

At Christmas we wished a fond farewell to Mary Simuyandi as she took up a new role as Student Wellbeing Lead at Jesus College, having helped us to realise our ambitions for student wellbeing since she joined us as our first permanent Welfare Officer in 2020. A few weeks later Hiruni Cox started as our own Wellbeing Lead. Accredited as a counsellor with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, with a Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counselling, her expertise complements the support already offered by Ryan Hegarty RCN (our Community Health Practitioner since February 2024). Ryan and Hiruni's professional training and experience allow them to provide effective early interventions for any student with acute need.

Alongside this support from Hiruni and Ryan, the Wellbeing team's activities have focused on creating spaces where students feel safe, supported and connected to the wider Catz community: 'Craft Corner', 'Write Together', and 'Smoothie Breakfast Mornings' are a few of the initiatives offering students time and space to pause their studies and connect with others. We've also continued long-standing favourites like 'Tea@3', rolling out free refreshments on the dot of 3pm on regular dates throughout the year (but especially the examination period) to encourage everyone to take a well-earned break from studying to connect with each other.

I've also been delighted that our new Chaplain, the Rev'd Nell Whiscombe (Fellow 2025), has been proactive in attending wellbeing events and activities as well as offering her own regular drop-in sessions and organising wellbeing walks.



From left: Martin, Nell, Hiruni and Ryan

listening, learning and responding to what our students need and placing care, connection and resilience at the heart of the student experience.

Hiruni told me: 'what I love most about working at Catz is that our approach to wellbeing is truly collaborative and inclusive. It's not just about responding to moments of crisis, though we are here for those moments too, it's about building a culture where wellbeing is embedded in everyday life at Catz. We want students to feel empowered to seek help, to access support in ways that work for them and to know that this is a community that genuinely cares.'

As we continue to grow and evolve the support extended to our students, I'm excited about where we're headed. We're

Martin Parker Dixon (Fellow 2024), Deputy Senior Tutor

CHAPEL AND CHAPLAINCY

ELODIE GIJGE



It has been a joy to settle into the St Catharine's community over the last two terms, and to get to know the students, staff, Fellows and alumni.

Following the departure of The Rev'd Ally Barrett (Fellow 2019–24) to become Associate Vicar of Great St Mary's, we were fortunate to have The Rev'd Jonathan Collis, vicar of our parish church of St Botolph, with us as Interim Chaplain for Michaelmas Term. We enjoyed sermons from a number of visiting preachers including Professor Christopher Southgate of the University of Exeter, The Rt Rev'd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, and The Rev'd Dr Timothy Jenkins.

In Lent Term, preachers at Evensong focused on 'Women of the Bible': Paula Gooder on Anna, Professor Katharine Dell (Fellow 1996) on Ruth, Beth Joss Pothén on Judith, The Rev'd Dr Ayla Lepine on Susanna and Dr Chine McDonald (née Mbubaegbu; 2002, Theol) on Mary. We also enjoyed a 'Sermon in music'.

Easter Term saw a series on 'Favourite Hymns', with a brilliant introduction to the series by Charles Moseley, which is reprinted elsewhere in this *Magazine*. Our Director of Music Dr Edward Wickham (Fellow 2006) introduced us to 'Come and sing' hymns, and we also heard from guest preachers on the hymns 'Blessed Assurance' (Debs Davies), 'He Who Would Valiant Be' (Ben Vertannes) and 'Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer' (Hannah Richardson).

Chaplaincy activities since I joined have included a group focused on exploring the scripture through poetry, and I also offered a bible study and discussion group. It has also been a delight to speak to many students about interfaith issues and to support in this area, as well as to work with the Wellbeing Team to provide pastoral support to the College community.

As always, please know that alumni and guests are very welcome to attend services in Chapel if you are visiting Cambridge, or you can tune in online via our YouTube channel (see caths.cam.ac.uk/chapelservices). Please do make yourselves known if you do come along – we will be delighted to welcome you. There is also a special Alumni Evensong each term, to which you are warmly invited – keep an eye on our website for details.

My sincere thanks to all who have contributed to the life of the Chapel this year, not least to Jonathan as Interim Chaplain, our ordinand from Ridley Hall, Olivia Davies, the choirs and Director of Music and our stellar team of chapel wardens. I'm looking forward to the next academic year!

The Rev'd Nell Whiscombe (Fellow 2025), Chaplain

CHOIRS



After two years in which the College Choir has been performing as well as I have ever encountered, and with a significant number of leavers, this might have been one of those years of retrenchment and rebuilding. But quite the opposite. Our new recruits, several of whom are blessed with the miracle of perfect pitch, have helped us to achieve a quite exceptional level of technical prowess, and manage some of the most challenging repertoire a choir of this kind might contemplate.

Central to this has been the College Choir's involvement in the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Cambridge Music Conference, an enterprise established by Elizabeth Carmack. For this occasion, Elizabeth commissioned six composers to write for us; and the works – by Diana Burrell, Richard Causton, Christopher Fox, Nigel Osborne MBE, Howard Skempton and Errollyn Wallen CBE – were premiered in concerts during Lent Term. Elizabeth has also founded a new choral composition award, in which several of our singers were involved; and a composer residency, which will see St Catharine's host a distinguished composer for a week each of the next five years. And in all the excitement, we still managed to find two days to make a 'studio' recording of the new works (to be released next year).

For all that we love new music, there was a palpable sense of relaxation when our choristers could return to their more traditional repertoire for concerts at the Temple Church in March – with thanks again to Guy Beringer CBE (1973, History; Fellow Commoner 2008) for hosting – and as part of the College Choir's July tour to Turkey. This is not your typical choir tour destination, but thanks to sundry connections, we made it out to Izmir and Istanbul in the blazing heat for a thoroughly enjoyable end-of-year excursion.

The highlight of the Girls' Choir's year was a ten-day tour of the Bay Area of California. The culmination of a long-standing relationship with the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir, the tour in April included services and concerts in Stanford, Berkeley, Los Altos, Grace Cathedral in downtown San Francisco and Gualala. Adventures of this scale are not possible without significant support; and amongst those who helped in different ways, we must thank Christina Dawson (Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019) and Peter Dawson (1974, NatSci; Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019), and our parent chaperones. Indeed, the fundraising journey was itself a lot of fun, involving as it did a concert of Vivaldi's 'Gloria', as it would have been heard in the composer's lifetime at the Ospedale della Pietà in Venice: with an entirely female choir and orchestra. We have to thank for this piece of musical archaeology our intrepid basses and tenors, drawn from the extended Catz musical family, and Diana and Larry Wong who provided the sponsorship.

This year saw a number of subtle yet significant transformations. On alternate Tuesdays, the Girls' and College Choirs now combine to sing Evensong – providing the girls with more opportunities to sing full choir repertoire; 'Night Songs' has been returned to its traditional branding as 'Compline', with music often provided by a small consort, comprising only our choral scholars. This has enabled an extension of repertoire into realms more suited to a small ensemble; works by Messiaen and Cage alongside those of Ockeghem and Josquin. New, compendious hymnbooks have arrived to replace our somewhat tattered stock of English Hymnals, courtesy of a generous donation by His Honour Dr Colin Kolbert (1956, Law); and we have embraced the digital age by issuing all our singers with tablets (with much thanks to Carolyn Bate for her generosity). We can now perform in the most atmospheric light without damaging our eyesight, and without intrusive paper noise. Presiding over and encouraging these quiet revolutions have been two chaplains – Jonathan Collis, our one-term interim and Rector of St Botolph's, whose quiet but insistent advocacy of the status of the Chapel within our community has been inspirational; and our new Chaplain Nell Whiscombe (Fellow 2025), whose support and friendship has already been warmly felt by the Choirs.

Finally, we said goodbye this year to our Neville Burston Senior Organ Scholar John Zhang (2022, Music), a remarkable and indefatigable colleague. His first in Music (including a first-class mark for his organ recital) is thoroughly deserved, and we wish him well in his studies at the Royal Scottish Conservatoire.

Edward Wickham (Fellow 2006), Director of Music



The Girls' Choir visited San Francisco during their tour of the Bay Area of California.



The College Choir at Ephesus during their tour of Turkey.

CONCERTS

The ambition of any concert promoter is for the brand to attain 'above-the-title' status. Whatever the programme, whoever the artist, you can trust that the concert will be top-quality and entertaining. I would like to think that, after 20 years, the Kellaway Concert Series has attained that status. So what if you've not heard of York Bowen or the Delphine Trio. They are worth hearing, because they are part of our series.

And worth hearing they certainly were. The Delphine Trio, who were with us in November, are a young ensemble hailing from the Royal College of Music. Perhaps the best known composer in their programme was John Ireland, but that mattered not a jot; for it was brilliantly executed. Alumni and Fellows of a certain vintage would at least have heard of Peter Mallinson (2005, Music), now a violist for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, who brought his own ensemble the following week; the highlight of which was a suitably outrageous arrangement of Monti's *Czardas*. Anyone still labouring under the impression (encouraged by innumerable jokes) that the viola was a somewhat pedestrian instrument will have undergone a pleasurable re-education.

Collaborations with the Jazz Festival and Cambridge Early Music have become an established part of our season. This year we were thus able to host the outstanding jazz pianist Elliot Galvin, and recitals by The Revolutionary Drawing Room, and lutenist Peter Croton. The former is an ensemble dedicated to exploring 19th-century repertoire on period instruments; and their rendition of the much-loved Schumann Quintet was a revelation. Peter Croton from Schola Cantorum Basiliensis spent a three-day residency working with our students in workshops and one-to-one tuition before a final concert of Dowland songs, in collaboration with Cambridge-based vocal ensemble L'Isola.

In addition to the concerts by the choirs in my earlier report, our Kellaway series is deserving of mention. The annual student showcase concert gave a platform to three of our talented instrumental scholars: Samantha Burley (2022, MedSci), Ashwin Tennant (2021, Maths) and John Zhang (2022, Music) performing Brahms and Beethoven. And on Valentine's evening, Julian Perkins and Emma Abbate gave a delightful piano duo recital entitled 'Chit Chat', with works ranging from Mozart to MacDowell.

Edward Wickham (Fellow 2006), Director of Music

LIBRARIES

ELODIE GIUGE



Thomas Sherlock arrived at St Catharine's as an undergraduate in 1693. Our College was small in the 1690s, with about 40 students, but intellectually ambitious. Sherlock's studies continued alongside John Addenbrooke (1697), whose benefaction established Cambridge's teaching hospital, and Benjamin Hoadly (1691/2). Sherlock and Hoadly both became Fellows, and Sherlock served as Master. Both were Bishops of Bangor and later Bishops of Salisbury. Each died in 1761. Both were sermonising celebrities of their time, engaged in the 18th-century theological and political debate known as the Bangorian Controversy.

How do these bishops' parallel lives relate to our libraries in 2025? Surprisingly, there are several connections. Both men loved books and possessed substantial libraries. Like the College's libraries, these were practical collections – intellectual workshops, and tools for acquiring and sharing knowledge. Sherlock was, and remains, our libraries' greatest benefactor. In his will, he left us 2,000 books, funds to rebuild the College Library – now known as Sherlock Library – and land, the income from which was used to support a scholar-librarian, a student in good standing who would manage the library alongside their studies and ensure it stayed useful, relevant and welcoming to all College members.

The fortunes of the College Library have waxed and waned over the two-and-a-half centuries since Sherlock's death. Yet each year, I still appoint a 'Sherlock Librarian,' who works with us for up to six hours per week while in residence. The postholder is an important member of the Library & Archive team and works alongside us for the whole academic year. They learn from us and we learn from them.

The contributions of our Sherlock Librarian are crucial. They provide insight into the changing ways students are taught and learn. They ask questions about why we do the things we do, encouraging my team to reflect on our services and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. They can bring skills and perspectives that my team and I lack. This year's postholder, Linlu Liu (2022, NatSci), has contributed technical and analytical expertise to the work she has undertaken for us. We have already integrated her coding experiments, text recognition tools, and careful application of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies into our project work.

I understand that everyone may be tired of reading about AI, and that libraries and archives lag slightly behind other industries in its adoption. However, as we have been discovering this year, AI can be carefully used in ways that help us offer better library services to our community and make our collections more accessible, both within College and to the global community of researchers eager to engage with our 550 years of book, manuscript and archival curation.

Our libraries, like all academic libraries, face new challenges in the coming years. AI is one among many. How should we respond to the declining use of physical collections; to the increasing demand for study spaces; to the quickening evolution in teaching and research; to changing student expectations; and to the University Library's reducing budgets alongside its expanding strategic ambitions?

We'll answer these challenges by holding onto what Thomas Sherlock understood to be true – that libraries are vital, productive, worth investing in and fundamental to teaching, learning and research. At the same time, we'll learn lessons from our Sherlock Librarians and all of our students, who remind us that libraries are essential, exciting, responsive to their users, and places of community.

Colin Higgins (Fellow 2018), Librarian

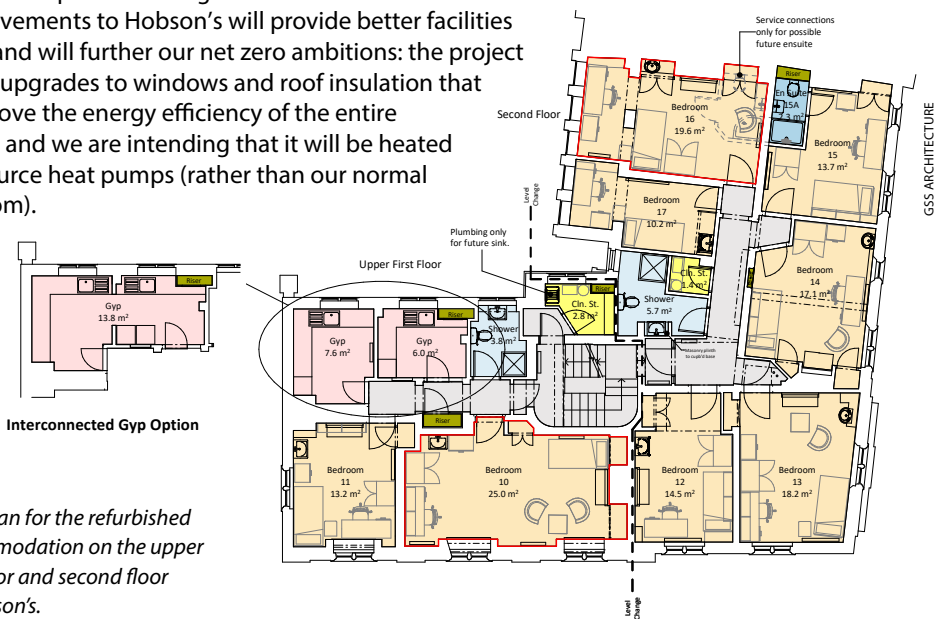
MAJOR PROJECTS



The Master enjoys reminding me that, on returning to the Hobson's Building after more than 40 years, he found that his old room was virtually unchanged from his undergraduate days. Readers will be aware of the College's concern that students in Hobson's experience a lower standard of accommodation than their peers in other parts of our estate, and this gap grew even wider after we made improvements to other areas: the Central Spaces project (2020–22), Sherlock Court renovations (2021–23), the construction of Silver House and Belfield House (2022–23) and our most recent refurbishments at South Green Lodge and Russell Street.

We have made good progress with our architects and now have agreed new layouts for each floor of the Hobson's building. These designs aim to deliver significant improvements to the standard of accommodation across all rooms, while preserving the character of the building and the variation in room sizes (and rents) valued by our students. We will finally be able to remove the infamous 'Danger Bath' (an evocative nickname coined by our students for the bath in the basement) and install additional sanitary and kitchen facilities so a lower number of students will need to share each facility. Vastly improved laundry facilities (including a drying room) will benefit Hobson's occupants and neighbours across our main site.

Improvements to Hobson's will provide better facilities for staff and will further our net zero ambitions: the project includes upgrades to windows and roof insulation that will improve the energy efficiency of the entire building, and we are intending that it will be heated by air-source heat pumps (rather than our normal plant room).



Floorplan for the refurbished accommodation on the upper first floor and second floor of Hobson's.

Fully worked-up costings lead us to expect these long-overdue improvements to Hobson's will cost us in the region of £5 million. At the time of writing we have secured funding of £3 million towards this project, including some significant alumni donations, and we need to raise the final £2 million before we can commence work in September 2026.

Alongside our work on the Hobson's project, we will be continuing our refurbishment of Russell Street and South Green Lodge, and pursuing new projects on the Master's Lodge roof and squash courts. Together, these will continue the rejuvenation and enhancement of our accommodation, implement our roadmap to net zero, and restore and develop parts of our historic estate.

Helen Hayward (Fellow 2019), Operations Director

NET ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2040

St Catharine's net zero roadmap (see caths.cam.ac.uk/roadmap) was published just before I started as Master so it has been an enlightening – but nonetheless enjoyable – experience chairing the Green Working Group in 2024–25. I want to thank everyone who helped us made headway over the last year in reducing our carbon emissions and I look forward to another year of progress.

It continues to be a source of pride that all of our electricity has been from non-emitting energy sources since 2021, thanks to our participation in the Cambridge Colleges Consortium. The Consortium has a new supplier from October 2025, who will continue to provide us with electricity from entirely renewable sources in the UK.



Solar panels on the Russell Street roof

We were delighted to receive planning permission in October 2024 for 114 solar panels on the roof of E/Gostlin buildings and a further 80 solar panels on the roof of our postgraduate accommodation on Russell Street. These panels were installed over the summer and will generate 66,000 kWh annually and save 14,000 kg of carbon dioxide every year. We are continuing to identify further opportunities for installing roof-mounted solar panels, with our eyes on other residential properties and facilities such as the badminton courts.

We celebrated the installation of our sixth air source heat pump:

the new pump at the Vicarage on South Green Road joins those at Russell Street and St Chad's. Our data show that the Russell Street pumps alone saved 9,500 kg of carbon dioxide between October 2024 and March 2025.

To reduce energy consumption, EyeSense units have now been rolled out to 40 additional rooms this year. These units include sensors that keep temperatures constant during periods of occupation and prevent us, for example, from heating empty rooms over vacations. Sensors are now serving bedrooms in G, H, I, J, K and M staircases, the Silver Street flats and (from 2025) the Bull building. These units helped us to save over 80,000 kWh (equivalent to more than 16,000 kg of carbon dioxide) last year.

Our Governing Body has now considered and approved a detailed plan for phasing out farmed ruminant meat by 2027 (see caths.cam.ac.uk/net-zero-report-2025). In parallel, we will increase provision of plant-based food options by 2027 and continue to support and train our chefs as menus change over time.

Our commitment to ethical and other issues of social responsibility, including climate change, remains a vital component of our investment policy. Our two principal investment managers have ambitious shareholder engagement goals, combining divestment and engagement to good effect: CCLA (part of Jupiter Investment Banking Limited) and Legal & General Investment Management. The Bursar has been appointed to CCLA's Ethical Fund Advisory Committee and she will be working alongside representatives from other investors (churches and charities) to review updates on the engagement progress being made by our fund managers.

St Catharine's is among the UK universities that have been collaborating since February 2024 to seek out financial institutions and products that do not contribute to the financing of fossil fuel expansion. Several financial institutions met the collaboration's objectives for cash deposit accounts and a product equivalent to a Money Market Fund is under development. The collaboration is also engaging with full-service banks but, given the complexity of the College's full-service banking needs, our community's immediate focus has been on: 1) finding alternative products for our treasury holdings and 2) working with the JCR Committee on their banking arrangements, which resulted in the JCR opening a new current account with Unity on 13 May 2025. The College remains committed to working with other Cambridge Colleges and the University to engage with Barclays (who currently provide our banking services) in line with our ethical investment policy and net zero ambition.

Another area of focus for our community this year was implementing changes in response to a new legal duty to separate our food waste, our recyclable waste and our landfill waste from 31 March 2025: 153 food caddies were introduced to kitchens and offices, and 11 communal food waste bins were installed across our properties.

The College has also continued to gather data to understand waste streams, establish baselines and inform the development of a waste reduction plan. This was paused due to the recent changes to waste collection and the reduction plan is now due to be delivered by December 2025.



Professors Willis and Tilbury at the 2025 net zero lecture.

Fellows participating in discussions to support the implementation of our roadmap. The Group was able to repeat the online survey of students, staff and Fellows first rolled out in 2024: recall of our ambition of net zero emissions by 2040 is up (51 per cent versus 42 per cent in 2024) but behind our target of 85 per cent. In response, the Group is planning to establish a 'Net Zero Week' to engage all parts of our community in the roadmap and will publish a new dashboard to help us track progress against the roadmap's commitments.

Other highlights from this year included a public lecture chaired by Professor Daniella Tilbury (1990, Geog; Honorary Fellow 2018) and presented by Professor Ian Willis (Fellow 1989) in March 2025 on 'Net zero by 2040: An Antarctic perspective' (available to watch on the College's YouTube Channel). Professor Tilbury was also involved in a new series of articles on the College website celebrating alumni working in support of environmental sustainability.

The Green Working Group met five times over the last academic year, with 26 students, staff and

Sir John Benger (1979, English; Master 2023)

FINANCIAL REVIEW



My last report highlighted the need to take steps to increase our financial resilience in order to continue to deliver an outstanding educational experience for future generations of students. The past year has brought continued challenges for the Higher Education sector, but the College has responded with actions to strengthen its own financial position.

In November 2024 Governing Body approved the recommendations of the Financial Resilience Working Group, chaired by the Master in his first year, including four long-term objectives:

- To ensure financial sustainability in perpetuity;
- To have sufficient financial resilience to respond to unexpected events;
- To generate the cash required to cover annual expenditure including planned preventative and reactive maintenance and routine capital expenditure; and
- To have the financial capacity and balance sheet characteristics to secure funding for major capital expenditure.

Our goal for the next five years is to eliminate the structural deficit by 2030 whilst also investing in the maintenance and improvement of our estate. The financial resilience project has provided us with a clear pathway to achieve this goal: identifying levers to increase income and reduce expenditure, and, setting out protocols for funding capital investment and major estate refurbishments.

In 2024–25 we made early progress towards our 2030 targets. For the second year running the underlying unrestricted deficit in the statutory accounts was significantly lower than in previous years. Furthermore, our cash position was strong enough to enable capital investment of approximately £1.1 million along with ear-marking £1.8 million donations toward the refurbishment of the Hobson's building described by the Operations Director in her report. A key objective for the coming year is to raise the final £2 million required to start this project in September 2026.

Total income before donations and endowments increased by 5 per cent to £16.2 million (2024: £15.3 million). This growth has been substantially driven by external business. The Conference Office, headed by Rob Jonas and Zoe Fardell, has worked tirelessly to evolve our business model, especially how we deliver summer schools over the Long Vacation and attract members of the University to use our catering facilities during term time.

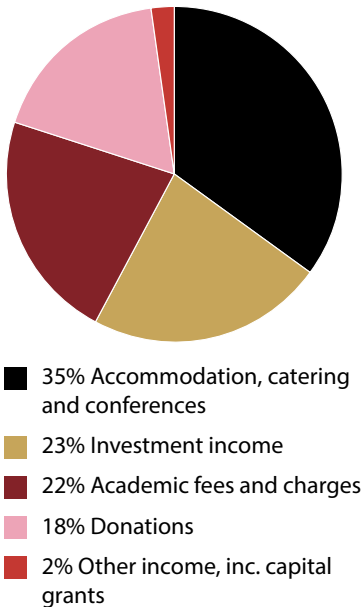
Total expenditure was £17.0 million (2024: £15.7 million). The 2024 figure was reduced by a write-back of £1.0 million related to deficit recovery provision contributions to the Universities Superannuation Scheme, one of our pension providers. Excluding the impact of this write-back, expenditure has increased by 2 per cent – lower than inflation.

The College remains committed to maintaining its position among the world's leading Higher Education Institutions. In the year ending June 2025, the College invested on average £12,542 per undergraduate student reflecting the intensive academic support for each student, provided through Directors of Studies, College Teaching Officers, supervisors, and tutors. Postgraduate students also received significant support, with the College spending on average £8,579 per student to enhance their educational experience on top of the support provided by their Faculty or Department.

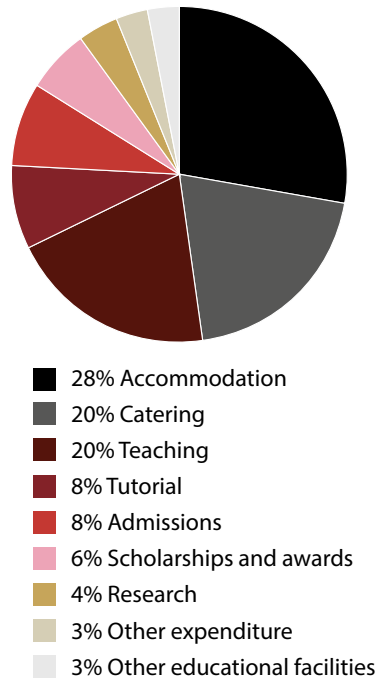
For each UK undergraduate, the College received a contribution of £4,625 (the £9,250 annual tuition fee is shared with the University). This left a funding gap of £7,917 per home undergraduate student, amounting to 63 per cent of the total cost. The total funding gap across all education activities is £4 million. This gap is significantly bridged by the continued generosity of the College's benefactors.

We are extremely grateful to all our alumni and friends for the £3.7 million received this year, including donations and legacies totalling £1.9 million and new endowments of £1.6 million. The principal source of income and expenditure in 2024–25 were as follows:

Principal sources of income 2024–25



Principal sources of expenditure 2024–25



Our balance sheet was little changed year on year with the endowment making a total return of 2.3 per cent. There was a significant decline in investment values during the market turbulence associated with US trade tariff announcements, but this was almost fully recovered by 30 June 2025 and our investment managers are confident that our diversified portfolio remains well positioned to meet our objectives. On a cumulative basis since 2013, the total return remains in excess of the College's inflation-plus target of 6.25 per cent per annum.

As Bursar it has been heartening to receive support from colleagues across the College community towards achievement of our financial resilience goals. This year has seen alumni, Fellows and staff pull together to build a more secure financial future for our students. Whether your contribution has been a generous donation, unlocking new income streams or sound budgetary control – thank you!

I cannot sign off this report without also thanking Karen Wall for her outstanding leadership of the Finance Office from 2016 to 2025. We thank Karen for her contribution to our improved finances and for bringing much fun and camaraderie to the college team and wish her every future happiness.

Nicola Robert (Fellow 2019), Bursar

ALUMNI RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

ELODIE GIUGE



There is probably not a single Development Director across Cambridge who doesn't write in their College's magazine that it has been a busy year – but at St Catharine's, it really has. We have welcomed more than 1,600 people to 33 events in Cambridge, the UK and overseas, and that's not including the wonderful programme of regional events and annual dinner organised by the Alumni Society.

The Temple Church concert is now a regular fixture in the calendar, thanks to Guy Beringer (1973, History; Fellow Commoner 2008) and the College Choir. It is an enormous treat to hear the Choir sing in such an incredible venue. Another treat was hearing alumni returning for our music and choir reunion in September 2025, who had the opportunity to sing Evensong together before dining in Hall.

Our Family & Friends Garden Party is also now an established event, and one that we very much look forward to. It is a source of great joy to see families having fun at the sports ground, helped along the way by the fantastic face painting, a wonderful science show (this year including some limbo dancing – for the adults as well as the children!), stately games of croquet, energetic games of tennis, a jazz band and a now-traditional music performance by one of our students. This July, we were delighted to welcome Zheng Hong See (2024, Law; who has just completed his first year as a PhD student and Tunku Scholar) for a demonstration of the range of sounds that can be made by an erhu (a Chinese two-stringed instrument), after which he treated us to three pieces of music.

Sports-wise, we had some enjoyable reunions. We brought together student and alumni members of the Kittens and Alleycatz in February for a most enjoyable dinner in Hall. The Head Kitten and Head Alleycat spoke eloquently and passionately about the impact sports has had on them and the meaningful friendships that they have made through their sport. Karen Cass (1981, MML), who, as a student, founded the Alleycatz, also spoke about sport, touching on the challenges and opportunities experienced by our first female students.

Thanks to Nigel Orchard (1978, Engrng), we enjoyed a drinks reception by the river at Henley Royal Regatta, and we were delighted to be joined by students and alumni. Additionally, we had the traditional Acheson-Gray Sports Day and dinner in April. This event is well-established, but we are seeking more female alumnae to sign up to captain the alumnae teams. Do get in touch if you are interested in getting involved.

Overseas, the Master and I travelled to Washington DC, New York and San Francisco, and we took the opportunity to support the Girls' Choir at their concert in Berkeley, California. Back in the UK, we started our regional programme of visits, aiming to complement the work of the Alumni Society: the Master and Head of Fundraising (Declan Hamilton) travelled to Manchester, Glasgow and Edinburgh to meet alumni. As I write, we are planning a trip to Shanghai, Hong Kong and Singapore, where we look forward to catching up with alumni and friends this autumn.

In the *Magazine* last year, I wrote that I felt sure that alumni would respond magnificently to the request to support our Giving Day in November 2024, and I am delighted to say that you did us proud! More than 380 people made a donation, raising over £231,000. Many thanks indeed to everyone who played a part: the team in the Alumni & Development Office (ADO) and those alumni, students and Fellows who contributed to videos and emails, the wonderful donors who provided matching and challenge funds, and to all of you who made a donation.



ROB HOLDING

NIC PALMER

Top row from left: Alumni gathering in Madrid in February 2025, the Kittens and Alleycatz Dinner in February 2025, the Young Alumni drinks in London in May 2025; Middle row: Members' Reunion 2000–02; Bottom row: Alumni drinks in Edinburgh in June 2025, Family & Friends Garden Party in July 2025, Henley Royal Regatta in July 2025.

Overall, more than 1,000 people made a donation in support of St Catharine's in the 2024–25 financial year, with over £2.6 million raised. We also now have 258 people who have told us that they have included a legacy gift in their Will; many of whom have chosen to join the Woodlark Society so that we can thank them during their lifetime. Do please get in touch if you would like to discuss including a provision for the College.

As you will read elsewhere in this *Magazine*, we are working hard on a new strategic plan for St Catharine's, building on the successes of 'Our College, Our Future' since 2019. To deliver our next plan we will need to grow our income where we can, and we hope that our alumni and friends will continue to support us in our endeavours. Every donation makes a difference and means a great deal.

It remains for me to thank my colleagues across the College, and particularly the ADO team: Declan Hamilton (Head of Fundraising), Liam Greenbank (Fundraising Manager), Sarah Webster (Alumni Engagement Manager), Emily Abbott (Events and Alumni Relations Officer), Gemma Hayden (Database Manager) and Denise Kennedy (ADO Executive Administrator).

Catherine Twilley (Fellow 2023), Development Director

SUPPORTING OUR STAFF



Over the last year we have been enabling our staff to get the most out of being part of the St Catharine's community in a number of different ways; from supporting a staff forum and enjoying downtime together, to making the most of training opportunities and looking after ourselves and each other.

The staff forum provides a space where staff representatives can raise ideas or issues that can improve the experience of colleagues. These discussions shaped the questions that we posed to staff in a survey during the summer of 2024. Thanks to the 43 per cent of staff who took the time to respond to the survey, we learnt that over 80 per cent of respondents wanted the College to extend the more flexible approach to bank holidays in May and August (first introduced on a trial basis in 2024) so staff could enjoy more discretion around when they take time away from work. In response, we have made the trial arrangements permanent.

We also found that nearly half of our survey respondents would be happy to volunteer their time to help organise social events for their colleagues. A newly formed social team has since taken over the organisation of existing events such as the now-annual staff and Fellows' quiz night (see *Staff News*) and introduced new activities such as staff movie nights in the McGrath Centre and monthly after-work drinks in the Bar.

It has been a great pleasure to celebrate the contributions of our employees when they reach milestone anniversaries. Alongside individual recognition and team celebrations, we have conducted interviews with some of the staff recognised with awards to share more about what working at St Catharine's means to them (see *Staff News*).

I'm equally pleased that staff engagement across all training and personal development opportunities remains high. In total across the 2024–25 academic year, our staff were enrolled on four apprenticeship qualifications, attended 24 in-person courses and completed more than 670 online courses.

Another highlight of the year for me was seeing staff involvement in activities held especially for Mental Health Awareness Week (12–18 May 2025): a pottery session in the Bar, massages in the Old Combination Room and a well-deserved break with colleagues over bacon sandwiches in Hall. These activities were on top of the events organised by our Health & Wellbeing team for all parts of our community, including ice creams in Main Court, crafting, smoothies and Tea@3 (tea, coffee and cake served at 3pm on Wednesdays several times throughout the year and weekly during the exam period).

Monitoring and implementing new legislation is an important part of our regular activities. In October 2024, a new preventative duty came into force under the Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023. This legislation requires all employers to take reasonable steps to prevent the sexual harassment of workers during their employment. All Heads of Department have been briefed on the new duty by an external law firm and we have introduced mandatory training for all employees as well as a new risk assessment with mitigating measures. We will also be closely monitoring the progression of the Employment Rights Bill through Parliament, which could have implications for us in the future.

Maxine Flynn, HR Manager

STAFF NEWS

Award for overnight accommodation

St Catharine's was recognised for the high-quality experience enjoyed by guests using our overnight accommodation. The award for Best Overall Customer Experience in the Overnight Accommodation Category at the 2024 Mystery Shop Awards was presented to staff by the Cambridge Business Improvement District in November 2024 (see caths.cam.ac.uk/accommodation-award). Rob Jonas (Catering & Conference Director) said: 'our dedicated staff work tirelessly to ensure that everyone feels welcome and comfortable, and this award is a wonderful acknowledgement of their efforts.'



The presentation of the Best Overall Customer Experience award to College staff.



Longstanding staff (from left): Rhys Nightingale and Naz Kapadi (Simon Byatt and Dave Dove are pictured at the start of the College Report).

Anniversaries

Nine team members reached milestone anniversaries this year, four of whom volunteered to be interviewed about their experience working at St Catharine's for articles on the College website. An article about Rhys Nightingale (Groundsman for over 20 years) and Naz Kapadi (who has worked as Kitchen Porter and then Storeman for over 15 years) was published in March 2025 (see caths.cam.ac.uk/35-years) and a piece featuring Dave Dove (Head Porter for over 10 years before his retirement in November 2025) and Simon Byatt (Porter for over 10 years followed in July 2025 (see caths.cam.ac.uk/ten-years)).

Memories from social events



The quiz night in March 2025 was won by staff from offices in B1 and B2 (competing as 'The Bees Knees').



For the second year in a row, the Master invited staff to a garden party to celebrate the end of Easter Term. He thanked everyone for their contributions and presented staff with gifts recognising their recent anniversaries. The afternoon ended with a fiercely-fought game of Jenga...

STUDENT NEWS



The basketball club celebrated promotion to Division 2 this year.

JCR REPORT

The Editorial Board is grateful to Salomé Gakwaya (2023, English) for her work in gathering together the content for the JCR report.

It has been a real privilege to represent St Catharine's students this year. I've been struck by how much our community cares about each other, College life and creating a space that's inclusive, vibrant and thoughtful. I'm hugely grateful to the 2025–26 committee, who've already shown such dedication, creativity and good humour in everything they do, and to the outgoing team, whose groundwork made all this year's achievements possible.

The year began with Freshers' Week, full of energy and colour and an ever-growing Polaroid Wall in the Junior Combination Room that's become a joyful snapshot of new arrivals, alongside new fans and air conditioning – small upgrades that make a big difference to daily student life.

This year's focus has been laying the foundations for lasting, structural progress. Our flagship initiative aims to codify the Committee's working relationship with the College, fostering a more consistent, constructive dialogue with Fellows and staff, and guarding against the institutional memory loss that can come with annual handovers. We have also worked with the Senior Tutor to restructure the manner in which Societies are funded to ensure the continued promotion of the brilliant extracurriculars which make College life so special.

Transparency and accountability have also been central to our work. Our Accommodation Officer took on a comprehensive overhaul of JCR information and communications, helping to resolve long-standing issues around the balloting process. In collaboration with the JCR Treasurer, the College Bursar and her team, we've begun the process of switching our JCR bank account from Barclays to Unity Trust Bank, which will better align with our ethical and environmental principles.

Welfare has remained a pillar of our work. We've continued to fund the JCR Free Prescription Scheme, aiming to make it an entrenched right for all Catz undergraduates, ensuring no one is excluded from essential healthcare due to cost. Our Welfare Officers also kept up a regular programme of support, including themed well-fairy drops, yoga and even puppy therapy sessions.

The Liberation Officers have once again shown what care and energy can achieve: the Charities and Racial Equalities Officers ran fundraisers for Sickle Cell research and Student Minds; the Gender Equalities Officer marked International Women's Day with community events and began a seminal collaboration with the SAFE Foundation and CAMFED; our International Students Officers led celebrations like Lunar New Year, reflecting and celebrating the richness and cohesion of our student body; and our LGBTQ+ Officers worked with their MCR counterpart to organise activities around Transgender Day of Remembrance, LGBTQ+ History Month and Pride.

Meanwhile, JCR events have continued to bring energy and community to Catz. Regular bops, open mic nights and Pink Week fundraisers brought warmth and colour to term time. The annual sports day with Worcester College, held in Oxford this year, was a great success, with Catz winning a swathe of fixtures, thanks to the tireless work of our Sports and Societies Officer.

All JCR meetings are open to every student and we've worked hard to ensure they are accessible and worthwhile. We hope to continue balancing longer-term projects with the day-to-day issues that inevitably arise and require collective attention. As St Catharine's looks to the future, I have every confidence that its students will continue to meet challenges with initiative, warmth and care.

Cara Bossom (2023, MML with Classics), JCR President

MCR REPORT

The Editorial Board is grateful to Georgios Chatziavgerinos (2022, Educ) for his work in compiling content for the MCR's reports.



It has once again been an incredible year to be the Co-Presidents of the MCR. We saw another record intake of postgraduate freshers from a variety of courses; it is a real strength of the MCR that everyone can interact with such an array of subjects across the Catz community.

To welcome all these new postgraduates, we ran an incredible Freshers' Week programme, which would not have been possible without the hard work of the whole committee and College staff. This year also marked a first with a Postgraduate Matriculation Evenson, led by Interim Chaplain Jonathan Collis with music from the incredible College Choir. The evening concluded with a quick get-to-know-your-tutor event and the Matriculation Dinner, where the Master imparted some words of wisdom to the new MCR cohort. Freshers' Week also included punting, a pub quiz, a trip to see the Footlights at the ADC and the now-traditional College Family Formal. Gradually, it is becoming more common for us to hold additional welcome activities in Lent and Easter Terms to welcome the smaller intake of postgraduate students that we receive in throughout the year.

Our Social Secretaries Joshua Broadfoot (2024, Pharmacology) and Meraaj Harun (2024, Archit) ran a host of events throughout the year, including old favourites, such as pub quizzes, board game nights, picnics and the ever-popular pumpkin carving for Halloween, but also some new festivities such as pancakes for Shrove Tuesday. Formal Hall Officer Hamish MacLeod (2023, Chemistry) ran an incredible range of formals and swaps with some wonderful themes, such as Murder Mystery, Halloween, and our Lent Term highlight of Burns Night, which saw a sold-out formal, and some particularly inspired speeches.

We also ran our MCR Wine & Cheese events throughout the year, which have continued to be a roaring success. This year, we extended our invitation to interested alumni to attend if they happened to be in Cambridge.

A final highlight was the exchange with Worcester College, our Oxford sister college. Worcester visited us for a symposium run by our Education Officer, which included fascinating 10-minute presentations of the outstanding research done by the Catz MCR and the Worcester MCR. After the seminar, we hosted tours of Cambridge and a formal dinner in the SCR before Worcester returned to Oxford. We visited Oxford the following week, receiving a warm family welcome from Worcester with a garden party, tours and a Byzantium-themed formal before we departed. This incredible event would not have been possible without the hard work and coordination of our Social Secretaries, Formal Hall Officer and Treasurer Samuel Stark (2022, CompSci), in addition to the support of our Master and David Isaac CBE (Honorary Fellow 2024), Provost of Worcester.

The Catz MCR stands out compared to other Colleges and MCRs as it is truly a special community of members who interact with each other with genuine respect, generosity and camaraderie, in which we take great pride. None of this year's achievements would have been possible if it were not for the MCR Committee – thank you to everyone for their unwavering support this year. We have also been grateful for the support of the Fellows and Emeritus Fellows, and thank the Master and his wife for their continued support and interaction with the MCR this year.

**Samuel Ryan (2020, Astronomy) and
Jessica Van de Grint (2022, Psychology), MCR Co-Presidents**

POSTGRADUATES' AND FELLOWS' SEMINAR SERIES

At numerous points this year, sitting under the austere portraits that line the walls of the Ramsden Room, I've found myself wondering what those figures might make of our seminars. For me, it's been an absolute privilege this year to organise such a wide range of talks and panels from Fellows, alumni, public intellectuals, students from across the university and – last but certainly not least – our own postgraduates.

I think all the figures in these portraits would have enjoyed our St Catharine's Day Seminar, with talks from Professor Katharine Dell (Fellow 1996) and The Rev'd Dr Ayla Lepine. But how would Mary Ramsden's sister have felt about Angie Stewart, CEO of Cambridge Women's Aid, speaking



The Rev'd Dr Ayla Lepine, Angie Stewart and Professor Katharine Dell

about her partnership with our institution? I hope she may have understood the need to protect those in positions of vulnerability; she may have been delighted by our panels for International Women's Day featuring students Akola Munyiri (2024, Law), Sydney Burns (2024, English), and our MCR Women's and Non-binary Officer Lucy Bentall (2024, PlantSci).

What of the panel marking LGBT+ History Month, featuring Catalina Paz and Atlanta Tsiaoukkas from the Faculty of Education and chaired by our own MCR LGBTQ+ Officer Georgios Chatziavgerinos (2022, Educ)?

How would Edwin Sandys, a founder of the Virginia Company, have reacted to our panel for Black History Month, chaired by alumna and author Dr Samara

Linton (2012, MedSci), and featuring Darold Cuba, Tyra Amofah-Akardom and our MCR BAME Officer Sohane Mousseid Yahya (2021, Educ)? One hopes they would have been challenged and impressed by the remarkable quality of scholarship on display.

Apart from our wonderful panels, we also had a series of high-quality talks and presentations. We have heard from Catz postgraduates on a diverse range of topics: Nile Stephenson (2021, Zoology) on 'Depressing Diversity on Coral Reefs in Fiji'; Rashidah Abdul Hamid (2023, Law) on 'Constitutional Identity and Unamendability' and Josué Brocca (2024, Spanish & Portuguese) on 'The Poetics of Silence and Intermedial Aesthetics in Latin America; 1950-1980'. And what better demonstration of the breadth of research on display than the journey from the enormity of the galaxy – in a presentation on 'Bringing to Light Hidden Links in the Milky Way's Halo' by Samuel Ryan (2020, Astronomy) – to microscopic building blocks in the presentation by Paula Teeuwen (2022, Chemistry) on 'Supramolecules and Supercomputers'?

I am proud too that we have demonstrated that Catz is a community that lasts for life, with talks from Fellow Commoners Roger Stratford (1960, NatSci; Fellow Commoner 1992), who magnificently identified 'James Bond and Catz', and Professor Tony Watts OBE (1960, History; Fellow Commoner 2014), who uncovered 'The History of Cricket in Cambridge'. Alumna Denée Buckingham (2023, Heritage Studies) also returned with her colleague Dr Jessica Hampton to discuss 'Decolonising Linguistic Landscape Studies'.

The MCR Committee proved themselves the beating heart of the College's postgraduate life. Our Green Officer, Hana Azuma (2022, PlantSci) presented on 'A Potential Biocontrol Against Aphids' and our Quartermaster Tanja Schmidt (2022, Clinical Neurosciences) discussed 'White Matter Health in Memory Clinic Cohorts'.

At the same time, the range, breadth and importance of the research seminars this year have demonstrated once more the College's commitment to changing lives and futures.

Kit Treadwell (2019, ASNaC), MCR Education Officer

SPECIAL REPORT: A TASTE OF FORMAL HALLS

MCR Formal Halls started the year strong with a packed-out Hall (I recall more than 120 in attendance) for Michaelmas Term's crown jewel of a formal entitled 'The Great Catzby'. An old favourite but a crowd-pleaser nonetheless, with everyone – including our guests from Magdalene – dressed to theme and an appropriately New York-inspired menu. This formal also bore witness to the signing of the *Pactum Cathedrae*, whereby a chair bearing a wheel is to be exchanged between St Catharine's and Magdalene at a pair of formal swaps each year. My attempts to codify this agreement in our respective MCR constitutions have so far been unsuccessful.

Our Lent Term began with an outstanding Burns Night supper when six speakers led us in toasts. Before long, our cranachan was finished, our drams were drained and everyone moved into the McGrath Centre with a *ceilidh* band helping us finish the evening happy, tired and – crucially – very sweaty. Lent Term came to an end with the traditional Murder Mystery formal, enjoyed with our guests from Newnham, and the extremely successful Ancient Greece-themed LGBT+ History Month formal entitled 'Queer Antiquity', held in collaboration with the JCR and a range of other MCRs. A special thank you to Georgios Chatziavgerinos (2022, Educ) for organising this!

Easter Term couldn't come soon enough for our more serial Formal Hall attendees – now weary of pictures in the SCR and ready to emerge into the sunshine of Main Court for greater diversity in backgrounds and lighting. We capped off the year with an immaculately decorated Alice in Wonderland formal, followed by the denim-dense Wild West formal, where many 'Wanted' committee members were identified and turned into the authorities by our very enthusiastically kitted-out guests from Darwin.

A huge thank you to everyone who made our formals such a success: the brilliant catering staff who helped everything run so smoothly and catered to my silliest menu suggestions; the hardworking MCR Committee members who supported so many formals; and everyone who helped handmake (genuinely, several boxes worth of) decorations for all the themes.

Hamish MacLeod (2023, ChemEng), MCR Formal Hall Officer



St Catharine's qualified for the televised rounds of the 2024–25 University Challenge competition, sadly losing 120–180 to Wadham College, Oxford in the match broadcast on BBC Two on 9 September 2024. Pictured from left are Jay Sardesai (2022, NatSci), Matthew Connell (2023, Maths; reserve), Malhaar Mohirir (2023, Pol&IntStuds), host Amol Rajan, Luna Jarvis (2022, NatSci; captain) and Larabella Myers (2023, Technology Policy).

SOCIETIES

The Editorial Board is grateful to Salomé Gakwaya (2023, English) and Anni Myllymäki (2023, Geog) for their work in gathering reports from our student societies and clubs.

Adderley Society

The Adderley Society continues to create space for Black students at Catz to connect, reflect and celebrate our community. This year marked the third annual dinner named for AF Adderley CBE (1912, Law), the first Black student on record at St Catharine's who later became one of the most distinguished legal advocates in the Caribbean. His spirit of mentorship and trailblazing community-building is central to the Society's work today.

We were honoured to welcome representatives from The Bahamas and the Adderley family to this year's Adderley Dinner (see photo). Their presence made the evening deeply meaningful, and it was moving to celebrate AF Adderley's enduring legacy. We were especially grateful that His Excellency Paul Andy Gomez offered internship opportunities to two student members, a gesture that reflects the tangible impact of the connections we're fostering.

**Rachael Oloyede-Oyeyemi (2022, English),
Co-President**



Top row: Helena Desta (2023, PBS), Rachael, Sohane Inès Mousseid Yahya (2021, Educ), Mary Simuyandi (Head of Wellbeing). Bottom row: Leslie Pindling (son of The Bahamas' first Prime Minister), His Excellency Paul Andy Gomez (High Commissioner for The Bahamas to the UK), Jessica Frances Thompson (AF Adderley's great-granddaughter) and Mitzi Adderley Thompson (AF Adderley's granddaughter).

Bubble Tea Society

This year, we held many social events and welcomed many new members, including Alisha Lowe (2023, Law), who will be taking over as President for 2025–26. A highlight was the several bubble tea and board games sessions we hosted throughout Michaelmas and Lent Terms, with new board games acquired with the College's support. We successfully collaborated with other cultural societies, such as our mahjong social with the University-wide Joy Luck Club. We also held a bubble tea workshop with Cambridge's Education Society, letting participants make drinks themselves from scratch, and we plan to continue this activity in the coming year.

Jermaine Wong (2021, MML), Co-President

Build Society

We had a great time this year working together on a model of the Forth Railway Bridge. Over the first couple of terms, we focused on building a detailed model using computer-aided design with the SolidWorks programme. We learned some new projection techniques and different 3D modelling methods along the way, in weekly sessions attracting 6–8 members. Once the model was completed, we worked out how much material we'd need, bought steel and got started on the actual build. We cut the main lengths to shape and continued construction in Easter Term. We're still deciding how much detail to go for—and whether or not to add a motorised train to the final model!

**Iona Haining (2022, Engrng) and
Harris Bond (2022, Engrng), Co-Presidents**

Card and Board Games Society

This year marked the triumphant return of what is affectionately dubbed "Cardboard" and evenings packed with strategy, chance and camaraderie. Our weekly game nights saw tables piled high with snacks, poker chips and Risk armies, with attendance ranging from an intimate group of four regulars (perfect for Floating Bridge) to lively crowds of ten or more. The snack selection became a highlight, with the previous week's top performers choosing the next haul – fueling both

competition and creativity. Our collaboration with Catz Smoothie Soc was a standout success, blending refreshing drinks with board game battles and drawing in even more players.

Kei Fung Chan (2022, NatSci), President

Catharine Zine

This year marks the third year of *Catharine*, a feminist zine that originated from a determination to centre the voices of women at Catz. As one of the founding members, I remember first working with the team to shape the early ideas that would become *Catharine*. Now, three years on, our team looks very different, with new faces and new perspectives. With each issue, we have strived to amplify feminist voices and foster a creative community. Our fifth issue of the zine was on the theme *Movement* – a theme chosen to explore ideas of change, political momentum and identity. It was successfully published in Lent Term, featuring poetry, prose, art and photography from students across the University.

Alys Mortimer (2021, MML), Editor-in-Chief

Catzapella

Another great year when we expanded our repertoire to include additional songs by artists such as ABBA, Billy Joel and Elton John. We performed these at Chill in the Chapel, a bi-termly event hosted by the Catz Music Society. Many of our songs were from the 'Catzapella Bible', more commonly known as 'The Kings' Singers' 25th Jubilee Songbook', which was invaluable during our weekly Tuesday rehearsals! We got festive in December with 'Let It Snow', 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas' and 'Ding Dong Merrily on High'.

This year, I wanted us to take on Anders Edenroth's 'Words', a technically challenging five-part piece. After many committed rehearsals and note-bashing, we debuted 'Words' in February.

Since Cambridge life is often hectic, I also introduced the barbershop song 'Coney Island', which was always a laugh to rehearse when numbers were thin. I want to say a huge thank you to all our amazing singers, especially to my ever-faithful librarian, Ned Woodley (2023, PBS), who made my last year as director an absolute blast.

Skye Elliot (2022, CompSci), President

Cheese and Wine Society

In our sixth year as a society, we have grown substantially, with over 50 people attending each event. We kicked things off with a Christmas-themed event at which we enjoyed everything from mulled wine to mince pies alongside a wide selection of cheeses. We served a selection of baked camembert at our Lent Term event that was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We concluded Easter Term with our annual post-exam Garden Party.

**Lottie Lewisohn (2023, Geog) and
Matthew Carney (2023, Geog), Co-Presidents**

Chill Running Society

We formed in Lent Term 2025 as an opportunity for Catz students to meet weekly for a relaxed, sociable run. We run at a steady pace, with plenty of stops, and members encouraged to join weekly runs whenever they wanted. Some of our nicest runs have been along the Backs, to Grantchester Meadows and to West Hub via the University's rugby pitches. We have plans to expand our activities in the future, maybe holding a night run or incorporating post-run brunches!

**Libby James (2023, MML),
Co-Founder and Co-President**

Christian Union

It has been a wonderful year for the growing King's and Catz Christian Union! We have been continuing our activities in College, meeting



*Members of the Christian Union
enjoying an end of term brunch.*

once a week for Bible study and again for prayer. We have also been continuing our outward-facing events, meeting lots of people across Collegiate Cambridge and continuing to be a place for anyone interested in exploring faith.

India Henry (2023, Engrng), Co-President

Economics Society

The year kicked off by welcoming our newest members with our introductory socials, before our annual dinner which was facilitated by Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020) and Dr River Chen (Fellow 2017). During this event we were fortunate enough to hear from Martin Reeves (1988, Econ), Yumian Lu (2005, Econ) and Noel Cochrane (2005, LandEcon) who then ran a Q&A afterwards. The final event of the year was a networking event at the offices of EQT, thanks to Shariq Varawalla (2015, Econ), with thought-provoking presentations from Dr Mikhail Safronov (Fellow 2022), Dr Pablo Olmos (Fellow 2023) and Dr Noriko Amano-Patiño (Fellow 2021) and a profound, if nihilistic, Q&A afterwards. Special thanks to Professor Sriya Iyer (Fellow 2000) for her work organising the event and throughout the year.

**John Daly-Lonergan (2023, LandEcon),
Nick Schmidt (2023, Econ) and
Ewan Winship (2023, LandEcon), Co-Presidents**

Engineering Society

Easter Term 2024 ended with a post-exams BBQ at the Catz pitches for students, Fellows and supervisors to enjoy good food as well as a competitive game of rounders. Michaelmas Term saw us induct new members with the traditional trials and the market square race, then a joint internship presentation event with the John Ray Society. Lent Term kicked off with an 'Evening with the Supervisors', where Professor Michael Sutcliffe (Fellow 1993), Professor Julian Allwood (Fellow 2018) and Dr Deepshikha Acharya (Bye-Fellow 2024) presented their current research. Marking the end of another fantastic year, our annual dinner culminated in a photoshoot of almost every combination of society members imaginable, glasses of port, and the careful application of structural mechanics to humans.

Jacob Needham (2023, Engrng), President

Environmental Awareness Society

In order to fulfil our purpose of raising awareness of environmental issues, we had to raise awareness of the Society itself during its first year. Once we were up and running in Michaelmas Term, we organised events throughout the rest of the year. In Lent Term we collaborated with the Tea Society for a green-themed event offering a quiz on environmental issues pertinent to Catz alongside green tea. We also collaborated with our counterparts at Clare and Newnham to run bi-weekly litter-picking and brunch swaps, which were fun, rewarding and a great way to meet new people: something we intend to keep going next year! Hopefully our initial legwork will allow us to grow.

**Caleb Huang (2023, Classics) and
Anni Myllymäki (2023, Geog), Co-Presidents**

Film Society

Over the past year, we have solidified the tradition of organising termly cinema trips in the Film Society. This has taken us all over different cinema genres, from magical realism in *Chimerae*, to musicals in *Wicked* and biopics in *A Complete Unknown*. Our trips included a detour to a nearby pub afterwards to discuss each film! We have also strengthened our ties to the JCR, collaborating with the LGBTQ+ Officers for screenings of *I Saw The TV Glow* and *Paris is Burning*. We are really happy to be a welcoming and open space for anyone wanting to relax with snacks and a movie after a long week.

Candela Gil Delgar (2022, NatSci), President

HSPS Society

While still in its infancy, it has been a privilege to lead the Society this year. We have run multiple events: welfare teas, our second ever annual dinner (quickly becoming a firm favourite!) and a dissertation presentation evening in early Easter Term. The Society dinner also benefited from the attendance of, and speeches from, Professors Harald Wydra (Fellow 2003) and Dennis Grube (Fellow 2023). I hope HSPS and Hist&Pol students alike continue to feel supported and enjoy the society's events as some much-needed downtime.

Charlotte Dunn (2022, HSPS), President

Hyperbolics Society

Hyperbolics, the Catz Maths Society, started our year with a now-traditional pub crawl to induct new members. Our other big event in Michaelmas Term was Hyperbowling, a trip to the local bowling lane to knock over some pins. Our biggest event of the year was our annual dinner in Lent Term, which had a strong turnout from second-year students, and saw some alumni come back to reminisce about their days at Catz. We failed to win the annual football match against the St John's Maths Society, also held in Lent Term, thanks to some bending of the rules on our opponents' side. Our end-of-year annual barbecue was an opportunity to say goodbye to our graduating members.

Daniel Brierley (2023, Maths), President

Islamic Society

By the grace of God, this year has been full of events where Catz members could celebrate faith and community. We held a social in Michaelmas Term at a nearby dessert café, where students bonded over balancing faith and university life. We also held a games night at St Chad's to ease end-of-term blues. We hosted small iftars (dinners to break our fast) on Thursdays, inspired by the prophetic tradition and offering a regular event for students to unwind together. Catz was extremely supportive during Ramadan (a significant portion of Lent Term), providing welfare taxis for students to travel together to night prayers at the mosque after long days of fasting. A highlight of the holy month – and indeed the year – was the big communal Catz Iftar in the McGrath Centre, supported by the Welland Family Fund.

Adam Riaz (2021, MedSci) and Samia Rashid (2022, Classics), Co-Presidents

John Ray Society

This year kicked off with the annual JRS-Engineering Society internship evening, with almost 50 attendees. Our presenters shared their experiences in applying for, and participating in, STEM-related summer internships, to help demystify the application process. Our Michaelmas talk series commenced with Professor Rita Horvath from the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, followed by Professor Ulf Büntgen

from the Department of Geography. In Lent Term, we welcomed Dr Suyang Zhang from the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology and Professor Pietro Cicuta from the Cavendish Laboratory. At our annual dinner Professor Marko Hyvönen, our guest of honour, espoused the power of fragment-based and structure-guided drug discovery. We also organised socials and swaps with eight other colleges' NatSci societies, a tour of the University's Botanic Garden with the Nature Society (led by Dr Paul Elliott from Homerton College) and the John Ray Garden Party at the end of the exam period.

Christopher Leung (2023, NatSci) and Márton Szabó (2023, NatSci), Co-Presidents

Law Society

Another exciting year of events has included: our Annual Law Dinner sponsored by Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF) with guest speaker Liz Barratt (Partner, Bindmans LLP); a speaker event and Q&A with Bramble Badenach-Nicolson (2013, MML), a barrister at Hailsham Chambers; a speaker event and dinner with Jon Griffin (2002, Law), Solicitor-Advocate, Gibson Dunn; and an applications workshop and dinner with HSF. Whilst all Catz law students are automatically members of the Society, this year we have made increased efforts to encourage non-Law student membership. Following the significant uptake by non-Law members, we have also introduced the position of a Non-Law Rep, who will work alongside the Executive Committee.

Saskia Shakos (2022, Law), President

Lifelines

We have had another successful and enjoyable year running Lifelines, the Catz life drawing society. Each session, we aim to provide a relaxed, open environment for students of all abilities to try out drawing (or modelling). With a soundtrack of calming jazz music and snacks on hand, Lifelines provides a much-needed meditative, reflective break in the midst of our often-hectic Cambridge schedules. This year we ran 9 sessions across the 3 terms, each welcoming a diverse group of around 20 students across year groups and subjects. We encourage attendees to experiment with different media, colours and styles, and it is always lovely to see how each piece of art is completely unique. Each session



MedVet Society's post-exam BBQ.

also welcomed a new model, many of whom had never life modelled before. We are proud of how Lifelines is a safe, non-objectifying space, and our models often comment on how liberating they find the experience. After two years, we will be handing Lifelines onto a new committee, who we are sure will do an incredible job continuing our lovely creative community.

Alice Clarke (2022, Geog), Ellie Robinson (2022, HSPS) and Iona Haining (2022, Engrng), Co-Presidents

Lightsaber Society

What began as a pipe dream shared between two passionate laser sword enthusiasts became a reality this year, with the launch of the Catz Lightsaber Society! We now meet weekly for structured training and choreography, although our meetups quickly evolved from light-hearted sparring sessions to fully choreographed routines, inspired in part by iconic battles from across the Star Wars saga and fan material online. A standout moment of the year was Star Wars Day on May the 4th: ten students came together for an unforgettable movie night, complete with costumes, themed snacks, a screening of *Return of the Jedi*, and a sparring session that drew a small but enthusiastic crowd. With plans for more performances, workshops, and perhaps even a University-wide society in the future, we're just getting started. May the Force (and the funding) be with us. Always!

Kei Fung Chan (2022, NatSci), President

MedVet Society

We kicked off Michaelmas Term with an array of student presentation evenings, where students reported what they got up to on their summer research placements and electives, as well as some interesting cases from the Clinical School. Guest speakers visited us to deliver exciting talks on topics ranging from plastic surgery to One Health, an integrated, unifying approach to the health of people, animals and ecosystems. At the annual MedVetSoc dinner in Lent Term, Professor Giles Yeo from Cambridge's MRC Metabolic Diseases Unit and Professor Matthew Allen from the Vet School shared insights into their latest research.

Our Welfare Reps have been busy uplifting spirits by hosting weekly welfare teas, organising a festive Secret Santa and providing Week 5 doughnuts! And our newly-added Clinical Rep has hosted welfare events for the clinical students. Finally, our Entertainment Reps did not disappoint, with regular brunches, a wine and cheese night and a post-exam BBQ!

Pippa Adams (2022, VetMed); and Hala Al-Haboubi (2022, MedSci), Co-Presidents

Music Society

It's been yet another vibrant year of music-making, with our 'Chill in the Chapel' evening concerts continuing as a highlight of both Michaelmas and Lent Terms. These informal events provided a respite from academic pressures, offering students the chance to

perform in a relaxed atmosphere, accompanied by hot chocolate and good company. A particular highlight this year was the debut of Open Return, a newly formed student band featuring Catz musicians, whose performances brought great energy to the series.

The Master once again generously hosted a recital in the Master's Lodge, which provided a warm and welcoming start to the academic year, featuring outstanding performances by several of our gifted first-year musicians. Blessed with wonderful weather, this year's May Week Concert began outdoors in Main Court, showcasing performances by Jazz Catz, Catzapella and the College Choir, before moving into the Chapel for two exceptional performances: Bach's 'Double Violin Concerto', featuring soloists Jem Ward (2023, English) and Samantha Burley (2022, MedSci), followed by Poulenc's 'Organ Concerto', performed by soloist John Zhang (2022, Music) and conducted by Junior Organ Scholar Isabel Lee (2024, Music).

Rosanna Fenn Parente (2023, Music), President



Touring the Botanic Garden with Catz Nature Society.

Nature Society

This year we led weekly duck-feeding walks in Sheep's Green and Coe Fen, during which we spotted swans, mallards, moorhens, the odd heron, as well as the long-awaited appearance of Canada geese! Our calendar was enriched by collaborations with other societies: we joined forces with the John Ray Society for a guided tour of the University's Botanic Garden, and the Catz Allotment Society for a hands-on fruit and vegetable planting session. Other destinations included the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences, the Museum of Zoology and the National Trust's nature reserve at Wicken Fen. Our evening events also proved popular: a bat-detecting walk, an insect demonstration and multiple screenings of David Attenborough documentaries drew crowds. The most-attended event of the year was a Quiz Night with free pizza in December. We concluded the year with a post-exam walk to Ely, which took over five hours!

Skye Elliot (2022, CompSci), President



The weather and music inspired dancing at the May Week Concert.

Politics Society

Our programme sought not only to reflect the turbulence of this year, but to interrogate it, bringing together global thinkers and students to grapple with the brain-frying questions of contemporary politics. Michaelmas Term ended with a high-stakes crescendo – our live US election watch party – which we unpacked during Lent Term. We welcomed the Rt Hon Amber Rudd and Suzanne Raine from the Centre for Geopolitics for sobering post-election analysis, and hosted a joint event with the Trinity Hall Politics Society, where

Sir John Benger (1979, English; Master 2023) and Mary Hockaday (Master of Trinity Hall) discussed the rise of populism and ways to make politics better. We were then honoured to host Simon Shercliff OBE (1992, EarthSci), former ambassador to Iran, and the Centre for Geopolitics' Professor Ali Ansari for a memorable dinner discussion that balanced both theory and statecraft.

**Cara Bossom (2023, MML with Classics),
President**

ESHA PATEL



Simon Shercliff OBE speaking at the Politics Society dinner in March 2025.

Shirley Players

It has been a privilege to revive the Shirley Players, a Catz society steeped in so much history. Our aim this year was to build a community of creatively-minded people, or anyone interested in a future career in any part of the arts, media or entertainment industry. We kicked off the year with an evening of drinks, snacks and conversation, welcoming a diverse group of students from across the year groups. Two



The Steers Society annual dinner.

particular highlights were our group trip to see *Sister Act: The Musical* at the ADC Theatre, and inviting esteemed alumnus Nigel Hess (1971, Music; Honorary Fellow 2016) to speak. Nigel provided us with fascinating insights into the world of composing for film and theatre as well as some valuable careers advice.

Ellie Robinson (2022, HSPS), Co-President

Shirley Society

As Cambridge's oldest literary society, Shirley Society is proud to continue a long tradition of story-telling, poetry-reading, song-singing and general literary-ness, and this year has been no exception. With themes ranging from 'Miniatures' and 'Illuminations', to the infamous Week 5 'Blues' and the 'Festive' season, each week has seen an abundance of creative generosity, with members of Shirley Society gathering to share whatever piece(s) of writing the prompts have inspired for them. Original work is always a particular highlight, of course, and our zine *The Wicked Ant* has enjoyed two successful editions this year: *Root* was inspired by the burrowings and burying of winter, while *Bloom* drew conversely on the flowering new growths of spring.

Jemima Ward (2023, English), Co-President

Smoothie Society

We've seen exponential growth over the past year, with increasing numbers of students experimenting in concocting weird and wonderful drinks. These included very popular mango smoothies, and other more questionable creations, one of which contained cookies and Percy Pig sweets. Our events encourage students to have fun, socialise, meet new people, take time for their wellbeing, drink smoothies and even eat ice cream (a delicacy for Catz residents, most of whom live without access to a freezer).

Sarah Prince (2022, PBS), President

Steers Society

Since beginning our tenure in February 2024, we have overseen various events, including an annual garden party. Excellent weather and full cohort attendance meant it was a highlight of the 2024–25 year. In Michaelmas Term,



Yarn-bombing the ceanothus in Main Court during Pink Week.

we welcomed Freshers with a social evening led by our Master's students. Other events included a swap with Fitzwilliam College, a trip to Jack's Gelato followed by a film screening in the JCR, and a joint speaker event with the John Ray Society featuring Dr Ulf Büntgen, Professor of Environmental Systems Analysis. These occasions have strengthened friendships and academic connections across year groups. At our annual dinner in Lent Term, Asya Ostrovsky (2020, Geog) delivered an insightful reflection on life post-graduation to all 24 student geographers as well as Professor Ian Willis (Fellow 1989), Dr Ivan Scales (Fellow 2008) and Dr Francesca Moore (Bye-Fellow 2024).

**Samuel English (2023, Geog) and
Freya Richardson-Fay (2022, Geog), Co-Presidents**

Tea Society

We've hosted a variety of events throughout the year, serving delicious teas kindly provided by our local Whittard's branch. We had especially exciting turnouts for our seasonal events, such as Halloween and Bridgemas. We were also proud to collaborate with the JCR's Ethical & Environmental Officers during Green Week, and to help raise money and awareness for breast cancer through a Pink Week bake sale.

**Marcus McCarter (2023, NatSci) and
Horatia Thompson (2023, Archaeol), Co-Presidents**

Yarn Society

Catz Yarn Society has had a wonderful year, with a large contingent of new members joining our weekly meetups. We met every Wednesday evening in the JCR, with copious quantities of yarn, supplies, and snacks to share the joy of crafting with our College community. Whether an avid knitter, a complete crochet beginner, or a patient teacher of their craft, all our members come together to unwind and relax from Cambridge term stresses. Buoyed by the enthusiasm of our new members, we undertook our traditional Pink Week 'yarn-bombing' display on Main Court. Our handmade pink items adorned one of the trees and, thanks to the generosity of Catz students, were auctioned off to raise over £100 for breast cancer charities. We have loved our time running Catz Yarn Society, and are so proud of our friendly, relaxed, cake-loving community. We can't wait to see what Yarn Soc gets up to next year and are already looking forward to future yarn displays!

**Anna Ritschl Ebell (2022, Engrng) and
Romy Copley (2022, NatSci), Co-Presidents**

BLUES AND HALF BLUES

The following awards were confirmed by students and/or the University of Cambridge, but may not be a complete list.

Full Blues 2024–25

Athletics: Cameron Deverill (2023, NatSci)

Cricket: Emma Furness (2024, VetSci)

Field hockey: Tabitha Evans (2024, Theol) and Emma Furness (2024, VetSci)

Rowing: Jessica van de Grint (2022, Psychology)

Rugby league: Owen Hanford (2021, NatSci)*

Rugby union: Lucy Newton-Ingham (2022, History) and Alice Yau (2019, MedSci)

Half-Blues 2024–25

Badminton: Xiaoling Annie Zhu (2021, MedSci)

Baseball: Henry Slessor (2022, BioAnth)

Cycling: Mantas Baksys (2020, Maths),

Dancesport: Richard Danylyuk (2019, NatSci) and Cherry Zhu (2024, Engrng)

Ice hockey: Lauren Stewart (2022, VetSci)

Lacrosse: Alex Apostolides (2022, NatSci), Adam Record (2023, PBS)

Netball: Alice Lashua (2024, Geog)*

Powerlifting: Oluchi Stephen-Ezeocha (2022, PBS)

Real tennis: Martha Rushbrooke (2019, VetSci)

Small bore rifle shooting: Matthew Bailey (2022, Psychology)

Swimming: Samuel English (2023, Geog)

Table tennis: Betty Guo (2024, Finance)

Water polo: Daniel Cunningham (2024, Econ)

Half-Blues 2023–24

(but awarded this academic year)

Cycling: Tom Wade (2016, NatSci)*

* Denotes honorary/extraordinary awards

Matt Edge (2018, NatSci) and Jessica van de Grint (2022, Psychology) rowed in Cambridge's clean sweep of the 2025 Boat Races. Matt stroked the Men's Reserve boat (Goldie) and Jessica was in the 4 seat in the Women's Lightweight Boat. Matt is therefore the first man to ever win against Oxford in the Blue boat (2023 and 2024), Goldie (2025) and Men's Lightweights (2022) and can now personally claim four consecutive wins in the Boat Races. Read more at caths.cam.ac.uk/boat-races-2025.



SPORTS CLUBS

Badminton

Badminton had a very strong turnout this year, with so many students enthusiastically representing Catz in all three teams in league matches. Both teams in the Open Leagues played incredibly well and are now being promoted, with one team moving up to Division 1 and the other team moving up to Division 6. Our women's team topped their second division in Michaelmas Term and were promoted to Division 1 in Lent Term.

With University squad players allowed to join the fray, Catz was able to enter three teams in our Cuppers tournament. Everyone gave it their all and played amazingly: our mixed team made it to the finals, and our women's team once again dominated the courts with another Cuppers victory to complete a hat trick.

The Acheson-Gray Sports Day was a fun and relaxed start to Easter Term, and we ended the year with our annual barbeque in the sun. I am so excited for another year of great badminton and for our amazing club community to keep growing.

Rachel Thompson (2023, NatSci), Co-Captain

Basketball (Mixed)

After the departure of our two talented long-serving captains, Tony Teng (2020, NatSci) and Hari Prasad (2020, ChemEng) an exciting new cohort began the season. Michaelmas Term saw



Our badminton team demonstrating College pride.

our revamped squad secure close-fought victories over Christ's and Downing, and a well-deserved promotion to Division 2. In Lent Term, we claimed three wins on the bounce, even enjoying a revenge victory over a Jesus side who would eventually go on to win Cuppers. A friendly clash with Oxford's Worcester College was particularly enjoyable for the team, followed by an equally friendly celebration in Oxford. Narrowly missing out on another league promotion was unfortunate yet only spurred us on ahead of Cuppers.

We trounced St John's 53-15 – our biggest winning margin of the season – in the first round of Cuppers. An admirably close defeat against Darwin (the league's second-best side) in the quarterfinals sadly ended our ambitions for silverware.

Barney Blackburn (2023, MML) and Nathan Dimaano (2022, Engrng), Co-Captains



Chess

Off the back of a first-place finish in College Chess League last year, our expectations were high as the two-time previous winners. This year's squad, seeded 29th out of 31 teams, were significant underdogs. Despite a challenging start to the tournament, we persevered, achieving a match score of 3/7 (including victories against both Homerton's second and third teams) and finishing in 25th place overall.

Chloe Fisher (2022, NatSci), Captain

Cricket (Men's)

Our season kicked off on Acheson-Gray Day against a strong alumni side where students batted first but struggled to 91-7 off 20 overs. Strong bowling took five wickets, but our alumni won with some overs to spare.

The first round of Cuppers followed, against a seven-man Clare-Clare Hall team. We put a healthy 170-3 on the board, led by a brutal 63 from Alex Nimmo (2024, Engrng). From there, the game was never in doubt and the opposition were bundled for under 100 with Jude Howarth (2024, Law) and Bertie Anthony (2024, Econ) taking two wickets apiece.

Pembroke presented a stiffer challenge with a strong batting line up but our wholehearted fielding performance and clever bowling limited them to 113-2 from 15 overs. Our chase began with Kush Tailor (2024, History) taking several blows to the body before dealing a few of his own back.

Joe Day (2022, LandEcon), Alex Nimmo and some dodgy shots from the skipper ensured we stayed in the game before Joe Barney (2021, Engrng) clattered the winning runs with six balls to spare.

These triumphs brought us to a quarterfinal against Jesus. Our 49 all out total is only an achievement in the context of having three players as of the start of play. Even a fully functioning Joe Day was not able to prevent a relatively easy chase for Jesus, ending our campaign.

Isaac Howell (2022, NatSci), President

Cricket (Women's)

A new women's cricket team aimed to increase the presence of women's sport at Catz in Easter Term with a beginner-friendly introduction to cricket. I was impressed by the enthusiasm of everyone involved and we hope to be able to further develop the team next year, potentially entering a team into the women's Cuppers competition too.

Eva Kynaston (2023, Geog), Co-Captain

Football (Men's)

Our confidence was high off the back of both Cuppers and Shield wins last year and a strong intake of keen footballers. Under the leadership of new captains Harry Benton (2022, Econ) and Jude Rothwell (2022, Engrng), our season started well with wins for both the ones and the twos. After a disappointing cup run from the ones, our league form rallied towards the end of the season, pushing for promotion only to fall at the final



Celebrating our Shield win in men's football.

hurdle with a defeat in our playoff final against Robinson. The twos didn't manage to get any traction in the league, ending the season in the relegation zone and dropping down to Division 4. On the upside, they managed to maintain their Shield title by winning a blockbuster final against Fitzwilliam in extra time.

Harry Benton (2022, Econ), Co-Captain

Football (Women's)

Unified by our new kit, our team representing St Catharine's, Gonville & Caius and Hughes Hall played a great and consistent game all year, placing us at the top of Division 2 and securing our promotion to Division 1 next year. In the Cuppers group stage, we gained victories over Selwyn/Robinson and Peterhouse/Clare/Clare Hall, putting us through to the knockout stage where we were unfortunately beaten by Jesus, but not without a fight. We are proud of the progress we have made, as well as the large number of new recruits; the future of women's football is looking promising.

Lucy Quigley (2022, Medicine), Captain

Golf

We set up the Club to help introduce the game to other members of the College and provide regular opportunities to visit the driving range and local courses. After reaching out to the Catz community and organising a social event to launch the Club, it has proven to be a huge success and attracted over 20 members in its inaugural year. As keen golfers ourselves, it has been brilliant to see other students working on their games. We look forward to this Club becoming a growing success in the coming years and hope to elevate the skill of members such that a tour could be run in the future.

Freddie Ogilvie (2023, History), Captain
Charlie O'Brien (2022, Econ), Vice-Captain

Hockey (Mixed)

Our Division 1 matches brought excitement, challenge and victory as we combined forces with Chrembroke (Christ's and Pembroke) to sail through Lent Term unbeaten. Whilst we were unfortunately unable to retain our Cuppers title, we certainly put up a strong fight and were only knocked out by the league champions. This year's Acheson-Gray Day also brought some tough competition from a talented alumni team.

With a gifted contingency representing Catz on the University squad as well as fantastic talent from others who choose to just play college hockey, we have no doubts that Catz will continue to thrive on the hockey pitch going forward. We have thoroughly enjoyed our time as Captains and are proud to have led a team that has grown as both players and friends.

Harriet Robinson (2023, History) and
Siân Rees (2023, Law), Co-Captains

Lacrosse (Mixed)

We've enjoyed a year full of many successes. Much to the dismay of other teams in Division 1 with less spirit and character, we seized a close league win in Lent Term! We also showed up to the annual Cuppers competition in numbers, with a similarly impressive performance, topping the group stages and making it through to the semifinals. The greatest strength of the Club this year has been our social spirit, thanks to Leah Mundy (2023, MML), Co-Captain, and our trainings, socials and mid-match interviews by Pippa Lloyd (2023, Econ), Social Secretary. It has been a pleasure running the Club this year and I look forward to the work of the future captains and committee.

Adam Record (2023, PBS), Co-Captain



Our mixed lacrosse players.

Netball (Mixed)

This season's team has mainly been a mix of Freshers and second-years, including some contributions from PhD students, who met every weekend for new matches in the intercollegiate league. We finished the year in Division 2 and sixth in Cuppers after a warm, sunny play-off. One of the highlights of this year was the Catz-Worcester



M1 with Fairbairn Cup trophies.

Sports Day; players from the Catz football and rugby team joined together to play a tight, feisty netball match against our twin college at Oxford. It brings me great joy to have represented St Catharine's on the netball court, and I am pleased that this sport is a constant source of joy and collaborative spirit for Catz students.

Hannah Bekman (2023, MML), Captain

Netball (Women's)

Starting Michaelmas Term, we won four out of our five matches, enough to win Division 3 and secure promotion into Division 2 for Lent Term. Despite a strong performance and some returning players, we were unable to beat Worcester College, Oxford in the same fashion as last year. Further, we couldn't maintain our winning streak in the league so, despite two wins and a very close game against Emmanuel, we came sixth in Division 2 and will be returning to Division 3 for Michaelmas Term 2025. Thank you to all our players for your enthusiasm, participation and continuing to foster a fun and welcoming team. Hopefully next year will see us promoted again – and stay up this time – and improve on our Cuppers performance (where we narrowly missed out to Pembroke on reaching the quarterfinals).

Eva Kynaston (2023, Geog), Co-Captain

Pool and Snooker

Following on from two consecutive promotions, our first team won five out of six matches this season to win Division 1. Highlights included a 6-3 win away against Robinson and a last-ditch comeback against Downing, going from 4-1 down to a 5-4 victory. Massive thanks to regulars Iain Lam (2022, Engrng), Vivekanand Dherani (2022,

Engrng), Niels Steinhoff (2022, NatSci), Jay Sardesai (2022, NatSci) and Liu Jianqi (2024, Maths) for another great season, and to Brandon Childs (2023, VetMed) for stepping in when needed.

This year also saw the formation of a second Catz team in Division 2, thanks to Jacob Needham (2023, Engrng), and the long-overdue resurfacing of the table in November, prompting increased College-wide interest in pool.

Jack Yu (2022, NatSci), Captain

Rowing (Men's)

We began the year with a set of results that can be accurately described as historic. By the end of the Michaelmas Term, we had won the University IVs, the Fairbairns VIII race (for the first time since 1967) and the Fairbairns IV race for good measure. With a strong set of novices, we continued a similar vein: M1 went on to win a further four races, M2 won their division in the Spring Head-to-Head and came a close second at Pembroke Regatta, and M3 bided their time before striking in May Bumps to cement their position in the M4 division. In further Bumps news, M1 firmly ensconced themselves in the top division after two strong campaigns: our blades campaign was thwarted on Day 3 of Lent Bumps but a fast finish to the week moved us up to ninth on the river; and we started Mays by escaping a Peterhouse boat comprising over half the Blue boat and multiple GB athletes, finishing the week with two bumps and seventh place on the river.

John Hayton (2022, PhD Chemistry), Men's Captain

Erratum: In the 2024 edition, the joint captaincy of Men's Rowing was incorrectly attributed. The joint captains for 2023-24 were Findlay Akers (2020, NatSci) and Jack Chapman (2020, NatSci).



Boat Club dinner in June 2025.

Rowing (Women's)

Michaelmas Term saw our dedicated novices come on leaps and bounds as our senior women finished second (by a margin of less than 2 seconds) in the University IVs. The term ended with the Fairbairn Cup where our novice women's VIII pulled out our fastest time since 2016 and our senior women's VIII finished fourth.

Lent Term brought a win for W1 in the Winter League Leg II and W2's first experience of racing as a senior crew. W1 then took a trip to London to compete in Women's Eights Head of the River Race, which alumni kindly helped fund and wouldn't have been possible without Rosie Newman (2020, MML) coming back to save the day. We moved up 109 places with a time of 22:03 to finish as the fastest Oxbridge College. Before we knew it, it was Lent Bumps and W1 ended up +2 after suffering illness and last-minute subs. An unlucky series of events resulted in W2 going -6 despite bumping on the first day.

We were reunited with Jessica Van de Grint (2022, Psychology) for our May Bumps campaign, fresh from winning the Lightweight Boat Race. Starting seventh on the river, W1 faced some tough races but showed grit and finished the week -1. W2 put in a great row over on the first day but ultimately went down -3. W3 who had a great term learning lots, eventually achieved spoons, going down -4.

Thank you to Carmen Failla (Head Rowing Coach and Boathouse Manager), David Cruttenden (1967, MechSci) and Salvatore Nigrelli (2021, NatSci) for all your help coaching us.

**Megan Brougham (2020, VetMed),
Women's Captain**

Rugby Union (Men's)

Following on from last year's Cuppers final disappointment, we were optimistic for this season. We retained most of last year's squad and welcomed a strong cohort of Freshers, whilst continuing our successful partnership



Cuppers finalists for two consecutive years.

with Homerton. Despite a mixed bag of results in the league (finishing middle of the pack), we had notable wins against Jesus (reigning Cuppers champions) and St John's (which none of the team had beaten before). Our Cuppers campaign began with a victory against Fitz/Sidney in our quarterfinal, and another against league champions Churchill-Pirton (Pembroke and Girton) in our semifinal. Although the final against St John's did not go our way (losing 31–19) we can take pride in qualifying for back-to-back finals and playing some of the best rugby I've ever experienced wearing our claret and rose colours. Our tries were split between our back three of Johnny Daly-Loneragan (2023, LandEcon), Sam Hickley (2022, History) and Joe Day (2022, LandEcon). I will forever be proud of this team and playing for this Club!

Robert Simmons (2022, Econ), Captain

Swimming

Catz swimmers made a big splash at this year's Swimming Cuppers, finishing eighth overall. With 14 swimmers, we had one of the highest turnouts once again, demonstrating depth, determination and College spirit throughout the competition. The team put in consistently strong performances, with excellent swims in both individual and relay races. Catz featured in multiple finals and impressed with top ten finishes in several races, including a particularly exciting relay that saw the team charge to victory in their heat. Our swimmers have demonstrated unwavering commitment in attending weekly training sessions at Parkside Pools. In Easter Term we also introduced an outdoor training session at the Jesus Green Lido, allowing Catz students to make the most of the warmer weather. A huge well done to everyone who took part in Cuppers – it was a fantastic day of competition and camaraderie.

Samuel English (2023, Geog), Captain

Table Tennis

After some years in which Catz was not represented in the intercollegiate table tennis league, we came back strong. Zheng (Flynn) Chen

(2024, Environmental Policy), who had played semi-professionally in China, led our trio and together we came out of the season having not lost a single match (although Pembroke came close) and finishing first both in Michaelmas and Lent Term in our divisions. As all three players are leaving Cambridge, we hope our legacy will be continued next year!

Lisa Fischer (2024, Law), Captain

Tennis

We welcomed 50 new members this year! After a successful Michaelmas Term we rose to Division 2 in our league. We managed to get past the group stage in our Cuppers tournament as well. We also won every match we played against Worcester College, Oxford when we played against them in Lent Term.

Max Cole (2023, Law), Captain

Volleyball

Having started up this year, it's been a joy and a privilege to captain the Catz squad and see its players grow more experienced with the game. Our Cuppers performance proved how far we've come, both individually and as a Club: we advanced as far as the semifinals, after a hard-fought victory against the Girton and Queens' team, in a match that showcased our very best. Junho Huh (2023, Engrng) was the very backbone of our defence; without him, we would not have won that match. I'd also like to thank Matthew Connell (2023, Maths) for being not only a very friendly, but also highly skilled, team player, James Housden (2021, Engrng) for consistent work as our star middle blocker, Finn Oldfield (2021, ChemEng) for his outstanding commitment and reliability, Mats Saillez (2024, Energy Technologies) for his tenacity and his talent as an opposite hitter, and Kiara Kok (2024, Biological Sciences) for her wealth of skill, insight, effort and experience. I am immensely grateful to have been able to introduce people to this wonderful sport, and I look forward to carving a path into the Cuppers finals next year!

Seph Zoltan (2023, Philosophy), Co-Captain

SOCIETY REPORT



The view from the main entrance at night, with autumn leaves on the front lawn.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It seems like only yesterday that Nigel Hess (1971, Music; Honorary Fellow 2016) handed me the Presidential Medal at the Society Reunion Dinner and it has been a great honour and pleasure to be the Society President over the last year. On taking office one of my core objectives was to visit as many of the Regional Branches as possible and the Branch Chairs responded admirably to enable me to do this.

In early October 2024 I visited the London Branch at the Oxford and Cambridge Club and met with their, then, Chair, Dr Blaine Landis (2009, Mangmt) and some of the Branch members. Over dinner they discussed the range of activities they undertake in what is the Society's largest Branch. Following this it was a delight to be asked to attend the Branch Committee meeting of the East Anglian Branch. Again, I was able to hear about the impressive number and variety of their activities. I have met with them again recently at their AGM in April where we discussed the growth of the Cambridge economy and the 'Cambridge Phenomenon'.

In mid-November I visited the Irish Branch at the invitation of Dr Michael Christy (1982, MedSci), the Irish Branch Chair, building on the extensive preparatory work of Stephen Mennell (1963, Econ) who has assisted the work of the Society in Ireland for many years. In a very busy night in Belfast at an excellent dinner I met with St Catharine's alumni from over four decades who shared with me a rich array of their experiences whilst at the College. I am now allowed to attend their future annual Belfast gatherings as their honorary 'Irishman'!

My journeys further afield continued at pace when I attended the meeting of the North East Branch in late November. Their Chairman, Dr Garth Willson (1957, NatSci) and branch members discussed their plans for future events. At a fine pub lunch Members presented me with a signed print of Stephenson's Rocket railway locomotive, now located in Shildon, County Durham. I am very pleased that I have subsequently worked with them to organise the Presidential Event.

My tour concluded when I visited the Midlands Branch at the end of November when they



The Presidential Trip 2025 at Tanfield Railway.

kindly invited me to their annual Christmas Event held at the Arden Hotel in Stratford. This was a large gathering of members from over four decades. We had a very extensive Christmas Dinner and a good discussion of recent developments in College. After the meal we went to the RSC performance of *The Red Shoes* – certainly a performance I shall remember for many years! Inevitably, the evening concluded in the local pub! I am grateful to the Branch Chair, Rich Whitwell (1984, Econ), for organising a wonderful evening. I have subsequently been able to revisit the Branch at again at the Said Business School in Oxford where we discussed recent developments in the growth of the Cambridge high technology economy and the Government's plans for the region.

I am very grateful to all the branches for their generous hospitality. They vary considerably in their size and geography but what stands out is their desire to meet, to share experience and above all, help and promote the College.

The Presidential Event this year invited alumni to attend the Tanfield Railway Museum in Gateshead, which is celebrating its 300th anniversary. The day began with Dr Garth Willson, the North East Branch Chair, providing alumni with some valuable insight into the history of railway development in the area. A group of alumni were able to enjoy a heritage steam train ride through the wonderful County Durham countryside and visit the working engine shed. Members then moved to Locomotion at Shildon and marvelled at the impressive range of locomotives. They travelled on a replica of Robert Stephenson's Rocket. The President and Branch Chair managed to complete the day with visit to the Darlington Hopetown railway museum. A marvellous day was had by one and all and I am grateful to Garth for organising the day and making it such a success.

Another particular highlight of my year has been attending the Annual Dinner of former Presidents at the Athenaeum. Brian Sweeney (1963, MechSci) organised a First Class evening attended by a good number of former Society Presidents.

During my tenure I have been pleased to be part of the Society's initiatives to build further collaboration with College and the Alumni & Development Office (ADO). I have also been keen to help to develop the Society's communication and networking capabilities, particularly its website. There is the potential to implement new ways of engaging with members that appeal directly to their educational, sporting, social and wider leisure interests, including possible career mentoring and guidance. Many exciting possibilities present themselves, particularly in reaching out to alumni in other countries.

Finally, I would like to welcome my successor Richard Moat (1973, Law) who becomes the next Society President at the Society Reunion Dinner this September. I know he will be overwhelmed by the welcome and support he will receive from the alumni of St Catharine's Society.

Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020)

FROM THE CHAIR

At the splendid 2024 Highgrove Gardens visit, organised by the then President, Honorary Fellow Nigel Hess, I spent a day and a half in the company of, among others, Joanna Reeves, then Chair of the St Catharine's College Alumni Society (SCCAS) Committee, and of our esteemed Secretary, Michael Roberts. Little did I know then that they must have been sizing me up as a potential Society Chair, to succeed Joanna. A few weeks later, the pincer movement began and I soon had to accept that resistance was futile.

It is, of course, an enormous privilege to chair the Alumni Society Committee and, as someone who was previously no more than a consumer of College and Society Alumni events, I have been greatly impressed by the time and effort expended by Committee members, including the ex-officio branch chair members, on behalf of our alumni.

Richard Whitwell (Midlands Branch) and Blaine Landis (London Branch) have stepped down, after sterling service, as has Andrew Shailer Smith, though Andrew, who spends some time in Scotland has very kindly offered to assist with our revived Scotland Branch. Joanna Reeves rejoined the committee after standing down as Chair, a great boon for me, but now finds her life moving in new directions. Joanna has been a huge contributor to our alumni, first as Chair of the London Branch and then as Chair of the SCCAS Committee. On behalf of the Committee and of our alumni as a whole, I thank these colleagues most warmly, confident that we shall see them at future events.

I am delighted to report that the above resignations are balanced by new blood. Steve Tinton has taken over the London Branch, Doug Taylor (Midlands), Andrea Ellis (North West) and Christopher Dyos (Scotland). We are also grateful to the Senior Tutor for nominating undergraduate and postgraduate students for membership of the Committee: Jacob Smith, reading English, just beginning his second year and Lucy Bentall, undertaking a PhD in Earth Sciences and MCR Co-President.

Our extremely active President, Professor Peter Tyler, will, by the time of publication, have progressed gently from President to Immediate Past President and we are enormously grateful for all that he has done. We shall also have welcomed our new President, Richard Moat, an international businessman and entrepreneur. Nigel Hess will have completed his three-year presidency commitment, but, as an Honorary Fellow, he will, we hope, continue to be a regular presence at alumni events.

The rampant advance of technology presents opportunities for building upon the past successes of the Society, to create an interactive website which not only advertises our very important Cambridge and regional events, but which also facilitates contact between alumni at different stages of their careers.

My first committee meeting as Chair, in January 2025, was attended by the Master (Patron), the President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past President and the Development Director. Assuming that these notables were not simply present to check up on me, I was deeply impressed by the level of support for the Alumni Society Committee and for our alumni as a whole.

In addition, the College has strengthened its already excellent provision for contact with alumni by the appointment of an Alumni Engagement Manager as part of the ADO team. The College and the Alumni Society may have different focuses from time to time (it is hardly the job of the College to provide alumni events in the regions), but it is my view that the Alumni Society should operate entirely in accordance with the wishes of the Master and Fellows of the College and I shall continue to work to that end.

Geoffrey Thompson (1971, Music)

THE SOCIETY'S PRESIDENT 2025–26



Richard Moat (1973, Law).

Richard Moat grew up in Nuneaton in Warwickshire, and attended King Edward VI Grammar School. He came up to St Catharine's in 1973 to read Law, and during his time at the College played rugby and rowed in one of the College boats. Rather than going on to practice law, he started his career in the City at Lloyd's Underwriters, but rapidly moved on to the oil and gas industry with Marathon Oil. He spent 12 years there in various financial roles, including a year spent in the US in Ohio and many of the Western States.

He then made a major career switch into telecommunications, joining Hutchison Whampoa in the early 1990s as a member of the management team which launched Orange as the UK's fourth mobile operator. As Corporate Finance Director, he led the team which floated Orange in 1996, and subsequently became finance director of the nascent Orange international business, with interests in France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Belgium. When the business was sold to France Telecom in 2000, he stayed on with the new owners, and in succession became CEO of businesses in Thailand, Denmark and

Romania. Thailand was a startup, and when he arrived there the only things that existed were him and a piece of paper which was the licence to operate. When he left three years later there was a nationwide network, 1 million customers and positive cashflow.

He then returned to the UK as CEO of T-Mobile, and following a turnaround took that business into the joint venture which became EE. In 2012 he became the CFO, and subsequently CEO of Eircom, the equivalent of BT in Ireland. The business was in receivership when he started, but a major commercial repositioning, involving the launch of multi-product bundles, the purchase of a sports TV channel, and a €1.6 billion investment in fibre led to a doubling in the enterprise value. The business was sold to Xavier Niel, the French telecoms billionaire, for €3.5 billion in 2018. Richard then became CEO of Technicolor SA, a French plc which was the largest supplier of visual effects to the film industry, in addition to being the largest manufacturer of broadband gateways and TV set-top boxes outside China, and the world's largest DVD manufacturer. Following a significant financial turnaround, the film business was spun off into a separate plc, and Richard became Chair of the remaining manufacturing business, which was rebranded Vantiva SA.

He is currently a non-executive director of Sherritt International, a Canadian producer of nickel and cobalt. He is also a trustee of the King Edward VI Foundation in Birmingham, and governor and chair of finance at King Edward VI Lordwood School for Girls.

SOCIETY COMMITTEE 2025–26

President: Richard Moat (1973, Law)

President Elect: Vice Admiral Charles Style CBE (1972, Geog)

Immediate Past President: Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020)

Chair: Geoffrey Thompson (1971, Music)

Secretary: Michael Roberts (1967, NatSci)

Treasurer: Hugh McNeill (1996, NatSci)

Chair of the Editorial Board, *St Catharine's*

Magazine: Christopher Catling (1975, English)

Elected (Full) Members

Elected 2025: Juliet Powell (2023, MBA)

Elected 2024: Tom Lewis (1989, NatSci);
Helen Wilkes (2015, BiolSci)

Elected 2022: David Cruttenden (1967, MechSci);
Souradip Mookerjee (2013, MedSci)

Branch Chairs (*Ex Officio*)

East Anglia: David Cruttenden (1967, MechSci);
Ireland: Michael Christy (1982, MedSci); London and
South East: Steve Tinton (1967, Geog); North East:
Garth Willson (1957, NatSci); North West: Andrea
Ellis (1980, English); Scotland: Christopher Dyos
(1980, Maths); South and West: Denis Nightingale
(1975, History); Wales: David Way (1971, Law);
Midlands: Douglas Taylor (1969, NatSci/Engng).

College Members

Fellow Member, nominated by the Master:

Catherine Twilley (Fellow 2023)

Student Members, nominated by the Senior

Tutor: Postgraduate representative, Lucy Bentall (2024, Plant Sciences PhD); Undergraduate representative, Jacob Smith (2024, English).

Patron: The Master, Sir John Bengier (1979, English)

Tenure: President, President Elect, Immediate

Past President: one year in each position. Chair: eight years maximum. Secretary and Treasurer: each eligible for re-election annually. Elected

Members: four years, with the option to stand for an additional four-year term. Branch Chairs, *Magazine* Editor, Society Webmaster: *ex officio*.

College members: one year. Patron: *ex officio*. All elections at the AGM other than Branch Chairs (chosen locally).

AGM AND ANNUAL REUNION 2025

The 2025 annual reunion on 27 September began with a pre-lunch lecture by Quinton Carroll (1988, ASNaC), Head of Natural and Historic Environment, Cambridgeshire County Council, on the archaeology and topography of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval Cambridge (see Articles).

After lunch Professor Peter Wothers (1988, NatSci; Fellow 1998) gave an entertaining talk called 'Setting the Table: the history and harmony of the Periodic Table of Elements'. Several members of the audience thanked Professor Wothers for helping them, as non-scientists, to understand the table's history and significance.

At the Annual General Meeting, Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983; Emeritus Fellow 2020), temporarily indisposed, submitted a written review of his year as President. He paid tribute to the Branch Chairs and noted especially the assistance of Northeast Branch Chair, Garth Willson (1957, NatSci) in supporting the President's Event, which marked the 200th anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway with a trip on the Tanfield Railway.

During the year, Peter engaged with each of the Branch Chairs and had attended several of their events in person. He hoped that the various initiatives to encourage greater alumni engagement with the Society, especially on the part of more recent graduates, would prove fruitful.

The Society's Chair, Geoffrey Thompson (1971, Music) said that he was delighted that relations between the Society and the College remain so positive, and he thanked College staff and Fellows for their support for the Society's initiatives to ensure as many alumni as possible are engaged and appreciative of the benefits of retaining close links.

The Treasurer, Hugh McNeill (1996, NatSci) presented the accounts showing that the Society has generated a small surplus of income this year but that it has been deemed prudent to write down the value the Centenary merchandise stock by 75 per cent as sales have been slow. The value of the investment fund at 30 June 2025 was £366,000 (2024: £351,000).

Development Director Catherine Twilley (Fellow 2023) reported on the development of the College's new strategic plan, which will ensure the College continues to deliver academic excellence through teaching and research. She highlighted this year's excellent set of exam results (see *College Report*), which have placed this cohort in joint third place across all the Cambridge colleges.

The College continues to be impressively represented at university level with blues or half-blues being achieved in 20 sports this year. In College sports news, the women's badminton team won Cuppers for an unprecedented third consecutive time. The 1st XV men's rugby union team reached the Cuppers final for the second time in two years (losing to St John's), while the men's 2nd football team won the Shield final. The Boat Club men's eight won the Fairbairn's Vllls and IVs, which is the first Fairbairn's win for the men's eight since 1967.

The Fellows elected Professor David Aldridge (Fellow 1997), Dawson College Professor of Zoology and Head of the Aquatic Ecology Group at the Department of Zoology, as College President. On a sad note, Dr Chris Thorne (Fellow 1963; Emeritus Fellow 2002), one of our longest serving Fellows, has passed away; the College arranged a Memorial Service for him on 18 October 2025.

Richard Moat (1973, Law) was elected President for the year 2025–26, and Geoffrey Thompson was re-elected as Chair along with Michael Roberts (1967, NatSci) as Secretary and Hugh McNeill as Treasurer.

Saturday 26 September was chosen as the date for the 2026 AGM, reunion and dinner.

Evensong was held in the Chapel with the alumni choir directed by Andrew Macmillan (1998, Music) and accompanied by Rupert Jeffcoat (1989, Music) as organist.

The Reunion Dinner was enjoyed by all and was accompanied by the traditional toasts. In the absence of the President, the Immediate Past President, Nigel Hess (1971, Music; Honorary Fellow, 2019) passed the Presidential Medallion to our President.

Michael Roberts (1967, NatSci), Secretary

BRANCH REPORTS

East Anglian Branch

We have had a wide-ranging programme of events. A visit to the Parker Library in Corpus Christi in September 2024 was followed by a day in Ely where we lunched together followed by visits to Cromwell's House and the Cathedral including Evensong and concluding with a reception kindly hosted by the Dean, the Very Rev'd Mark Bonney (Music, 1978, Honorary Fellow, 2025).

2025 started with the ever-popular Wine Tasting led by Professor Ron Martin (Fellow 1974, Emeritus 2015). This year's subject was South African wines. The Society President Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020) gave our Annual Talk on the fascinating subject of 'The Cambridge Phenomenon'. Members were again invited by the London Branch and the Cambridge Society of London to the Varsity cricket matches at Lord's. June saw a visit to the Roman Circus in Colchester and Beth Chatto's Garden. Our programme for 2025 will conclude with performances of *Macbeth* at Tolethorpe Hall and *Hamilton* at the Theatre Royal Norwich.

David Cruttenden (1967, MechSci)

Ireland Branch

Once again the sole event that occurred within the Ireland Branch of the SCCAS since last year's report was our annual dinner. This took place in Belfast in November 2024 and, despite several of our loyal regular attendees being unable to make it for a variety of reasons, we managed to round up sufficient alumni to gather for a very enjoyable evening. We were delighted to have a couple of alumni who were attending for the first time, and we hope that they will continue to join us in future years.

The success of the evening was in no small part down to our wonderful guest speaker, Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020), President of the Alumni Society, who gave us an update on life in College, as well as illuminating us with an enthralling talk on 'The Cambridge Phenomenon'.

The Master has very kindly agreed to come and be our guest speaker at this year's dinner on Friday 10 October 2025.

Michael Christy (1982, MedSci)



The Ireland Branch event.

London Branch

The London Branch continued its programme of alumni events this year with a series of guided walks and a private tour. On 9 September 2024, Lester Hillman (1970, Geog) led a walk (arranged by Claire Davison (1990, Econ)) on 'King's Cross Artificial Intelligence – Neural Networks at the New Rail Networks,' exploring developments in the area's transport and technology landscape.

On 9 June 2025, Clare Barton (1989, Law) arranged for Lester to guide another walk around NW3, this time focused on comedy, drawing on the College's tradition of thespians, comedians, and performers.

More recently, Claire Davison arranged a private tour of the Chelsea Physic Garden in July and on 16 August 2025 Lester led a special walk (arranged by Elanor Bond (2013, Philosophy)) entitled 'Sealed at Westminster' to mark the 550th anniversary of the College Charter, first sealed at Westminster Abbey on 16th August 1475.



Members enjoying the visit to The Chelsea Physic Garden.

Blaine Landis (2009, Mangmt)

South West Branch

A small group of South West Alumni went on a walk with a difference through Bristol in July. Led by Tony Hoare (1964, Geog), they had a fascinating, and at times disturbing, look at Bristol's connection with the slave trade. They started at the plinth where the statue of Edward Colston stood before it was ripped down and thrown into the docks during a Black Lives Matter protest. They visited the Seven Stars, a noted anti-slavery pub, while hearing how the fortunes of the city were largely built on the sufferings of enslaved people in the early 18th century. The walk ended

next to the Colston statue as it lies covered in graffiti. Like all such Catz events it was informative and a chance to spend time with some splendid people.

Denis Nightingale (1975, History)



Jo Bunzl, Paul Bunzl (1981, Maths), Tony Hoare (1964, Geog) and Peter Freeman (1957, Maths) next to the Edward Colston statue.

Midlands Branch

We hosted two well attended events during the year starting in November 2024 with our annual celebration of St Catharine's Day at the RSC, Stratford-upon-Avon. This year we were delighted to be joined by Society President Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020), who provided an update on College activities and also touched on the wider regional development of the Cambridge as a UK technological centre. The RSC's performance of *The Red Shoes* was excellent and, as usual, the post-show drinks flowed at the Dirty Duck.



Members of the Midlands Branch in the amphitheatre at Saïd Business School.

Having sowed the seeds in Stratford-upon-Avon, Professor Tyler kindly agreed to give a fuller talk on the Cambridge Phenomenon at the Saïd Business School Oxford where we held our summer event in July 2025. Hosted by John Gilligan, Director of the Finance Lab we were given a private tour of the business school before Professor Tyler's fascinating insight into the development of Cambridge as a regional powerhouse over the last 30 years. A leisurely and convivial buffet lunch followed.

Richard Whitwell (1984, Econ)

North East Branch

We were very pleased to welcome the Society President, Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983, Emeritus 2020), to our branch meeting in November 2024 and enjoyed a pub lunch with him. We were also delighted to host the 2025 Presidential Trip, which included visits to Tanfield Railway Museum, Locomotion at Shildon and the Darlington Hopetown museum.

Garth Willson (1957, NatSci)



The Llandudno dinner.

Wales Branch

Rob Atenstaedt (1988, MedSci) organised the first ever Catz alumni dinner held in North Wales on behalf of the Welsh Branch of the Society. The enjoyable event was held on Saturday 28 June at a hotel in Llandudno. Members who attended included Eric Bramhall (1958, History), Tony Quick (1971, Law) and James Lees (2007, History), along with their partners and other guests. Sir Mark Hudson KCVO (1966, Agric) gave an excellent after dinner speech on the history of the Duchy of Lancaster, whose Council he used to chair. A total of £125 was raised for the St Catharine's Student Support Fund.

David Way (1971, Law)

Golf

St Catharine's golfers we need you! In 2026, we want to hold an alumni golf tournament at Gog Magog followed by dinner in College. An opportunity to play golf, meet old friends and experience time in College remembering and reinforcing our links. Watch this space!

In April 2025 St Catharine's fielded a team from different generations competing in the annual university inter-college alumni golf competition. This builds on the efforts of Dave Adams (1966, MML) organising a team from the 1966 to 1968 intakes which played in previous years. We advanced to a mid-table position with clear potential to do better. Golf at Gog Magog was followed by drinks for the team at The Eagle and dinner at Gonville & Caius for all competitors.

Steve Tinton (1967, Geog)



The team of Mike Tremellen (1985, Engrng), David Kohn (1982, Econ), Robert Percival (1967, Law), Andrew Eve (1977, LandEcon), Steve Tinton (1967, Geog) and Richard Whitwell (1984, Econ) at the dinner.



The circular bed in Sherlock Court is planted with insect-attracting cranesbills and catmint, while ornamental grasses provide height. In the background the magnolia tree flowers profusely in April (see the Articles title page).

ALUMNI NEWS



Wisteria in bloom across the southern wall of the Old Lodge.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Gilly Carr (Fellow 2006), Professor of Conflict Archaeology and Holocaust Heritage, and Academic Director in Archaeology at the University of Cambridge Professional and Continuing Education (PACE), was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2025 New Year Honours for her services to Holocaust research and education.

Ranan Dasgupta (1991, MedSci) was appointed a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO) in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours for services as Sergeant-Surgeon to the Royal Medical Household.

Claire Davis (1987, NatSci; Research Fellow 1993–96), Professor of Steel Processing and Head of Advanced Steel Research Centre, Warwick Manufacturing Group, University of Warwick, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Colm Durkan (Fellow 2022), Professor of Nanoengineering Science and Head of the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Janet Grauberg (1985, Geog), was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2025 New Year Honours for services to the North London Community and to Education.

Graeme Groom (1969, MedSci), Orthopaedic Surgeon at King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, was appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in the 2025 New Year Honours for services to International Disaster and Emergency Aid. See also the article by Terence English (Master 1993–2000; Honorary Fellow 1992) in the 2021 *Magazine* for which Graeme provided the photographs.

Sriya Iyer (Fellow 2000), Professor of Economics and Social Science at the University of Cambridge, was appointed a founding Fellow by the Royal Economic Society. Fellowship of the Royal Economic Society was created this year to provide professional recognition for those who have made significant contributions to the discipline.

Stephen Mallen (1984, Geog), Founder of Zero Suicide Alliance and Honorary Doctor of Health Sciences at Anglia Ruskin University, was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2025 New Year Honours for services to mental health and suicide prevention.

Stephen May (1974, NatSci), former Senior Vice Principal at the Royal Veterinary College, was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours for services to Veterinary Education and Animals in Science.

William Powrie (1979, Engrng), Professor of Geotechnical Engineering at the University of Southampton, was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours for services to Engineering.

David Pyle (1983, NatSci; Fellow 1989–2006; Emeritus 2006), Professor of Earth Sciences at Oxford, was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society in recognition of his 'contributions to the understanding of processes, timings and impacts of volcanic eruptions, for creative use of archival materials to understand past volcanic crises, and engagement with wider publics'.

Bill Sutherland (Fellow 2008–23; Honorary Fellow 2024), Emeritus Miriam Rothschild Professor of Conservation Biology at Cambridge, was elected an international member of the American Philosophical Society – the oldest learned society in the United States.

Anthony Vaughan (2000, Law), MP for Folkestone and Hythe, and a barrister with particular expertise in immigration, deprivation of liberty, and human trafficking, was appointed King’s Counsel.

Natalie Waran (1987, VetMed), former Executive Dean and Professor, Eastern Institute of Technology, New Zealand, and an internationally recognised expert in equine welfare, was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2025 King’s Birthday Honours for services to Equine Welfare, Research and Education.

Cambridge promotions

Niamh Gallagher (2009, History; Fellow 2018), University Associate Professor in Modern British and Irish History, has been appointed to a higher-grade University Associate Professorship in the Faculty of History.

Mairi Kilkenny (Fellow 2016–22) has been appointed to an Associate Teaching Professorship at the Department of Biochemistry.

Varun Warriar (Fellow 2019), Assistant Professor of Neurodevelopmental Research at the Departments of Psychiatry and Psychology, and previously the Bowring Research Fellow at St Catharine’s, has been appointed to a University Associate Professorship in the Department of Psychiatry.

Ian Willis (Fellow 1989), Lambourne Fellow at St Catharine’s and University Professor in Physical Geography (Glaciology) at the Department of Geography and the Scott Polar Research Institute, has been appointed to the most senior grade of professorship in recognition of his research and teaching.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

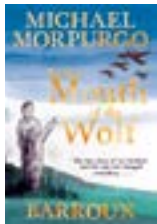
The following Members are mentioned in the News pages. As has become customary at the request of Members, the news items themselves are printed in date order of Society Membership; here Members mentioned are listed in alphabetical order.

- Maggie Aderin-Pocock (Honorary Fellow 2024)
 Matthew Allen (1974, Law)
 Malik Al Nasir (2020, History PhD)
 Keith Ashby (1954, MML)
 Jill Ashcroft Campion (2016, Planning Growth and Regeneration)
 Rob Atenstaedt (1988, MedSci)
 Richard Ayoade (1995, Law)
 John Baker (1971; Honorary Fellow 2012)
 Kirsty Bashforth (1988, Economics)
 Chris Bayly (Fellow 1970; Honorary Fellow 2014)
 Michael Belkin (1961, NatSci)
 Bill Bellenger (1966, Classics)
 Nora Berend (Fellow 1996)
 Peter Boizot (1950, History)
 Mark Bonney (1975, Music)
 James Caesar (1965, MechSci)
 Francis Cammaerts (1934, English/History)
 Norbert Campagna (1986, English)
 Ivano Cardinale (2009, Mangmt)
 Phil Carling (1966, History)
 Gilly Carr (Fellow 2006)
 Alice Chadwick (1991, English)
 Mien Chew (2020, MedSci PhD)
 Anna Cochrane (2018, NatSci)
 Robert Comline (Fellow 1951)
 Phil Craig (1978, History)
 Garrett Curran (1991, Law; Fellow Commoner 2023)
 Christina Dawson (Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019)
 Peter Dawson (1974, NatSci; Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019)
 John Dunkley (1965, NatSci)
 Allie Esiri (née Burns, 1985, MML)
 Elliot Finer (1962, NatSci)
 Paul Flavell (1982, Maths)
 Niamh Gallagher (2009, History; Fellow 2018)
 Peter Godwin (1976, Law)
 Simon Godwin (1994, English)
 Bola Grace (2019, Executive MBA)
 Geoff Gregg (1961, MechSci)
 Nick Gregg (1990, Engrng)
 Ziyao 'Seki' Guan (2024, MBA)
 Peter Hagggett (1951, Geog)
 Christopher Hall (1976, English)
 Rebecca Hall (2000, English)
- Andrzej Harris (Fellow 2020)
 Joanne Harris (1982, MML; Honorary Fellow 2012)
 Bob Harrison (1959, Geog)
 Penn Harrison (2024, MBA)
 Nigel Hess (1971, Music; Honorary Fellow 2016)
 Lester Hillman (1970, Geog)
 Peter Hirsch (1943, NatSci; Honorary Fellow 1982)
 Luna Jarvis (2022, NatSci)
 Peter Judge (1959, Law)
 Paul King (1995, English)
 Roger Knight (1966, MML)
 Adam Kucharski (2009, Maths/Physics PhD)
 Neil Lancaster (1984, SPS)
 Adrian Liston (Fellow 2023)
 Jeffrey Littman (1961, NatSci)
 Roger Lowe (1971, Law)
 Nic Madge (1971, Law)
 Peter Mallinson (2005, Music)
 Philip Matthews (1966, Law)
 Chine McDonald (née Mbubaegbu; 2002, Theol)
 Ian McKellen (1958, English; Honorary Fellow 1982)
 Xelia Mendes-Jones (2015, ASNaC)
 Eric Midwinter (1952, History)
 Ben Miller (1985, NatSci)
 Jay Miller (2003, English)
 Michael Miller (1989, Geog)
 Douglas Moggach (Honorary Fellow 2025)
 Malhaar Mohirir (2023, Pol&IntStud)
 Pdraig Moore (2000, Econ)
 David Morris (1974, MedSci)
 Larabella Myers (2023, Technology Policy)
 Roy Owen (1946, MML)
 Melz Owusu (2020, Sociol PhD)
 Oliver Puckey (2021, History PhD)
 Mary Ramsden (Benefactress 1745)
 Samia Rashid (2022, Classics)
 Philippe Sands (Research Fellow 1986–88)
 Jay Sardesai (2022, NatSci)
 Theo Shorrocks (2023, AMES)
 Elena Emma Sottilotta (2018, Italian PhD)
 Harry Sutcliffe (1938, MechSci)
 Hamish Symington (1999, NatSci)
 Jean Thomas (Master 2007–16; Honorary Fellow 2016)
 Chris Thorne (Fellow 1963, Emeritus 2002)
 John Tredwell (1966, Econ)

Tony Watts (1960, History; Fellow Commoner 2014)
 David Way (1971, Law)
 Jago Westaway (2021, History)
 Geoff Willett (1946, Geog)

Dan Wooler (1989, EarthSci)
 Peter Wothers (1988, NatSci; Fellow 1997)
 John Yellowlees (1969, Geog)
 John Zhang (2022, Music)

Mary Ramsden (Benefactress 1745) It seems that we have never published in the *Magazine* pictures of the church at Adlingfleet, and the statue and memorial therein of St Catharine's benefactress Mary Ramsden. The Rev'd Hannah Hupfield (interim Chaplain in Lent Term 2019) sent these photographs taken during a recent visit to the area. The wording below the statue states that Mary left her estate to the College, when she also left benefactions to her relatives and the local community. For full details see the comprehensive article in the 1957 *Magazine*.



Francis Cammaerts (1934, English/History) is one of the brothers in Peter Morpurgo's book *In the Mouth of the Wolf*. The book is based on the true story of Francis and his brother and their adventures in WWII; see also Notices and News in the

2006 *Magazine*. In 2025, the Barn Theatre in Cirencester staged a play based on the book.

Associate Member Elizabeth Jones writes about her stepfather **Professor Harry Sutcliffe (1938, MechSci)** who died in 2009 (see 2010 *Magazine* for obituary). She notes that, while working for the Telecommunications Research Establishment during WWII, Harry shared a house with Tom Kilburn (Sidney Sussex 1940, Maths) and they were close friends; both were recruited for the war effort by CP Snow. Tom became a leader of the Manchester University group which built the first



computers after the war ended. Much later, Harry and Elizabeth's mother, together with alumnus **Eric Midwinter (1952, History)** set up the local U3A group which is still thriving. Sadly Eric died as we were going to press; a Notice will appear in the 2026 *Magazine*.

Peter Hirsch (1943, NatSci; Honorary Fellow 1982), Emeritus Professor of Metallurgy at Oxford, celebrated his 100th birthday in January 2025. He sadly died as we were going to press; a Notice and Obituary will appear in the 2026 *Magazine*.

Associate Member Berit Owen has died. She was the widow of **Professor Roy Owen (1946, MML)** who died in 2003.

Geoff Willett (1946, Geog) has recently died – see Notices. Wilfred Theakstone (Jesus 1955) writes that he was an undergraduate in the Geography Department between 1955 and 1958 when Geoff was Librarian there: 'Geoff was a real friend to me and to many other students in my year and subsequent years, including my wife who read geography from 1959. After I graduated, I spent a couple of years at the University of Oslo, and Geoff and I started to correspond. Our friendship continued until his death'.

Associate Member Wendy Allen has died. She was the sister of **Peter Boizot (1950, History)** who died in 2018. Her son is **Matthew Allen (1974, Law)**. See also John Yellowlees (1969, Geog) for other news of Peter.

Daphne Comline, widow of **Robert Comline (Fellow 1951)** who died in 1998, celebrated her 100th birthday in May 2025. The Comline family's contribution to St Catharine's is remembered in the role of the Robert Comline Fellow in Physiology and the Robert Comline Prize, which is awarded to an undergraduate student who has excelled in systems physiology.

Peter Haggett (1951, Geog) See Neil Lancaster (1984, SPS).

Eric Midwinter (1952, History) See Harry Sutcliffe (1938, MechSci).

Keith Ashby (1954, MML) writes to thank us for our continued sending of the *Magazine*: 'I am writing this to request that you continue to send me the *Magazine* printed on POPYRUS. The very reason for this is that I have NO EMAIL or COMPUTER etc. and I cannot inform you via your Website. Or alternatively I would prefer communication via Egyptian HIEROGLYPHS which have passed the tests of TIME and DURABILITY. I am pleased to inform you that I am still alive, aged 90, but not kicking (or doing Cross Country). I have now, like an English Don Quixote, given up cycling on Rocinante – round Spain three times in the past'.

Ian McKellen (1958, English; Honorary Fellow 1982) stars in the film *The Critic*, which was released in UK and US cinemas in September 2024. And in June 2025, he joined Scissor Sisters onstage at the Glastonbury Festival for their song 'Invisible Light', which has a spoken word verse; critics described McKellen's delivery as captivating and dramatic, and adding to the song's impact; the lyrics are somewhat Bacchanalian. Sir Ian was moved to tears when the crowd responded by chanting his name. See also Luna Jarvis (2022, NatSci).

Peter Judge (1959, Law) wrote to inform the College of the death of **Bob Harrison (1959, Geog)**; see Notices. 'Bob and I were contemporaries as undergraduates from 1959 to 1962, having met when we served our basic National Service training in adjoining beds in autumn 1957. We organised the Cambridge Libyan Expedition jointly in 1961, six of the ten participants being Catz men. ... Much later I stayed with him and Suzanne in Long Island and even later he visited me several times during my time in Morocco after retiring.' See the 1961 *Magazine* for more information about the Libyan Expedition.



Tony Watts (1960, History; Fellow Commoner 2014) writes: 'Cambridge has had a rich cricket culture and tradition. Cambridgeshire could and perhaps should have been a first-class county; the University provided access to first-class

cricket for well over a century. But Town and Gown never harnessed satisfactorily their joint resources. There were strong city clubs, playing 'friendly' cricket on high-quality college grounds run by dynasties of extraordinary groundsmen: they have either folded or merged into the villages. My book *Town v Gown; City v Village: A History of Cricket in Cambridge* celebrates Cambridge's distinctive tradition, analyses the changes, and describes the endeavours to sustain and develop cricket in a new era'.

Geoff Gregg (1961, MechSci) See Nick Gregg (1990, Engrng)

Jeffrey Littman (1961, NatSci) writes that he was in Israel in 2024 and had lunch with his contemporary **Michael Belkin (1961, NatSci)**.

Mike is Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology at Tel Aviv University and worked for many years on improving the treatment of glaucoma. 'A news item in the 2020 *Magazine* drew attention to Mike's automated non-contact treatment, now known as Eagle, which he had invented and which had then just passed initial clinical trials. Mike's company Belkin Vision continued to develop Eagle which is already sold in the EU and UK and has been cleared for use in the USA. Jeffrey reports that the sale of Belkin Vision to the international eye-care company Alcon was completed in November 2024 with the contract providing for ongoing performance-based payments. 'Among the scientists of our year, it is good to know that there is at least one who has not only excelled in the academic world but is also one of those few academics who have achieved commercial success.' Mike was honoured with the Visionary Award at the 2025 annual gala of the Glaucoma Research Foundation (in the publicity photos Mike appears wearing a College tie!).



Elliot Finer (1962, NatSci) has published his third novel, *Dead Personal*, with very good reviews. It has been short-listed for an award by the US-based Speculative Literature Foundation. The book features a scene at Catz!

Chris Thorne (Fellow, 1963, Emeritus Fellow, 2002) Sadly Chris Thorne died as we were going to press; a Notice and Obituary will appear in the 2026 *Magazine*.

James Caesar (1965, MechSci) writes about the references in the 2024 *Magazine* on pages 76 and 77 to the Cambridge Half Marathon, held in early March. 'I ran again this year for the 14th year in succession, i.e. every year since the event restarted. I still play squash regularly and have taken part in the Acheson-Gray Day, since squash appeared on the list of sports. When I retired from my career in civil engineering, I took up self-employment as a landscape gardener. I still work part-time on garden maintenance for several local clients and I am Secretary of Fulbourn Gardening Society.'

John Dunkley (1965, NatSci) has finally retired from Atomising Systems Ltd, a company he founded in

1992 after redundancy from a major engineering firm. In a 50-year career working on atomising molten metals for metal powder production, he has supplied over 100 plants in 35 countries ranging from one-kilogram units for gold to hundred-ton units for steel. After his appointment as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2006, he was awarded a PhD in 2011 for a selection of his numerous papers and a major book on atomising. His company now employs over 70 staff and both constructs plants and produces special metal powders, e.g. for 3D printing. The Southside Jazz Band, in which he played tuba, continued to meet at intervals until quite recently, and entertained guests in College several times. His current interests include three choirs and two bands, and he has moved on from the tuba to learn bass guitar.



A Dunkley atomiser

John Tredwell (1966, Econ) – rugby Blue 1968, swimming/water polo Half Blue 1969 – writes about his contemporaries: '**Phil Carling (1966, History)** whose death was reported in the 2024 *Magazine* came to St Catharine's as an outstanding cricketer and hockey player who had already been selected for the Surrey 2nd XI. He won cricket Blues in 1968 and 1970 and a hockey Blue in 1968. In his last year whilst doing a Cert Ed, he scored a century for the University cricket team recording their first win against a county side since 1963. Before then, somewhat disillusioned with hockey, Phil changed to soccer and played for the University Falcons (2nd XI) team. He made an early career move into sports administration through successfully managing Lambton Squash Club in Kensington. For three of his four years at St Catharine's Phil shared rooms with **Roger Knight (1966, MML)** who won multiple cricket Blues, played professionally, captained Surrey and became Secretary of the MCC. Roger also played

University rugby. Our close friend was WSB – **Bill Bellenger (1966, Classics)** who sadly died of cancer in February of this year; see Notices in this *Magazine*. Whilst in Cambridge Bill played three years of hockey for the University Wanderers (2nd XI) and the same for the University Crusaders (2nd XI) cricket team. He later captained Scottish Universities at rugby. Bill shared rooms with **Philip Matthews (1966, Law)** who also for three years represented the University Wanderers and Crusaders teams and later Wales for hockey. Philip later became a judge. We were a close-knit group of sports enthusiasts who had a wonderful time at Cambridge but also managed to get to the Senate House!

John Yellowlees (1969, Geog) writes that he was pleased to select Funghi di Bosco when he visited Pizza Express in Edinburgh. This item on the menu is offered in memory of their founder, alumnus **Peter Boizot (1950, History)**. The lady who served him said that everyone joining the company was briefed on the life of Peter. According to the Pizza Express website the Funghi di Bosco pizza is 'a tribute to our founder who loved mushroom pizza and Venice. Chestnut mushrooms, tomato with garlic, mozzarella and rosemary, finished with parsley and Gran Milano cheese. This pizza on any base includes a discretionary 25p donation to the Veneziana Fund'.

Chris Bayly (Fellow 1970; Honorary Fellow 2014) See Phil Craig (1978, History).

Lester Hillman (1970, Geog) writes that he is trying to narrow down where in Westminster the College Charter was sealed 550 years ago in 1475. He comments that a photograph of the seal was reproduced in the *Magazine* some years ago, but that it was a rather poor image. In fact it was on the cover of the 1998 edition. Deputy Librarian Sarah Fletcher has provided improved images; see article later in this *Magazine*.

Nigel Hess (1971, Music; Honorary Fellow 2016) was commissioned by the Royal Humane Society to write the music for the Grahame Davies anthem *The Spark of Life*; the anthem was written for the Society's 250th anniversary.

David Way (1971, Law) writes to correct an error in the 2024 *Magazine*. He was appointed High

Sheriff of Cambridgeshire by the King, not the Lord Lieutenant, and made his Declaration in front of the chief magistrate of the County; the Lord Lieutenant was present only as David's guest. As the High Sheriff, David is the King's personal representative for all matters relating to justice and the maintenance of law and order in the county. One of the High Sheriff's duties is organising the Justice Service marking the start of the new legal year. St Catharine's was closely involved in the 2024 Service in April with a congregation of around 200 guests and members of the public. The service began with a formal procession starting from St Catharine's, including judges, civic leaders and mayors, heads of the Cambridge Colleges, representatives of the University of Cambridge, and former and visiting current High Sheriffs from across the country. Besides the Master and David, other members involved included **John Baker (Fellow 1971–2011; Honorary Fellow 2012)** as an Honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple, Inner Temple and Gray's Inn, **Mark Bonney (1975, Music)**, Dean of Ely Cathedral, as Deputy Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire, **Jean Thomas (Master 2007–16, Honorary Fellow 2016)** as an Honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple, and retired judges **Roger Lowe (1971, Law)** and **Nic Madge (1971, Law)**. The former Chaplain, **Ally Barrett (Fellow 2019–24)**, led the prayers at Great St Mary's and, following the service, the High Sheriff hosted refreshments for his guests in the McGrath Centre.

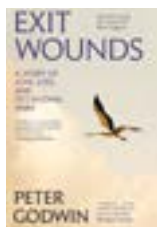
Matthew Allen (1974, Law) See Peter Boizot (1950, History).

Peter Dawson (1974, NatSci, Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019) See Christina Dawson (Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019).

David Morris (1974, MedSci) writes to say that he retired in 2021 as a GP in a general medical practice in Flintshire. However, he continues to audit clinical records there and he also began working with the Royal College of General Practitioners as Practice Development Advisor. 'Retirement has also given me the chance to take up my viola again and join our local amateur symphony orchestra.' David also began learning Ukrainian following the

influx of refugees in 2022. 'I find the language fascinating, and I am in e-contact with many Ukrainians. The same process of e-learning a language, but with the shoe on the other foot, has led me to give daily support to those learning Welsh: it is fascinating to compare the two learning situations.'

Mark Bonney (1975, Music) See David Way (1971, Law).



Peter Godwin (1976, Law) has published *Exit Wounds: A Story of Love, Loss, and Occasional Wars*. It is the third instalment of Peter's life story, the first two being *Mukiwa*, published in 1996 and *When a Crocodile Eats the Sun*, published in 2006.

Christopher Hall (1976, English) has produced a remake of *The Day of the Jackal* starring Eddie Redmayne for Sky Atlantic in the UK and Peacock in the USA.



Phil Craig (1978, History) has published *1945: The Reckoning: War, Empire and the Struggle for a New World*. It follows *Finest Hour: The Bestselling Story of the Battle of Britain*. Phil says that he uses research by the late **Christopher Bayly (Fellow 1970; Honorary Fellow 2014)** as a key source.

Paul Flavell (1982, Maths), Emeritus Professor of Pure Mathematics at the University of Birmingham, writes to say that he has retired after 34 happy years at the School of Mathematics at the University of Birmingham, including eight years as Head of the School.



Joanne Harris (1982, MML; Honorary Fellow 2012) has published *Vianne*, the long-awaited prequel to her immensely successful novel *Chocolat* which was published in 1999 and adapted as a film the following year.

Neil Lancastle (1984, SPS) wrote about the death of **Peter Haggett (1951, Geog)**; see Notices. Neil says that his father and Peter had been lifelong friends since their schooldays at Dr Morgan's Grammar School in Bridgwater.



Allie Esiri (née Burns, 1985, MML) has published her latest 'Every Day' anthology *A Poem for Every Day of Christmas*.

Ben Miller (1985, NatSci) stars in *Austin*, a TV series which has been picked up by the BBC after it was first broadcast in Australia by ABC TV. His latest children's books include *Robin Hood aged Ten and Threequarters* and *The Night I Met Father Christmas*.



Norbert Campagna (1986, English) writes that, having taught philosophy for 36 years at a secondary school in Luxembourg, he retired from that post in October 2025, but continues as Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Luxembourg and as co-editor of the collection *Staatsverständnisse* published by the Nomos-Verlag in Baden Baden. In May 2025, he published his 38th book *Philosophische Sexualethik*.



Philippe Sands KC (Research Fellow 1986–88), Professor of Laws and Director of the Centre on International Courts and Tribunals at University College London, was appointed to the panel of arbitrators at the 2024 Paris Olympics. The Court of

Arbitration for Sport's *ad hoc* panel resolves any legal disputes in a timeframe consistent with the competition schedule. Professor Sands has also recorded a short video for the British Academy on the meaning of the term 'genocide' and associated legal problems with the current formal definition. He has also published 38 *Londres Street: On Impunity, Pinochet in England and a Nazi in Patagonia* in which he blends personal memoir, historical detective work and gripping courtroom drama to probe a secret double story of mass murder.

Rob Atenstaedt (1988, MedSci), a Welsh Liberal Democrat Councillor in Llandudno and a consultant in public health medicine at Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, North Wales, received the NHS Long Service Award for 25 years of service in June 2024.

Kirsty Bashforth (1988, Econ) is chair of the Northern Superchargers, a Leeds-based cricket side that fields men's and women's teams representing North-East England and Yorkshire in The Hundred – a 100-ball cricket tournament launched in 2021.

Peter Wothers (1988, NatSci; Fellow 1997) See Maggie Aderin-Pocock (Honorary Fellow 2024).

Michael Miller (1989, Geog) writes to say that, in September 2024, he took up duties as Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Bangladesh. This follows nearly three decades working for the European institutions.

Dan Wooler (1989, EarthSci) was one of a crew of four who rowed the Atlantic for charity at the end of 2024.

Nick Gregg (1990, Engrng) wrote to College following the death of his father **Geoff Gregg (1961, MechSci)**; see Notices. He says that his father 'had great memories of his time at Catz ... and his tutoring by Dudley Robinson (who also taught me from 1991 onwards). Engineering remained a lifelong passion right to his final days. Cambridge University Air Squadron (CUAS) was also a key feature of his time at University and drove his passion for all things aeronautical. St Catharine's was a huge influence on his life

and he thoroughly enjoyed the reunions with alumni in Cambridge and elsewhere'.



Alice Chadwick (1991, English) has published her debut novel *Dark Like Under*.



The Catz community was well represented at the Irish Embassy's event for the charity *Ireland Funds Great Britain* in May 2025. Pictured are **Garrett Curran (1991, Law; Fellow Commoner 2023)**, **Niamh Gallagher (2009, History; Fellow 2018)** and **Padraig Moore (2000, Econ)**. Garrett also recently contributed an article to the *Irish Times* on the link between higher education, investment and productivity in Northern Ireland.

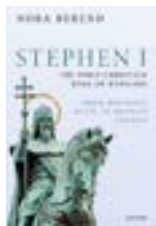
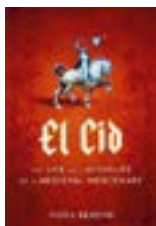
Simon Godwin (1994, English) directed the Shakespeare Theatre Company's *Comedy of Errors* at the Klein Theatre, Washington DC, in September 2024. And in March 2025, he directed the Company in Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, starring Hugh Bonneville.

Richard Ayoade (1995, Law) stars as the voice of Xenia in Pixar's *Dream Productions* miniseries on Disney+. He has also published another children's book: *The Fairy Tale Fan Club: Legendary Letters Collected by CC Cecily*. Richard has also published *The Unfinished Harauld Hughes* as a comic novel for an older readership in which he seeks to rescue Hughes, the (fictional) mid-century playwright, from obscurity. To complement the novel, Richard has also published three volumes of poetry, drama and film scripts said to be Hughes' 'complete works'.



Paul King (1995, English) co-wrote the screenplay and is executive producer for the film *Paddington in Peru* which was launched in November 2024. He has also reportedly signed up to direct and co-write a new Disney film about Prince Charming following his successes with the Paddington and Willy Wonka films.

Nora Berend (Fellow 1996) has published two books (or one book and a monograph): *El Cid: the Life and Afterlife of a Medieval Mercenary* and *Stephen I, the first Christian king of Hungary, from medieval myth to modern legend*. The books explore the emergence of two historical leaders in the eleventh century whose histories have evolved over the centuries into legends in modern-day Spain and Hungary.



Hamish Symington (1999, NatSci) writes that his three-year Research Fellowship at Queens' College, Cambridge, has come to an end and he has moved to Downing as a College Associate Professor and Head of Academic Skills.

Rebecca Hall (2000, English) featured in the cover interview in the *Observer* in November 2024 ahead of the launch of the BBC TV series *The Listeners* in which she stars, an adaptation of the book with the same name by Jordan Tannahill. Rebecca also appears in *The Studio*, a TV series which has been getting a good reception from critics.

Padraig Moore (2000, Econ) See Garrett Curran (1991, Law; Fellow Commoner 2023).



Chine McDonald (née Mbubaegbu, 2002, Theol), Head of Community Fundraising and Public Engagement at Christian Aid, has published *Unmaking Mary*. In this part-memoir, part social and theological commentary, Chine

deconstructs the myth of perfect motherhood and shines a light on the dark side of parenting. Chine was also on a panel of experts exploring the maternal experience in art for a sold-out event at the National Gallery in May 2025.

Jay Miller (2003, English) directed Tennessee Williams's *The Glass Menagerie* at the Yard Theatre in London in Spring 2025.

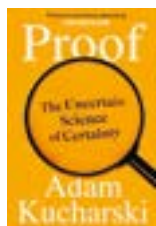
Peter Mallinson (2005, Music), a member of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, has released a new album *Two Violas: Regeneration* together with violist Matthias Wiesner. The album was launched in March 2025 in Cambridge at All Saints Church, Jesus Lane.



Gilly Carr (Fellow 2006) has published *A Materiality of Internment*. The book is the result of over 15 years of research into the occupation of the Channel Islands during World War II – an in-depth analysis of artwork, objects, oral testimonies, archives, poetry, letters, diaries and memoirs gathered from internees and drawing from around 100 collections.

Ivano Cardinale (2009, ManStud) writes that he is Professor of Economics at Goldsmiths, University of London, and Head of the Institute of Management Studies there.

Niamh Gallagher (2009, History; Fellow 2018) See Garrett Curran (1991, Law; Fellow Commoner 2023).



Adam Kucharski (2009, Maths/Physics PhD), a Professor at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, has published *Proof: the Uncertain Science of Certainty*. The book ranges across science, politics, philosophy and economics to explore how truth emerges and why it falters.

Jean Thomas (Master 2007–16, Honorary Fellow 2016). See David Way (1971, Law)

Xelia Mendes-Jones (2015, ASNaC) stars in action thriller *Havoc* on Netflix following a highly acclaimed performance as Dane in the Prime Video series *Fallout*.

Jill Ashcroft Campion (2016, Planning Growth and Regeneration) was awarded a one-year studentship by the Leverhulme Trust to build on her PhD research by studying comparative constitutional and legal infrastructure planning and governance frameworks in England and France, with a focus on the cancelled Notre-Dames-Des-Landes airport and the third runway at Heathrow Airport.

Christina Dawson (Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019) and **Peter Dawson (1974, NatSci, Fellow Commoner 2016, Honorary Fellow 2019)** have made a pioneering gift to establish a Professorship of Young People's Mental Health at Cambridge. The Dawson Professor of Young People's Mental Health will be based in the Department of Psychology and hold an associated Fellowship at St Catharine's. This builds on the Dawsons' previous giving to student mental health and wellbeing, and provides an unique and transformational addition to mental health research at Cambridge and beyond. See Admissions to the Fellowship.

Anna Cochrane (2018, NatSci), now a Cardiovascular Science PhD student, presented her research, spoke on a panel with a Nobel Laureate, and attended three Nobel Prize lectures, an event at the British Embassy and even the Nobel Prize award ceremony itself after she was selected by the University as its sole representative at the Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar.



Elena Emma Sottiolotta (2018, Italian PhD) has written *Seekers of Wonder: Women Writing Folk and Fairy Tales in Nineteenth-Century Italy and Ireland* based on the research she carried out during her time at Catz.

Bola Grace (2019, Executive MBA) has been elected to an Honorary Professorship of Reproductive Health at University College London.

Malik Al Nasir (2020, History PhD) and his fellow contributors and authors of *Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music*, a book accompanying a British Library exhibition celebrating six centuries of Black music, won Best Publication at the Association for Cultural Enterprises Annual Conference.

Mien Chew (2020, MedSci) won a prize for best PhD poster at the Company of Biologists' conference this year for her research looking at how the lung develops by investigating how a specific type of cell (called the endothelial cell) gains its signature behaviour patterns.

Felicity Crawshay-Williams (2020, MedSci PhD) was presented with a PhD Student Award by the Cambridge Society for the Application of Research for her work tackling antimicrobial resistance.



Andrzej Harris (Fellow 2020) has joined forces with his wife Emma Szewczak for the book *The Stitch-Up: How Medical Misogyny Harms Us All*. Prompted by Emma's experience of the birth of their second child, they call for better research, healthcare

options, language and treatment so that medicine can better serve the needs of women.



Melz Owusu (2020, Sociol PhD) as well as writing a doctoral thesis has published *Undisciplined: Reclaiming the Right to Imagine*. In it Melz delves into the stifling impact of the education system on imagination and probes

alternative, deeply spiritual connections to knowledge. Sadly Melz is no longer with us; see Notices in this Magazine.

Oliver Puckey (2021, History PhD), a St Catharine's Harding Distinguished Postgraduate Scholar, won a 2024 Nicholas Temperley Prize for his research on Concert Life in Industrial Manchester in European Perspective, 1799–1858. The judges were impressed by Oliver's weaving of primary sources into a story of music making and music consumption by immigrant communities in Manchester.

Luna Jarvis (2022, NatSci), Malhaar Mohirir (2023, Pol&IntStud), Larabella Myers (2023, Technology Policy) and Jay Sardesai (2022, NatSci) appeared on the televised stages of the 2024–25 University Challenge series. Catz has qualified only twice before in the past 20 years. Sadly, despite an excellent performance, they were knocked out in the first round – see Student News. At the end of the series final, broadcast in May 2025, the winners (Christ’s College, Cambridge) were awarded the trophy at a ceremony in the ADC Theatre, Cambridge, by **Ian McKellen (1958, English; Honorary Fellow 1982)** who recalled treading the same boards as a student: ‘27 plays in three years!’

Jago Westaway (2021, History) was the winner of the 2025 History of Parliament Undergraduate Dissertation Prize for his submission entitled, ‘Fragmentation and Coherence in Protestant Northern Irish Partisan Groups from 1969’. The History of Parliament is a research project creating a comprehensive account of parliamentary politics from their origins in the thirteenth century to the present day.

Samia Rashid (2022, Classics) won second place in an international competition organised by the Classical Association for her manifesto advocating for the importance of Classics as a subject.



Adrian Liston (Fellow 2023), Professor of Pathology at Cambridge and Editor-in-Chief of *Immunology & Cell Biology*, was awarded a prestigious European Research Council Advanced Grant to lead research overturning long-held

assumptions about how the immune system works and decoding how the body responds to inflammation, and a Wellcome Discovery Award worth over £3 million to investigate the rules by which immune cells from our blood are able to enter the brain and drive repair processes during multiple sclerosis.

He has joined forces with illustrator Yulia Lapko to publish *Becoming a Scientist: The Graphic Novel*, which tells the story of the twelve scientists in his biomedical research laboratory and aims to inspire readers between 12 and 18 years of age.

Theo Shorrocks (2023, AMES) has created three films during his time at Catz, two of which were selected for screening at 2025 film festivals. The new films are described as ‘short, sweet and scary’, and feature a raft of familiar faces and locations.



Maggie Aderin-Pocock (Honorary Fellow 2024) has been chosen to deliver the 2025 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures as the series celebrates its 200th anniversary. She follows in the Catz footsteps of **Peter**

Wothers (1988, NatSci; Fellow 1997) who gave the Christmas Lectures in 2012. Dame Maggie has also published *Webb’s Universe*, the definitive book about the Webb space telescope, complete with many stunning images.

Ziyao ‘Seki’ Guan (2024, MBA) was named one of the ‘Best & Brightest’ by Poets & Quants. Seki is chair of the Cambridge Judge Business School AI Special Interest Group, which she has found time to lead alongside her studies and building friendships across her cohort.

Penn Harrison (2024, MBA) already had experience of making films before coming to Cambridge for his MBA. The first screening of his latest film *Nick of Time* took place in the McGrath Centre in April before the film was submitted to several international film festivals.



Douglas Moggach (Honorary Fellow 2025) has published *Freedom and Perfection: German Political Thought from Leibniz to Marx* through Cambridge University Press. See admission of New Fellows.

NOTICES

Births

Morjaria Pabari On 21 February 2025 to Rena Morjaria Pabari (1998, Law) and Martin Rajesh Pabari (Robinson, 1988), a daughter Lilia Raia Pabari.

Marriage

Srivatsa:Rozell On 27 July 2025, Sripriya Iyengar Srivatsa (2021, DevtStuds PhD) married Michael James Rozelle in the College Chapel. Priya is a PhD student researching the political economy of taxation in African states. Michael is also researching for his PhD in the Netherlands studying food security in Sierra Leone. Priya writes: 'we met during our Master's degrees at SOAS in 2018. After several years of living and working across Sierra Leone, Zambia, the Netherlands and India, we finally had a chance to come together in the lovely Catz Chapel which has served as a safe haven for both of us during our reunions in Cambridge'.



REBECCA CLARK PHOTOGRAPHY

Deaths

Belfield (1934) The College has learned of the death on 10 January 1999 of Colin Belfield of Brussels, Belgium. Colin came to St Catharine's from Wellington College, Berkshire, and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and read Mechanical Sciences. He was a map-maker for the Royal Engineers. He served with the British Expeditionary Force at the start of WWII and was evacuated from Dunkirk in 1940. He was employed in Bristol at the Ordnance Survey and retired from the Army as Lieutenant Colonel in 1956.

Bellenger (1966) On 9 February 2025, William (Bill) Stanley Bellenger of Epsom, Surrey. Bill came to St Catharine's from King's College School, Wimbledon, and read Classics; he played hockey and cricket for the College. He went on to study Medicine at Glasgow. Following various senior House Officer posts including Medical Superintendent, Wewak Hospital, Papua, New Guinea, he became a Senior Partner in General Medical Practice in Epsom, Surrey. See also News of Members.

Bennett (2012) On 5 January 2024, Nicola Bennett of St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. Nicola came to St Catharine's from Reading University for an MPhil in Archaeology. She researched for a PhD at UCL and worked for Archaeology South East.

Booth (1946) The College has learned of the death of Stanley Yare Booth of Fleetwood, Lancashire. Stanley came to St Catharine's from Fleetwood Grammar School after National Service and read History.

Brooks (1947) The College has learned of the death on 12 September 2019 of Christopher Brooks of Carlisle, Cumbria. Christopher won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Durham School in 1944 and came up after war service in the Royal Signals to read Modern & Medieval Languages. He stayed for a fourth year to read Part I Economics.

Byrne (1949) The College has learned of the death on 19 June 2009 of Christopher Ian Cowling Byrne of London. Christopher won an Exhibition

to St Catharine's from the City of Norwich School and read Natural Sciences and Mathematics. He worked for the Patents Office.

Chadwick (1934) The College has learned of the death on 5 May 2001 of Gerald William St John (John) Chadwick. John won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Lancing College, Sussex, and read Modern & Medieval Languages. He joined the Diplomatic Service and led missions to Newfoundland and Bermuda. After briefly attending the United Nations in 1949, he joined the British High Commission in Ottawa and in 1952 the British Embassy in Dublin. Later in the 1950s he was a NATO delegate and then Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the Commonwealth Relations Office. He was Governor of the Commonwealth Institute in 1967–80.

Cobb (1964) On 6 September 2024, David Hamilton Cobb of Witham, Essex. David came to St Catharine's from Cambridge Grammar School and read Geography. He played football for the University and was awarded a Blue. He was selected as an amateur international for England while at Catz and later was on the books of Charlton and Cambridge City. After diplomas in Education from Loughborough and Nottingham, he became a Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer at Greenwich University.

Cohen (1965) On 31 May 2025, Philip Michael Cohen of Umea, Sweden. Philip came to St Catharine's from Malvern College and read Classics and Law. His brother Colin (1966, Maths) writes that after Cambridge Philip moved to Sweden and was initially in the Stockholm area in various retail jobs before setting up a marketing consultancy focusing on telephone marketing and contact centres. He travelled widely in this capacity with his last trip to Mexico not long before he died. He was also active in Rotary International for many years. He leaves a widow Kerstin, a daughter Magdalena and a son Sebastian.

Crothers (1959) On 25 December 2024, John Hugh Crothers of Watchet, Somerset. John came to St Catharine's from Solihull School and read Natural Sciences, staying on for his PGCE. He returned for his PhD in Zoology in 1985. He worked for the Field Studies Council, mainly as warden

at Nettlecombe Court, a post he held for over 30 years. The breadth and depth of his research was considerable, not least as an expert in rocky shore biology and as Editor for the Malacological Society. His relatives included alumni uncle William Radcliffe (1925, Classics/History), father-in-law Kenneth Wheeler (1931, Maths) and brother-in-law Robert Gardiner (1959, NatSci).

Crowther (1959) On 4 October 2024, Anthony Herbert Crowther of Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Anthony won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from St Peter's School, York, and read Architecture. He became a Chartered Architect in 1969 and worked for various architectural firms in the UK, USA and Germany before being appointed to a Partnership at Greenway & Partners in 1975; he became their Senior Partner in 1987. He was an expert witness in arbitration, litigation and town planning matters.

Darby (1942) The College has learned of the death on 7 January 2005 of Thomas Elijah Darby of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Thomas came to St Catharine's for the special war-time six-month Royal Engineers Army Training Course.

Dimock (1953) On 23 February 2024, (John) Julian Dimock of Solihull, West Midlands. Julian came to St Catharine's from Portsmouth Municipal College and read Engineering. He won a Blue for sailing.

Dobson (1937) The College has learned of the death on 7 June 2013 of Raymond Dobson of Rowlands Gill, Tyne and Wear. Raymond won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne, and read Medical Sciences; he played University rugby. He became a thoracic surgeon in Newcastle, then joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1943. Demobilised in 1946, he returned to Newcastle and became senior registrar for the South East Metropolitan Region. He was also a senior lecturer at Newcastle University and a senior administrator at the Freeman Hospital. His sons Simon (1971, NatSci) and Andrew (1974, History/Law) are alumni.

Dodds (1957) On 21 August 2024, Michael Edward Dodds of Amlwch, Anglesey. Mike came to St Catharine's from Kingswood School, Bath,

and read Mechanical Sciences followed by the Industrial Management course. He played hockey, rugby and cricket for the College. He became a nuclear engineering consultant.

Elliot (1945) On 8 March 2023, David Arthur Elliot of London. David came to St Catharine's for the one-year war-time Army Cadet Course. After the war, he worked for the Heinemann Publishing Group from 1948 until retirement in 1981.

Fabian (1938) The College has learned of the death on 1 March 2015 of Peter Alfred Fabian of London. Peter came to St Catharine's from St Edward's School, Oxford, and read Modern & Medieval Languages. He became a pioneer of new methods of teaching English as a Foreign Language and devised the widely-used *Atels Oral* scheme. He was Founder and Chairman of the Association of Recognised English Language Schools, and Owner/Director of the London School of English 1959–98. He published *Learning English in Britain* in 1984.

Flower (1944) The College has learned of the death on 28 August 2012 of John Michael Flower. John came to St Catharine's from Blundell's School, Devon, and read Engineering.

Ford (1961) On 19 December 2024, John Nicholas David Ford of Southampton. John won a Scholarship to St Catharine's from Merchant Taylors' School and read Modern & Medieval Languages. After two years Voluntary Service Overseas in the Ivory Coast, he studied Social Administration and joined the Inner London Education Authority. Moving to Cardiff University as a Social Administration lecturer, he developed an interest in computer programming while researching for his PhD, and was appointed a lecturer in that subject at Southampton University, remaining there for the rest of his career.

Gallant (1941) The College has learned of the death on 27 March 2012 of Arthur George Gallant of Norwich. Arthur came to St Catharine's from the City of Norwich School and read Mechanical Sciences. After four years in the radar industry, he joined Trent College, Long Eaton, as a Mathematics teacher and then in 1949 he

became the Senior Mathematics Teacher at St Lawrence College, Ramsgate. In 1967 he was appointed Senior Lecturer at Keswick Hall College of Education, Norwich, and remained there until retirement in 1981.

Goodchild (1990) On 28 January 2025, Robert George Goodchild of Brussels, Belgium. Robert came to St Catharine's from St John's School, Marlborough, and read Geography, representing College at cricket and rowing. His contemporary Susan Stuart (1990, NatSci) writes that Robert held senior roles at the European Commission Environment and Energy Directorate where he met his wife Anne. Following Brexit, to his daughters' amusement, he took up French nationality. Tragically, Robert's life was cut short by motor neurone disease.

Gregg (1961) On 15 May 2024, Geoffrey John Gregg of Blockley, Gloucestershire. Geoff came to St Catharine's from King Edward's School, Birmingham, and took a double first in Mechanical Sciences. He played rugby for College and helped organise the Poppy Day RAG. Joining British Aerospace, he worked on Concorde design in UK and France. He also built two flying replicas of WWI fighters, the Vickers Vimy and Vickers GunBus, which hang in the RAF Museum, Hendon. His son Nick (1990, Engrng) and niece Averil Marczak (1985, History) are alums, as was his brother Andrew (1971, Engrng). See also News of Members.

Grey (1943) The College has learned of the death on 2 July 2018 of Ernest Philip Grey of Orpington, Kent. Ernest came to St Catharine's from Brockley County School, Lewisham, and read Economics and History. He rowed for the College.

Griffiths (1960) On 18 August 2024, David Hubert Griffiths of London. David came to St Catharine's from Kingswood School, Bath, and read Natural Sciences and Economics. He played for the College rugby 1st XV. He joined the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1963, becoming an Under-Secretary in 1982 and Director of Establishments in 1990. In 1997 he joined the House of Commons as a Clerk Advisor to the European Scrutiny Committee. He captained Richmond Golf Club in 1984.

Gunningham (1946) The College has learned of the death on 5 April 2019 of Michael Robert Fearon Gunningham of Newbury, Berkshire. Michael won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from St Paul's School, London, in 1943 and came up after war service in the Navy to read Classics and History. He played football and won a Half-Blue fencing for the University. After two years in journalism he taught at St Ignatius College, Enfield, retiring as Head of Classics and Humanities in 1984. He was Secretary-General of the Joint Association of Classics Teachers, Director of Duckworth Publishers and Tutor at the London University Institute of Education.

Haggett (1951) On 9 February 2025, Peter Haggett of Bristol. Peter won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Dr Morgan's Grammar School, Bridgwater, and read Geography, winning the Philip Lake prize twice. He was briefly a lecturer in the Geography Department at Cambridge and a Fellow and (later) Honorary Fellow of Fitzwilliam College. He became Professor of Urban and Regional Geography at Bristol from 1966. He was a Patron's Medallist of the Royal Geographical Society and Lauréat d'Honneur of the International Geographical Union. He was made a Fellow of the British Academy in 1992 and was awarded a CBE in 1993. See the University of Bristol's obituary.

Harrison (1959) On 7 May 2025, Robert Samuel Harrison of New York, USA. Bob won a State Scholarship to St Catharine's from Tipton County Grammar School, West Midlands, after National Service in the Royal Army Education Corps and read Geography, staying on for his PhD. He emigrated to America, spending much of his career at CW Post University, Long Island, initially as Assistant Professor of Geology and later as Professor of Geography. See also News of Members.

Hawkes (1948) On 23 November 2024, Brian Michael Hawkes of Budleigh Salterton, Devonshire. Brian won a Scholarship to St Catharine's from Sherborne School and read Mathematics. He was in the Boat Club and stroked the second VIII. After graduating, he obtained a Diploma in Theology from London University. His cousin Philip Lewis (1938, Law) was also an alumnus.

High (1942) The College has learned of the death on 28 October 2018 of Bernard Desmond Arthur High of Guildford, Surrey. Bernard came to St Catharine's for the special war-time six-month Royal Engineers Army Training Course.

Hilton (1948) On 28 May 2024, Peter Holden Hilton of Lyndhurst, Hampshire. Peter won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Bury Grammar School and read Mechanical Sciences. He coxed the first VIII and rowed for the 1951 CU Coxswains' Society VIII, winning against Oxford. After graduating he worked for John Laing in Nigeria and then as a senior engineer for EWH Gifford designing commercial hovercraft. In 1969 he joined the Crown Agents (later Ministry for Overseas Development), with postings in Lebanon, Jordan, Barbados, India and Thailand before his retirement in 1984. Peter visited over 100 countries for travel and work.

Ho (1961) The College has learned of the death on 25 March 2015 of Eric Peter Ho of Sunningdale, Berkshire. Eric came to St Catharine's from the University of Hong Kong for the six-month Colonial Probation Course. Joining the Hong Kong Civil Service, he worked initially for their Inland Revenue, but was appointed Deputy Director for Commerce and Industry in 1972 and Director for Home Affairs in 1975. Posts of Secretary for Social Services and Secretary for Trade and Industry followed. He retired from the Civil Service in 1989 and became Chairman of the Public Service Commission. He was awarded a CBE in 1981.

Hockenhill (1942) The College has learned of the death on 2 April 2011 of Peter Darlington Hockenhill of Tregaron, Ceredigion, Wales. Peter came to St Catharine's from Adams Grammar School, Shropshire, and read Natural Sciences. After studying Medicine at the University of Wales followed by hospital posts at Swansea and Cardiff Royal Infirmary, in 1953 he became a GP at New Tredegar, Gwent. In 1973 he moved to Tregaron where he was GP and the Medical Officer at Tregaron Hospital. His brothers Donald (1937, NatSci) – died 1992 – and Tony (1942, MechSci) – died 2012 – were also alumni.

Horner (1942) The College has learned of the death on 25 September 2009 of John Lister Horner. John came to St Catharine's from Harrogate Grammar School and read Natural Sciences.



Climbing tea rose 'Gloire de Dijon' at St Chad's.

Hunter (1952) On 10 October 2024, Roderick James Hunter of Rayleigh, Essex. Roderick won a State Scholarship from Felsted School in 1951 and came to St Catharine's a year later to read Classics. After two years he changed to Law and then stayed for his LLB. He boxed as a featherweight for the University and won Blues in 1954, 1955 and 1956; he was University Athletics Union Featherweight Champion in 1955. He qualified as a solicitor with Prudential Assurance and was Solicitor for the Prudential Group when he retired in 1990.

Hurl (1962) The College has learned that Bryan Hurl of Salisbury, Wiltshire, died on 3 November 2016. Bryan came to St Catharine's from Sheffield University for his PGCE. He taught Geography and Economics at Cranleigh, Haileybury and Harrow whence he retired as Head of Economics in 2001. He was Editor of the 22 volumes of Heinemann's UK Economics Series from 1988 to 1998.

Hurst (1937) The College has learned of the death on 23 August 2013 of Henry Ronald Grimshaw Hurst of Tanzania. Henry came to St Catharine's from Blackpool Grammar School and read Geography. His studies were interrupted for war service in the Army after which he joined the Colonial Service. In 1962 he was appointed Permanent Secretary Ministry of Labour in Tanzania, becoming Labour Adviser in 1965 and adding Malawi to his portfolio in 1969. In 1970 he was appointed Deputy Overseas Labour Adviser at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and took over as Adviser in 1976 until his retirement in 1981.

Hutchinson (1975) In August 2024, (Robert) Glen Hutchinson of Cambridge. Glen came to St Catharine's from the Methodist College, Belfast, and read English. He left in the middle of his final year and did not return to complete his degree. For some years he worked for Arjuna, the health food company based in Cambridge. According to an article in *The Guardian* he was a performance poet.

Ilchman (1955) On 21 November 2024, Warren Frederick Ilchman of New York, USA. Warren won a Marshall Scholarship to St Catharine's from Brown University to research for his PhD in History. According to the *New York Times*, he taught at Williams College and the University of

California, Berkeley, and authored, co-authored, or edited seventeen books. He was Dean at Boston University and President of the Pratt Institute. His work in philanthropy included Asia Advisor to the Ford Foundation, Director of the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, and founding Director of the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.

Ironmonger (1957) On 3 September 2024, Duncan Standen Ironmonger of Melbourne, Australia. Duncan came to St Catharine's from Melbourne University for his PhD in Economics; he played hockey for the College. He became a division director at the Australian Bureau of Statistics and joined the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economics and Social Research as a senior research fellow, later Reader. He moved to the Department of Economics in 1992. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2013 for significant service to economics. For more details see the University of Melbourne's obituary.

James (1950) The College has learned of the death in 2017 of Herbert William James of Woking, Surrey. Herbert won a State Scholarship to St Catharine's from Cotham Grammar School, Bristol, and read Modern & Medieval Languages and Law. He joined Macfarlanes as an articled clerk and in 1956 qualified as a Solicitor. He was appointed a Partner in 1961 and became Senior Partner in 1984 until his retirement in 1987.

Johnson (1943) The College has learned of the death in 2014 of (Michael) Brian Johnson of Hereford. Brian came to St Catharine's from Bridgnorth Grammar School for the special war-time RAF Cadet Course. According to College records, he became a securities clerk for Lloyds Bank after his war service.

Johnson (1958) The College has learned of the death of Stephen Johnson of Harrogate, Yorkshire. Stephen came to St Catharine's from Kimbolton School and read Mechanical Sciences. He was Captain of the College Soccer Club.

Jones (1943) The College has learned of the death on 17 March 2016 of Frederick Geraint Jones. Frederick came to St Catharine's from Llandovery College and read Mechanical Sciences.

Jones (1952) On 1 May 2025, William John Jones of Sapporo, Japan. Willie came to St Catharine's from Hereford High School for Boys and read English. He was active in athletics (CUAC) and Captain of CU Hare & Hounds. After posts as Head of English at St Bees School Cumberland and Shrewsbury School, he studied for an MSc in Applied Linguistics at Edinburgh and in 1979 joined Hokkaido University as a Lecturer in English. He was a poet and published three volumes of verse. His brother Robert Jones (1960, NatSci) and brother-in-law Thomas Linley (1952, MechSci) are alumni.

Karsa Von Szentkiralyzabadja-Wilberforce (2006) On 4 May 2025, Charlotte Fay Ilona Karsa Von Szentkiralyzabadja-Wilberforce of Germany. Fay was awarded a Benovitch Scholarship to read Management Studies at St Catharine's in order to further her career in international management consultancy and investigative journalism.

Keyes (1962) On 27 January 2025, Graham George Keyes of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Graham came to St Catharine's from John Ruskin Grammar School, Croydon and read Theology, staying for his PGCE. He later took Master's degrees from Lancaster and Nottingham. After teaching in Cambridge, Oxford, Hastings and Suffolk, he was appointed Diocesan Religious Education Adviser at Bury St Edmunds. In the 1980s, he took curacies in Leicester and Tyneside and was Vice-Principal of the North-East Ordination Course. In 1989 he became Priest-in-Charge of St Hilda's, Newcastle, and then Team Vicar for the Christ the King Team Ministry in Newcastle diocese.

Kirkby (1965) On 14 May 2023, Roger Alexander Kirkby of Uganda. Roger came to St Catharine's from the Skinners' School, Tunbridge Wells, and read Natural Sciences (Zoology). After an MSc from the University of Wales and PhD from Cornell, he led an active and international life in the UK, Tanzania, Mexico, USA, Ecuador, Kenya, Ethiopia, and, most recently, Uganda. He spent more than 25 years working at Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical supporting agricultural development across Africa. When asked why he worked on such research, his response was: 'to help the poorest people in the world who are often farmers'.

Klein (1961) On 17 January 2024, Mordell Klein of Hendon, Barnet. Mordell won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Carmel College and read Oriental Studies. According to contemporaries, he was an eccentric character, who juggled his religious life with embracing all aspects of University life. Studying in Israel after graduating, he looked set for a rabbinic or academic life, publishing several books on Jewish themes. However, he abandoned his studies and travelled widely. A profitable deal selling surplus oil pipes to BP during the North Sea drilling boom was the foundation of a fortune which enabled him subsequently to live nomadic and carefree.

Kuruppu (1960) On 24 February 2025, Upali Srimath Kuruppu of Sri Lanka. Upali came to St Catharine's after his BSc from the University of Ceylon to research for a PhD in Control Engineering. He worked in the Engineering Faculty at Peradeniya for ten years before moving to the Ceylon College of Technology, predecessor to Moratuwa University, as Professor of Mechanical Engineering. He became Vice-Chancellor at Moratuwa. He later served as a UNESCO Fellow in Jakarta and lived briefly in Canada before returning to Sri Lanka.

Lacey (1949) The College has learned of the death on 6 July 2020 of Cecil (Ces) Frederick Lacey of Guernsey, Channel Islands. Ces came to St Catharine's from Truro Cathedral School and read History.

Lampthey (1968) On 4 September 2024, Lankwei Afadi (Richard) Lampthey of Guildford, Surrey. Richard came to St Catharine's from Dover College and read Economics. A long and illustrious career in management consultancy culminated in his becoming co-founder of global executive search company Springboard Talent.

Langford (1961) On 21 December 2024, (Alfred) John Langford of Bromley, Greater London. John came to St Catharine's from Monkton Combe School, Bath, and read Law; he was in the Boat Club as well as competing in cross country and athletics (he was later Herefordshire County Champion at half-mile

and three-mile distances). After a PGCE (History) from Bangor, he taught briefly in Herefordshire and Yorkshire before being appointed a Careers Officer for Bournemouth Education Authority and then the Inner London Education Authority. In 1990 he became Careers Consultant for Allyn's Foundation and Dulwich College. His father Alfred (1923, Agric/MedSci) was also an alumnus.

Lemons (1983) On 30 September 2024, Anthony David Lemons of Cambridge. Tony was elected a member of St Catharine's by the Governing Body in 1983. He was Director of Physical Education and Sport at Cambridge as well as coach and team manager of the University Rugby Club and Director of the Cricket and Athletics Clubs. Nationally he was Chairman of the British Student Sports Federation, on the Council of the Lawn Tennis Association and a Trustee of the Tennis Foundation. He was awarded an MBE for services to sport in 2013.

Littlewood (1931) The College has learned of the death on 1 August 2004 of Vernon Herbert Kennedy Littlewood of Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire. Vernon won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from King's School, Taunton, and read History; he played rugby for the College. He joined the Colonial Service, working in the Gold Coast until 1947 when he returned to the UK for a postgraduate course at Oriel College, Oxford. He then worked in Nyasaland (now Malawi) until 1954 and then Nigeria until 1960 when he again returned to the UK and worked for Christian Aid until his retirement in 1978.

Locke (1944) The College has learned of the death on 29 January 2014 of David John Locke of Isleworth, West London. David came to St Catharine's from Rutlish School, Merton, and read Natural Sciences. His studies were interrupted for war service in the Royal Signals and he returned in 1949 to complete his degree.

Long (1977) On 31 May 2025, Peter William Long of Chislehurst, Kent. Peter came to St Catharine's from the Perse School for Boys, Cambridge, and read Geography and Law; he played cricket, hockey (winning a Blue) and rugby. Joining Herbert Smith in 1982, he was admitted as a

solicitor in 1989 and became a Partner from 1991 to 2010. He was a finance lawyer with a wide-ranging banking practice, acting for banks and borrowers on both domestic and international financial transactions.

Lyster (1946) The College has learned of the death on 9 October 2006 of Richard Lumley John Lyster of Reading. Richard won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Harrow School and read Natural Sciences, staying on to research for a PhD. He was Secretary and President of the John Ray Society. He continued his research at Reading and worked for the National Institute for Research in Dairying.

MacCrimmon (1953) The College has learned of the death on 13 July 2017 of Padruig Rene MacCrimmon of Chard, Somerset. Paddy came to St Catharine's for the one-year Colonial Probation Course.

Mather-Lees (1959) On 8 May 2023, Stephen Hamilton Mather-Lees of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, USA. Stephen came to St Catharine's from Caterham School and read Mechanical Sciences. He developed an interest in early computer systems and set up his own company Total Digital Engineering undertaking contract work for large institutions including Fidelity Investments, Verizon and Unisys. He later became Principal Software Engineer at Heliotronics. He also had an abiding interest in space travel and cosmology, and published books on extraterrestrial life.

McLay (2018) On 18 February 2025, Mhairi Caitlin McLay of Aldwinckle, Northamptonshire. Mhairi came to St Catharine's from Oundle School and graduated with a first-class degree in Natural Sciences. While a student she sang in the Catzapella group and co-founded the online community *Head Up!* to promote the interests of young people with disabilities. After graduating, Mairi worked for the East Genomic Laboratory Hub.

Mendis (1953) On 10 October 2024, Frederick (Ricky) Germain Noel Mendis of Colombo, Sri Lanka. Ricky came to St Catharine's from St Joseph's School, Colombo, and read Law. He became a well-known businessman in Sri Lanka and was Chairman

of the Delmege Forsyth group of companies from 1978 until his retirement in 2011.

Montgomery (1949) The College has learned of the death on 20 December 2008 of George Brian Montgomery. George won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Wallasey Grammar School in 1947 and came up after National Service to read Modern & Medieval Languages and Economics.

Morley-Brown (1953) The College has learned of the death on 3 July 2020 of Alastair Morley-Brown of London. Alastair came to St Catharine's from Felsted School and read English, staying on for a fourth year to study Archaeology & Anthropology. He played College rugby and cricket, and went on to play minor counties cricket for Surrey and for his old school well into the 1980s.

Mounter (1952) The College has learned of the death on 13 October 2016 of Brian Edmund Mounter of Sleaford, Lincolnshire. Brian came to St Catharine's from Guildford Royal Grammar School and read Agriculture under the Colonial Probation scheme.

Munro (1957) On 18 June 2025, Robert Gordon Munro of Huddersfield. Robert came to St Catharine's after his BSc from Durham University to research for his PhD in Mechanical Sciences. He spent 20 years in industry as a technical and managing director mainly in the area of gearing and the design of gears. He then became a part-time consultant and academic, ending his career as Professor of Engineering at Huddersfield University.

Nicholson (1953) On 15 November 2024, Robin Buchanan Nicholson of Market Drayton, Shropshire. Robin won a State Scholarship to St Catharine's from Oundle School and read Natural Sciences, staying for his PhD, followed by a University lectureship and a Fellowship at Christ's College and was appointed Professor of Metallurgy at Manchester. He was Chief Scientific Adviser to the Cabinet Office, Chairman of Pilkington Optronics and a director of Rolls Royce and BP Amoco. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1978 and Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1980 and knighted in 1985. His father Carroll Nicholson (1927, MechSci; also 1978 Society President) – died in 1987 and his

brother Martin (1958, MML) has also died – see below; his niece Lucy Corrin (née Fetrich, 1988, Econ/History) is an alumna.

Nicholson (1958) On 23 February 2025, Martin Buchanan Nicholson of Twickenham. Martin came to St Catharine's from Oundle School and read Modern & Medieval Languages. After a postgraduate degree from Moscow University, Martin entered the Foreign Office and served in Moscow (he was expelled in 1971 in a political exchange) and Prague before returning to the UK and being seconded as an adviser on Soviet affairs to the Cabinet Office 1987–94. He served again in Moscow until 1997 and was rewarded with a CMG. See also brother Robin (1953, NatSci) immediately above for details of alumni relatives.

Norman (1989) On 9 October 2024, Anthony Mansfeldt Norman (Bursar 1989–97) of Petersfield, Hampshire. Tony came to St Catharine's as Bursar after retiring from the Navy as Rear Admiral. He took early retirement from College in 1997; see 1997 *Magazine*. Tony had various senior posts in the Navy, culminating in Director General of Naval Personnel Services immediately before joining St Catharine's.

Owusu (2020) On 16 April 2025 in a road traffic accident, Melz Owusu. An influential anti-racist and transgender activist, Melz founded the Free Black University in 2020, an initiative intending to create a radical, anti-colonial and queer space in which to reimagine higher education. Melz came to St Catharine's from Leeds University and completed his PhD in Sociology in February 2025, but sadly died before the degree could be conferred. As the Praelector explained during an *in memoriam* presentation at the Congregation in July 2025, 'his bright presence and intelligence has been much missed ever since'. See also News of Members.

Pattie (1956) On 8 October 2024, Geoffrey Edwin Pattie (1956, Law; Fellow Commoner 2005–07, Honorary Fellow 2007). See College Report for an obituary.

Pedgrift (1948) On 22 April 2022, Norman Francis Pedgrift of Bridge-of-Earn, Perthshire. Norman came to St Catharine's from Alexandra School, Beckenham, and read Geography. He was allowed

1947–48 for War Service and graduated after two years. He played College cricket and was captain of hockey. For ten years he worked in the City specialising in non-ferrous metals. In 1960 he changed career and became a teacher at Beckenham Grammar School; from 1967 until retirement in 1988 he taught at Strathallan School, Perthshire. As a hobby he ran the Forgandenny weather station for over 30 years.

Pedley (1957) On 6 October 2024, David William Pedley of Huddersfield, Yorkshire. David came to St Catharine's from Sedbergh School and read Estate Management. He played in the College 1st teams for cricket, rugby and squash. On graduating he joined Carter Jonas Chartered Surveyors' London Office, later moving to Huddersfield in 1964 and remaining there for his entire career, managing several privately owned rural estates. He became a partner and consultant for the firm and was in the Equity Partnership until 2003. His brother John (1950, Classics) is also an alumnus.

Phelps (1948) On 6 September 2024, Arthur Charles Phelps of Aldeburgh, Suffolk. Arthur came to St Catharine's from Cranleigh School, Surrey, and read Mathematics and Theology. After a year at Ridley Hall and curacies in Liverpool and Rainham, Essex, in 1960 he was appointed Minister at St James, Romford, and from 1975 Vicar/Rector at Thorpe Morieux, Brettenham and Rattlesden. He was made an Honorary Canon of St Edmundsbury Cathedral in 1989.

Pitwood (1962) The College has learned of the death on 15 October 2017 of Ian Robert Pitwood of Chelmsford. Ian came to St Catharine's from Brentwood School and read Engineering, but left after his first year. However, in that year he represented the University at athletics against Oxford. He became a Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Navy.

Porter (1954) On 5 January 2022, Dennis Dudley Porter of Amherst, Massachusetts, USA. Dennis came to St Catharine's from Chatham House Grammar School for Boys after National Service in the RAF and read Modern & Medieval Languages. After teaching briefly in France, he researched for his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley, remaining there for ten years before being

appointed to a Professorship at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1971. After retiring in his sixties, he embarked on a second career as a playwright. His plays explored tough subjects and delighted in witty humane dialogue.

Potts (1954) On 25 April 2025, (David) Malcolm Potts of Berkeley, California, USA. Malcolm came to St Catharine's from the Perse School, Cambridge, and read Natural Sciences; awarded an Exhibition and the Belfield Clarke Prize, he won a Goldsmith Scholarship to University College Hospital. He returned as a Senior Scholar in 1961 for his PhD in Anatomy. After a Fellowship at Sidney Sussex, in 1978 he joined Fairby Health International, Carolina, becoming CEO and President. He was the first holder of the Bixby chair in Population and Family Planning and founding director of the Bixby Center at the University of California, Berkeley. His alumnus brother William (1946, NatSci) died in 2012.

Reed (1951) On 5 July 2024, Robert (Robin) William Grist Reed of London. Robin came to St Catharine's from King's School, Canterbury, and read Modern & Medieval Languages. He won a Blue for boxing, and represented College and University at athletics. His career was in textiles, principally with ICI and then Klopman International, where he was Marketing Manager (Europe), before setting up as a very successful consultant. His father William (1918, MedSci) who died in 1983 was an alumnus, as is his son Chris (1976, MML).

Roberts (1963) On 4 March 2025, David John Ffoulkes Roberts of Chester. David came to St Catharine's from The King's School Chester and read English. He rowed in the Blue Boat in 1965 and captained the winning Goldie crew in 1966. He was Secretary of the College Boat Club and of CUBC. Moving to New York, he became Promotion Manager for American Express (1967–73) and Time Warner Music (1977–95). He coached crews from The King's School throughout his career, and returned as a full-time rowing coach in 2012. He is remembered for his outstanding rowing legacy and tremendous sense of humour.

Robson (1950) On 25 May 2025, Peter Norman Robson of Chichester, Sussex. Peter won an

Exhibition to St Catharine's from Manchester Grammar School and read Mathematics. He won a Blue for Lacrosse and was selected for the England team. After National Service in the RAF, he joined Pilkington Glass. His subsequent career included a partnership at Urwick Orr Consultants, Materials Director for ERF Lorries and an Officer at London Transport. He was a keen yachtsman and sailed a seagoing vessel, initially based in Scotland, later on the south coast, and he was an active member of Chichester Yacht Club.

Romain (1954) On 23 May 2021, Ralph Irving Romain of Trinidad. Ralph came to St Catharine's from Queen's Royal College, Trinidad, and read History, staying on to research for his PhD. He was an athlete and held masters-level world records at 200m and 400m. After teaching history at Medgar Evers College in New York, he became Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education in Trinidad in the 1960s. He spent two years at UNESCO in Paris in the late 1980s and then worked for the World Bank in Washington DC in their education department before retiring back to Trinidad.

Smith (1950) The College has learned of the death of Robert (Robin) Dudley Parker Smith of Kirkaldy, Fife. Robin won a Rushmore Exhibition to St Catharine's from Denstone College, Staffordshire, and read Geography. He took a Masters in Civic Design at Liverpool University and embarked on a career in town planning. He joined the Planning Department of Northampton Council and, in 1972, he was appointed Burgh Planning Officer for the Royal Burgh of Kirkaldy, Fife. His alumnus father Robert Parker-Smith (1899, History) died in 1964.

Spencer (1947) The College has learned of the death on 16 November 2018 of William Upton Spencer of Crawley, Surrey. William won a Scholarship to St Catharine's from High Pavement Secondary School, Nottinghamshire, and read English.

Taylor (1940) The College has learned of the death on 23 January 2018 of Ralph Salize Taylor. Ralph won a Scholarship to St Catharine's from Worksoop College and read Economics.

Thomas (1962) In October 2024, Gareth Beynon Thomas of Ludlow, Shropshire. Gareth

came to St Catharine's from Gowerton Boys' School, Swansea, and read Natural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine. After many years as a veterinary surgeon in general practice specialising in orthopaedic repairs with an interest in wildlife casualties, in 1991 he retired to set up the Cats Whiskers studio for freelance photography. This enterprise was very successful and was particularly known for landscape and wildlife photography.

Truscott (1956) On 27 November 2023, Jeremy Brian Truscott of Lincoln. Jeremy came to St Catharine's from Leeds University for the Colonial Probation Course; he played rugby for the College.

Waldon (1945) On 22 January 2025, Bernard (Bunny) Samuel Waldon of East Molesey, Surrey. Bunny came to St Catharine's from Jones' West Monmouth School, Pontypool, and read Modern & Medieval Languages. He played hockey, squash and rugby for the College and coxed the 5th VIII. After three years working for British Nylon Spinners, he joined the marketing and commercial arm of ICI Fibres. However, in 1979 he joined Gray's Inn and became a practising Barrister and Law Lecturer. He retired in 1992. He attended many Society events and organised tickets for Catz alumni at the annual Varsity rugby match for many years.

Wass (1944) The College has learned of the death on 17 July 2017 of Geoffrey Wass. Geoffrey came to St Catharine's from Boston Grammar School and read Mechanical Sciences.

Watkin (1984) On 15 May 2025, David Evan Watkin of London and Glasgow. David came to St Catharine's from Wells Cathedral School and read Music. He held both Choral and Instrumental Awards, and was lead cello in the National Youth Orchestra. He became a highly-respected soloist, chamber musician and orchestral leader, and was principal cello with numerous leading ensembles. His Bach cello suites received the Gramophone Award and BBC Music Magazine Award. In 2015 he retired from playing owing to scleroderma and joined the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland as Head of Strings and Professor of Chamber Music.

Wenban (1950) On 25 August 2023, Richard (Kit) Christopher Wenban of Leeds. Kit came to St Catharine's from King's School, Canterbury, and read Mechanical Sciences. He played rugby for the College. He worked for various engineering companies in Leeds, eventually becoming Managing Director of RA Jones Europak Ltd.

Willett (1946) On 13 September 2024, Geoffrey Frank Willett of Bedford. Geoff won an Exhibition to St Catharine's from Callington Grammar School, Cornwall, and read Geography. After graduating, he stayed on in Cambridge as Librarian and Map Curator at the Geography Department, then, in 1962, he was appointed Librarian at the College of Ripon and York St John until his retirement in 1984. Moving to Bedford, he became a staunch supporter of his local church, using his skills to set up the church library. He also travelled widely including Central Asia, Ethiopia and Antarctica. See also News of Members.

Williams (1953) On 11 May 2025, Peter Frederick Williams of Tavistock, Devon. Peter came to St Catharine's from Truro School after National Service and read English. He played rugby for College.

Williams (1964) On 21 February 2025, Adrian Spencer Vaughan Williams of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. Adrian came to St Catharine's from Colston's School, Bristol, and read History, staying for his PGCE. He was President of both the JCR and the May Ball Committee. After six years teaching in Wimbledon and five as Head of History at Frome College, he was appointed Deputy Head of Egguckland School, Plymouth, and then, in 1985, Head of Bury St Edmunds County Upper School. On retirement in 2005, he was appointed a Lay Canon of St Edmundsbury Cathedral. He was awarded a CBE in 2003.

Wrist (1945) On 27 December 2024. Peter Ellis Wrist of Florida, USA. Peter won a Scholarship to St Catharine's from Mirfield Grammar School, Yorkshire, and read Natural Sciences and Mathematics. In 1947 he won the Fairbairn Junior Sculls and was in the blades-winning 2nd boat; he rowed in the 1st boat in 1948 and 1949. After an MSc from Birkbeck and a Business Management degree from Harvard, he worked for the paper and pulp industry in Canada, becoming CEO and President of the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada. He was awarded a DSc by the University of British Columbia in 1993.



A detail of one of the inserted beds at the Trumpington Street end of Main Court, planted with strikingly coloured yarrow (Achillea), mixed in with Teucrium, pink campion and fragrant-leaved Helichrysum.

ST CATHARINE'S GUILD 2024

It gives me great pleasure to know that there is such a strong community of St Catharine's alumni all over the world, remembering the College in prayer and at the Eucharist. It has been lovely to hear from everyone who took the time to tell us that they remembered the College on St Catharine's Day in 2024:

- Ralph Bosman (1973, Oriental) at Passion of Christ Catholic Church, Ikéda
- Ian Corbett (1961, History) at St Leonard's, Malvern
- David Cruttenden (1967, MechSci) at St Botolph's, Cambridge
- Bevis (1956, NatSci) and Ann Cubey at Lorton, Cockermouth
- Larry Culliford (1968, MedSci) at St Andrew and St Cuthman, Steyning
- Ian Goodfellow (1958, Geog), St Eustachius, Tavistock
- Peter Hartley (1963, Theol) at St Nicholas, Blakeney
- Lester Hillman (1970, Geog) at the Chapels of St Peter ad Vincula and St John the Evangelist, London
- Rich Johnson (1995, Geog) at All Saints, Worcester
- Chris Knowles (1960, Arch & Anth), St Mary's, Roxby-cum-Risby
- David Lane (1977, Law) at All Saints', Friern Barnet
- John Mark (1959, History) at Christ Church, Hampstead
- Charles Palmer (1963, Law) at Cheam
- Richard Shakespear (1964, NatSci) at St Francis, Bourneville
- Derek Smith (1970, Theol) at St Andrew's, Holcombe
- Stephen Smith (1970, History) at Quarr Abbey, Isle of Wight
- Alan Stokes (1964, MechSci) at St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Kelso

Due to my recent arrival and a period of interim chaplaincy in Michaelmas Term 2024, some names may have been omitted from the Guild list that appeared in the previous edition of this *Magazine*. I do apologise for this and hope that the above list is all present and correct. If by any chance you have emailed or written and do not see your name on the list, or you would like to be added to the list for St Catharine's Day in 2025, please do get in touch on chaplain@caths.cam.ac.uk.

Nell Whiscombe (Fellow 2025), Chaplain

ARTICLES



The magnolia tree in Sherlock Court continues to bloom every spring.

CAMBRIDGE BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE COLLEGE

The following article is an edited version of the talks given to the Woodlark Society on 15 March 2025 and at the Society's Annual Reunion Day on 27 September 2025 by Quinton Carroll (1988, ASNaC), Head of Natural and Historic Environment, Cambridgeshire County Council.

St Catharine's College was founded in 1473 in what was then the southwestern corner of Cambridge. The College was not the first building on what we now call the Island Site, whose history is part of the wider story of Cambridge. Understanding historic land use involves using a wide array of sources, including geology and landscape features, archaeological discoveries, historical documents and historic maps. Each of these connect and intertwine to reveal the narrative of Cambridge and St Catharine's.

Cambridge is located at a specific point in the landscape, namely at the lowest crossing point on the River Cam before it enters the Fens, the area north of the city stretching to the Wash that was a vast expanse of marsh and meres before the drainage works of the post-medieval period, interspersed with occasional islands, such as Ely. The Fens was a major barrier to travel unless one had a detailed local knowledge of its everchanging watercourses and tracks.

Geologically, most of the historic core of Cambridge lies on river terrace gravels, a typically well-drained soil, popular for habitation. However there are extensive silt deposits on either side of the current Cam channel; today's river is artificially canalised and the silts show its original flood plain, which includes all the paddocks on the Backs on the western side of the Cam. Silt is a far less stable surface to build on and it explains why the western end of Kings College Chapel is lower than the eastern end. St Catharine's, though, is sensibly constructed on the gravels.

Even before it reached the Fens, the Cam was a formidable hindrance to travellers, making its few crossing points critical to trade and travel. The river itself is believed to mark the border between the Iron Age people known as the Iceni to the east and the Catuvellauni to the west. This period saw the first known settlement in the area, with farmsteads and other dwellings on the top of what is now Castle Hill.

Roman activity again centred around Castle Hill. After the suppression of the Iceni Revolt led by Boudica in AD 61, the Romans built a small fort on Castle Hill overlooking the river crossing to monitor the area. This was occupied for about 20 years before, in c. AD 120, a small town was laid out in the same place, probably named 'Duroliponte' ('the fort by the bridge'). Excavations have revealed shops, workshops, a small *mansio* (lodging for official travellers) and at least one shrine.

Duroliponte is also where several Roman roads meet on the top of the hill before descending to the Cam and splitting once more as they head for their different destinations. It is theorised that Kings Parade may have been one such road. The core of the Romano-British town, though, was the east side of the river, while there is evidence of mainly industrial activity to the west, towards Addenbrookes. Evidence too has been found on Jesus Lane underneath a Victorian terraced house for Roman burials – in Roman practice, the dead were buried outside settlements, in cemeteries lining the approach roads, and Duroliponte was no exception.

The town was always small – Roman towns in Britain generally were – and was only walled in the 4th century before being abandoned in the 5th. Post-Roman settlement is found on the western side of the Cam along Queen's Road and Grange Road. Extensive cemeteries and a few settlements have been found here. These people relied on rivers for travel, and the banks of the Cam provided space for boats to be drawn up, while the gravel geology beyond provided well drained land for settlement.

By the 8th and 9th centuries, as the focus of travel moved away from rivers and back to land routes, the Bridge Street crossing point came back into use, with evidence of settlement known on both sides of the river and onto Castle Hill. Originally called 'Grantaceastre', or 'the camp on the Granta' in a probable reference to the Roman walls, it changed to 'Grantabrygg', presumably when the bridge was rebuilt. It was here too that the Vikings overwintered in AD 874, constructing an encampment on the riverside around Bridge Street.

By the time of Domesday Book in 1086, there were ten wards with c. 400 dwellings, although c. 30 of these were destroyed to build the castle on the orders of William the Conqueror. The original castle was wooden, with a keep on the motte and moated bailey with wooden walls. This was both for speed of construction but also because building stone is rare in Cambridgeshire. Most of Roman Durolopona was constructed from wood; though stone was used for the walls. Much of this was later reused, especially in the local churches. In 1283, Edward I ordered the wooden castle structure to be torn down and replaced by a larger stone one, using limestone from the quarries near Peterborough.

It was during the 10th and 11th centuries that activity becomes apparent along Kings Parade. St Benet's church dates from 1000 to 1080. St Botolph's and Great St Mary's date c.1200 and they show the extent to which Kings Parade had become a main thoroughfare by then. The Town Charter was granted in 1207 and the University was founded in 1209.

The medieval core of Cambridge was then bounded by the 'Kings Ditch', a defensive or customs barrier – or both. This has been located in several archaeological excavations, most notably beneath Grand Arcade car park and in Sidney Sussex College, and is marked on historic maps. Its dating remains uncertain – the original ditch might have been dug as early as c.1000 or as late as c. 1220; the first firm date is 1267, when it was upgraded and strengthened by Henry III (hence its name).



Richard Lyne's map of 1574 is the earliest known complete map of Cambridge. Drawn in the form of a bird's-eye view, the map concentrates on the central area where the college buildings dominate, though the representations are not entirely accurate.

© Cambridge University Library: *Oppidum Cantebrigae* (Item no. 7 in volume SSS.12.1). Image licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 Unported License (CC-BY-NC 3.0).

It ran from the Cam near Magdalene College, and followed the lines of Park Street, Hobson Street, Grand Arcade and Pembroke Street before rejoining the Cam at Mill Lane. Despite starting and ending at the river, the U-shaped ditch, measuring 13m wide and 4m deep, does not appear to have been filled with water. There were several crossings, including the 'Trumpington Gate', which was probably located where Mill Lane joins Trumpington Street opposite St Botolph's church: Botolph is the patron saint of boundaries, trade and travel, and dedications to him are common near medieval urban gates.

This places St Catharine's at the edge of medieval Cambridge, which has consequences. Kings Ditch, although an impressive barrier, was increasingly used as an open sewer and midden and has been blamed for several of the period's plague outbreaks. Hobson's Conduit was originally constructed to bring fresh water in to flush it through, and the ditch was eventually infilled in the 19th century. But it does mean that the medieval College was not exactly located in prime territory.

Most of medieval Cambridge existed within the area bounded by the river and the Kings Ditch: by now Castle Hill was most definitely a backwater. Most of today's streets and alleys are medieval in origin, showing that Cambridge had two main roads – today's King's Parade and Bridge Street/Sidney Street – with numerous smaller roads and lanes running between them.

As with today's island site, medieval St Catharine's was bounded by four streets: Trumpingtonestrata (Trumpington Street), Smalebrigges Strata (Silver Street), Milnestrata (Queens' Lane) and Segrimeslane (almost, but not quite, Kings Lane). A Carmelite friary sat where part of Queens' College is now located off Milnestrata and Segrimeslane.

In any medieval town, the most valuable property was that fronting onto the main roads. Hence those developing the town would attempt to achieve as many street-front properties as possible, resulting in properties called burgage plots that have long thin boundaries stretching back from the street. Early Ordnance Survey mapping (especially the large scale 25 inch to a mile) shows their survival very clearly and even the map of the historic core of Cambridge from 1900 (thus predating post-War changes such as the construction of Lion Yard) show a myriad of these long, narrow plots. The buildings on the east side of Kings Parade, although mainly post-medieval in date, still retain the narrowness of the burgage plot.

The west side of Kings Parade, by contrast, is occupied by college and University buildings. However, parch marks and archaeological finds have revealed the boundaries of burgage plots on that side as well – it is quite possible that similar plots lie to the south, beneath St Catharine's, and that construction of the College simply cleared them away.

Hostels were another feature of medieval Cambridge, providing accommodation for undergraduates as the University expanded. These were essentially shared lodgings for students from all colleges. Two on Queen's Lane (the Black Bull Hostel and Le Boreshed) were on land now occupied by St Catharine's, and St Austin's Hostel lay across King's Lane. Opposite the College on the current frontage of Corpus Christi College was St Bernard's Hostel.

The 15th century saw a dramatic increase in the number of colleges, with Queens' College being founded in 1446, and King's College in 1441, with the chapel under construction for a protracted period from 1446 to 1515. Monumental architecture in the medieval period took time to complete, so when St Catharine's was founded in 1473, it would have been surrounded by the cranes, materials, noise, dust and smells of multiple construction sites.

As far as the story of Cambridge is concerned, the colleges represent the points at which major landscape change has ceased. Given the importance and significance of their buildings, it is unlikely that they will be swept away and replaced by anything else – unlike what happened in medieval Cambridge, when the area around St Catharine's was in constant flux.

Quinton Carroll (1988, ASNaC)

CHARTER DAY 550 YEARS AGO

In 2023 we celebrated the 550th anniversary of the founding of our College on the Feast of St Catharine (25 November) 1473. This year marks the 550th anniversary of our Royal Charter, which took place on Wednesday 16 August 1475, on the Feast of St Armagillus of Brittany – a relatively low-key day in the Church calendar following the previous day's Feast of the Assumption, a hugely important day of celebration, on a par with Christmas and Easter.

The sealing ceremony was witnessed on behalf of his father (who was absent fighting in France) by Edward Prince of Wales (1470–83); King of England from 9 April to 25 June 1483), the eldest son of King Edward IV (1442–83; King of England from 4 March 1461 to 3 October 1470 and again from 11 April 1471 until his death on 9 April 1483).

Given the Prince's tender age, such duties might have been scheduled for the morning. He was not yet five years old but was described as being attentive to his studies by Dominic Mancini, an Italian monk who was in England in 1482–83 and who recorded the events of the time in his letters.



The Princes in the Tower, by John Everett Millais (1878).

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'In word and deed', Mancini wrote, the Prince showed 'attainments far beyond his age ... his special knowledge of literature ... enabled him to discourse elegantly, to understand fully, and to declaim most excellently from any work whether in verse or prose that came into his hands ... he had such dignity in his whole person, and in his face such charm, that however much they might gaze, he never wearied the eyes of beholders.'

These attainments were the result of close monitoring by his father, whose set down rules for the conduct of a typical day in the life of the young prince, beginning with matins and Mass, followed by breakfast, then 'virtuous learning'. After dinner and further study, the prince was to spend the afternoon in sport, before evensong, supper and bed at eight.

His tutor was the Cambridge-educated scholar John Alcock (1430–1500), who would go on to found Jesus College in 1497. He was charged with caring for Edward's moral education as well as his intellectual development, and for making sure that no one in the Prince's household was a habitual 'swearer, brawler, backbiter, common hazarder, adulterer [or user of] words of ribaldry'.

Alcock also held the office of Lord Chancellor at the time of the Charter sealing. As Lord Chancellor, he was the formal keeper of the Great Seal of the Realm. Alcock would thus have been by the side of the Prince during the sealing, explaining the significance of the charter to him and no doubt entertaining him with the process by which the seal was made by pouring wax into a metal matrix, impressing the reverse and attaching the seal by means of ribbons to show the monarch's assent to the contents of the Charter.

All this careful tutoring came to nothing, however, because Edward V enjoyed only 47 days as king after the sudden death of his father. He was then deposed by Richard III, who seized the throne and declared Edward and his brother Richard to be illegitimate on the grounds that their father was married to somebody else at the time they were conceived. Subsequently known as 'the Princes in the Tower', they were probably suffocated at Richard III's behest shortly afterwards.

In 1674, workmen uncovered a wooden box containing the skeletons of two children at the Tower of London and it was widely assumed that these represented the remains of the royal brothers. King Charles II certainly believed so and he gave orders for the remains to be reburied in the north aisle of Henry VII's Chapel at Westminster Abbey, a short distance from where Edward V was born at Cheyneygates, over the entrance to the cloisters (of which two rooms survive).

Their marble burial urn, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, stands close to the tomb of Elizabeth I, and is inscribed (in Latin) as follows:

Here lie the remains of Edward V, King of England, and Richard, Duke of York. These brothers, being confined in the Tower of London and there stifled with pillows, were privately and meanly buried, by the order of their perfidious uncle Richard the Usurper; whose long desired and much sought-after bones, after 191 years were found in the rubble of the stairs lately leading to the Chapel of the White Tower on the 17th day of July 1674. Charles II, a most compassionate prince, pitying their severe fate, ordered these unhappy Princes to be laid amongst the monuments of their predecessors in 1678 in the 30th year of his reign.



Edward V and his brother the Duke of York in the Tower of London, by Paul Delaroche (1831).

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Retrieved from Wikimedia Commons (CCo, accessed 6 August 2025).



The Charter, setting out the legal constitution of our College, has the Great Seal of Edward IV attached on red and blue laces (the Yorkist colours). The seal shows Edward enthroned on the obverse and on horseback as a warrior on the reverse.



Back to the Charter, which might well have been drawn up in haste, judging by the variant spellings of our founder's name: in the closely packed text of 33 lines arranged in 15 paragraphs he is described as Robertus Wodelarke at the start, Roberti Wodelarke thrice in the main text and Roberto Wodelarke in the third line from the end.

This might be down to Latin grammatical niceties or conventions; or perhaps the College could not afford to pay for a top-level scribe. An idea of just how impoverished the College was in this period can be gleaned from the 1534 Royal Commission Valuation, the means by which Henry VIII began to calculate how much he could extract from the wealth of the monastic and church institutions in England and Wales. This showed St Catharine's to be at the bottom of the Cambridge league table, with assets worth a mere £39 2s 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. Trinity Hall, the next poorest, weighed in at nearly twice as much at £72 0s 10d. King's College, a willing or unknowing benefactor to St Catharine's, sat at the top with £751 7s 0d.

We don't know where the sealing took place: it might have been in Westminster Hall, the oldest part of the Palace of Westminster to have survived both the fire of 1834 and the 14 separate occasions when the Westminster Parliament building was bombed during the Blitz. As the charter was duly sealed, those present might have heard the clock described by John Stow in his *Survey of London* (1598) as being set within a stone tower and that 'striketh every hour on a great bell to be heard into the hall in sitting time of the courts, or otherwise'.

By that same tower was a fountain whose divers spouts flowed with wine at coronations and great triumphs. Alas 16 August 1475 was unlikely to have been such an occasion but now, with a Charter, St Catharine's was transformed from the personal property of the founder into a legally incorporated college within the University, empowered to hold property, at which point Robert Woodlark conveyed all the land he had acquired on which to build the College, together with property in Cambridge, Grantchester, Barton, Coton and Over.

Lester Hillman (1970, Geog) and Christopher Catling (1975, English)

JOHN ADDENBROOKE: ENLIGHTENMENT SCHOLAR

John Addenbrooke (1680–1719), remembered today (if at all) for giving his name to the University's teaching hospital, was far more than a philanthropic physician. He was a quintessential Enlightenment scholar whose books, collections and cabinet of curiosities reveal a mind fascinated by engagement with the natural world and shaped by the pursuit of knowledge. Though his personal papers were destroyed shortly before his death and no known portrait survives – a servant described him as a man 'tall, thin, and of a studious bearing' who 'wore a wig' – the library and *materia medica* cabinet he donated to St Catharine's offer a compelling portrait of one of the College's most intriguing members.



An illustration from Addenbrooke's copy of an important 17th-century work on surgery, Wilhelm Fabry's *Observationum et Curationum Chirurgicarum Centuriarum*.

the foundations of *materia medica*, the study of natural medicinal substances, their origins, preparation and uses. Beyond his formal study and academic duties, Addenbrooke joined a group of amateur naturalists and physicians – among them William Stukeley (1687–1765), the antiquary and polymath – who together explored the countryside around Cambridge. From the gravel pits of Cherry Hinton to the Gog Magog Hills and Grantchester Meadows, they collected fossils, plants and geological samples, indulging in a shared curiosity concerning the natural world.

Addenbrooke was licensed to practice medicine by the College of Physicians in 1706, allowing him to work as a doctor outside London. However, no archival records of a Cambridge medical practice survive and there is little circumstantial evidence of an active medical career. He briefly taught seven students – two of them relatives – and served as College Bursar during the construction of the Chapel. In 1710, he married Susan Fisher, niece of the Master, William Dawes (he matriculated from St John's, Oxford 1687; migrated to St Catharine's, Cambridge 1689; M.A. 1695; elected Fellow 1695; Master 1697–1714). He left Cambridge soon after, possibly spending time in France, where family tradition claims he received an MD from the University of Caen, though no record of this has been found.

Addenbrooke entered St Catharine's College in 1697 aged 16, probably intending to pursue a clerical career, following his father (a vicar) and his uncle John, who had studied at the College (admitted 1671). Admitted as a Pensioner (a self-funding student, the most common status, rather than the recipient of financial assistance), he arrived when St Catharine's was a small college engaged in an ambitious building campaign that would eventually yield the Main Court.

Addenbrooke turned instead to medicine during his university years, earning his BA in 1701/2 and MA in 1704/5, becoming a Fellow in 1704 and medical lecturer the following year. During his studies, he attended lectures by Giovanni Francesco Vighani, Cambridge's first Professor of Chemistry, learning

The archival evidence shows him reappearing in London and moving in the circles of Richard Mead (1673–1754), a prominent physician, the first Governor of London's Foundling Hospital and renowned as a collector of rare books, paintings and classical sculpture as well as zoological specimens. By 1713, declining health forced Addenbrooke to retire. He moved to Buntingford, a small Hertfordshire town, where he lived quietly until his death in 1719, aged just 39. A large ledger stone in the College antechapel suggests that he is buried nearby. In his will, he bequeathed £4,067 2s. 1¼d. (equivalent to almost £800,000 today) for establishing a 'small physிக்க hospital for poor people' in Cambridge.

In the years before his death, Addenbrooke made two remarkable gifts to St Catharine's: his medical cabinet and library. These offer a more intimate record of his mind beyond the generous financial legacy. The library, catalogued at 187 volumes in 1718, remained largely untouched for nearly two centuries. One assumes this was because St Catharine's did not teach medicine during the 18th and 19th centuries. As a result, the collection was spared the wear and loss that befell many medical libraries, and many of the College's early collections.

QUENTIN STAFFORD FRASER



A drawer from Addenbrooke's chest, containing a variety of roots and barks, mostly in their raw, or 'simple' form.

Today, 184 original volumes remain, on permanent display in the Ramsden Room. Thought for years to be a working physician's collection, it is now clear that the books reflect broader intellectual interests. More than 80 per cent of the volumes concern anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, toxicology, chemistry, surgery, microscopy and other medical subjects. Yet closer examination reveals something more expansive. For example, Addenbrooke owned a mid-16th-century Venetian copy of the works of Sophocles in an Oxford binding, a two-volume edition of Holinshed's *Chronicles* (the source for many of Shakespeare's history plays) and a copy of Newton's *Opticks*. There are volumes of Ancient Greek poetry and Latin rhetoric, and a copy of the first book on probability theory.

Addenbrooke's library is nearly pristine, containing almost no marginalia, few annotations and minimal signs of use. He appears to have avoided heavily marked second-hand copies and showed little interest in ornate bindings. He wasn't a reader seeking utility, but a collector pursuing some kind of intellectual coherence. As such, his library may record not medical necessity, but scholarly identity.

This breadth of curiosity appears even more vividly in his medical cabinet, an idiosyncratic piece of furniture designed to house substances related to the study of *Materia Medica*. At first glance, it resembles a desk, albeit a rustic one. Within are twenty-seven drawers: some shallow and subdivided into precise compartments; others deep and irregular. Five drawers hold botanical specimens, four contain minerals, one houses animal products, and several more store fossils and ethnographic objects.

QUENTIN STAFFORD FRASER



Material from the chest demonstrating Addenbrooke's interest in ethnographic material, including rare Melanesian adzes, a pectoral plate of polished basalt or jadeite, and a traditional wooden arrow tip, bound with sennit (plaited cord).

Unlike the clearly structured teaching collections at Queens' (the Vignani Cabinet made for John Francis Vignani, appointed first Professor of Chemistry at the University in 1703) or St John's (William Heberden's Cabinet of c. 1748), Addenbrooke's is more eclectic and personal. The contents reflect a blend of scientific and antiquarian interests: fossils probably gathered around Cambridge, a spiny porcupine fish with quills intact, a carved nocturnal for telling the time at night by observing the position of the stars, a French clog made of wood, and rare Melanesian items – nephrite axe heads, a pectoral plate of polished basalt and currency beads. These last artefacts are exceptionally unusual for the time and probably arrived via Dutch or English colonial Pacific networks long before Cook's voyages, which began in 1768.

Some substances certainly served teaching purposes. In 1730, Richard Bradley, Professor of Botany, published lectures citing both Addenbrooke's and Vignani's cabinets, describing *Materia Medica* substances grouped by mineral, vegetable and animal categories with their uses, origins and preparation methods. Yet Bradley makes few specific references to Addenbrooke's cabinet, suggesting its educational use may have been more limited or selective than Vignani's.

By the twentieth century, the cabinet had suffered decades of neglect. Labels had become detached or had disappeared, drawers were shuffled and the contents displaced or lost. Samples of opium, cannabis and arsenic had disappeared by the 1930s. Historian RT Gunther's assessment was discouraging: the collection had been 'seriously disarranged'. Nearly a century later, this assessment still holds. Yet even disordered, the cabinet remains a striking artefact of Enlightenment science.

Addenbrooke's collecting motivations are not fully known, but patterns emerge. His cabinet, like his library, wasn't simply about utility – it was about order and understanding. He categorised the natural world not merely for practical medical purposes, but to comprehend it, display it, share it and engage with collecting itself as a form of knowledge production. Like his contemporary Hans Sloane (1660–1753), whose vast collection of 71,000 items provided the material to found the British Museum, Addenbrooke seemed to believe that gathering and classifying could itself be a learning process, and that ordering the world, whether through books or objects, offered a pathway to understanding it.

His legacy lies not only in the hospital bearing his name, but in the intellectual vision animating both the library and cabinet, which continue to be displayed in St Catharine's today. Addenbrooke belonged to a generation who sought to catalogue the world to help comprehend it. As a caption in the British Museum's Enlightenment Gallery explains: 'during the Enlightenment, many people believed that lack of social and moral progress stemmed from ignorance about the world ... By developing new systems of classification, they sought to organise and explain it'.

Thanks to recent scholarly work, both Addenbrooke's library and cabinet have been fully catalogued to contemporary standards and are accessible to researchers, historians and students worldwide. These collections, taken together, are not merely relics but tools for teaching and research, representing the intellectual posture of a man who believed in the power of collection and classification not only to preserve knowledge, but to generate it.

John Addenbrooke remains a shadowy figure, without portrait or papers, but in the material culture he left behind, we find the contours of a mind shaped by curiosity, generosity, and a belief that knowledge, once gathered and ordered, might yet improve the world. His dual legacy, intellectual and charitable, reminds us that the best scholarship often serves both understanding and human flourishing.

Colin Higgins (Fellow 2018), Librarian, Archivist and Custodian of Art

THOMAS JARRETT AND HIS TIME AS RECTOR OF TRUNCH

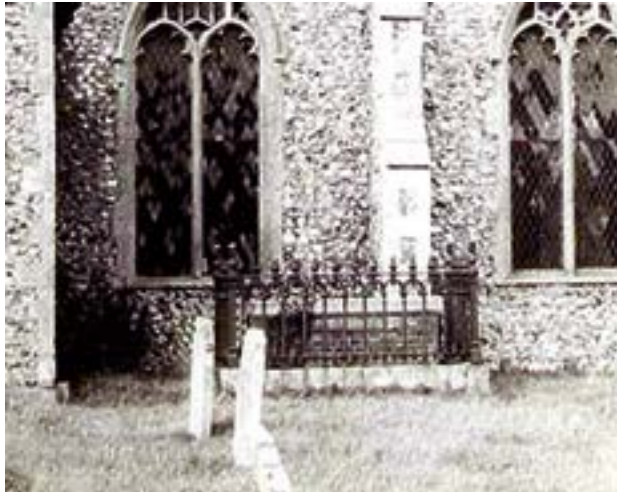
As fans of Jane Austen will know, the right to appoint the Rector of a parish to the living (and therefore receive the tithes) often went with the ownership of land. This right of 'advowson' was a legacy of the fact that many churches were built at the expense of a patron, not by the church. Technically the landowner 'presented' the candidate to the bishop, who had the right to say 'think again', but this rarely happened.

Thus it was that the Master of St Catharine's enjoyed the right of advowson in a number of parishes: Robert Woodlark donated advowson land in Coton, Fulbourn and Wilbraham to the College as part of his foundational gift, serving himself as Rector of Coton from 1471 to 1474 and then of Fulbourn from 1474 until his death at some unknown date in 1481 (Fulbourn might well be Woodlark's resting place, but no grave has ever been identified).

The Masters and Fellows continued to invest in land and livings whenever funds allowed, acquiring the advowsons of Guilden Morden, Barton and Little Shelford (Cambridgeshire), Ridgewell (Essex), Gimingham and Trunch (both in Norfolk), Marnhull (Dorset) and Newent (Gloucestershire). In each case, Fellows of St Catharine's were appointed to the livings, and in the following article, Professor John Spencer (Selwyn, 1965) reflects on the life of one such Rector, the Rev'd Thomas Jarrett (1800/01–82) of Trunch.

The breakfast table of our home in Trunch, North Norfolk, gives a view of St Botolph's church and the surrounding churchyard. Centre stage there stands an imposing altar tomb, now shorn of its original iron railings, which appears to be built of Cambridge brick. This material – at first incongruous in a Norfolk churchyard – seems appropriate in the light of the inscription on the top, which when still legible read as follows:

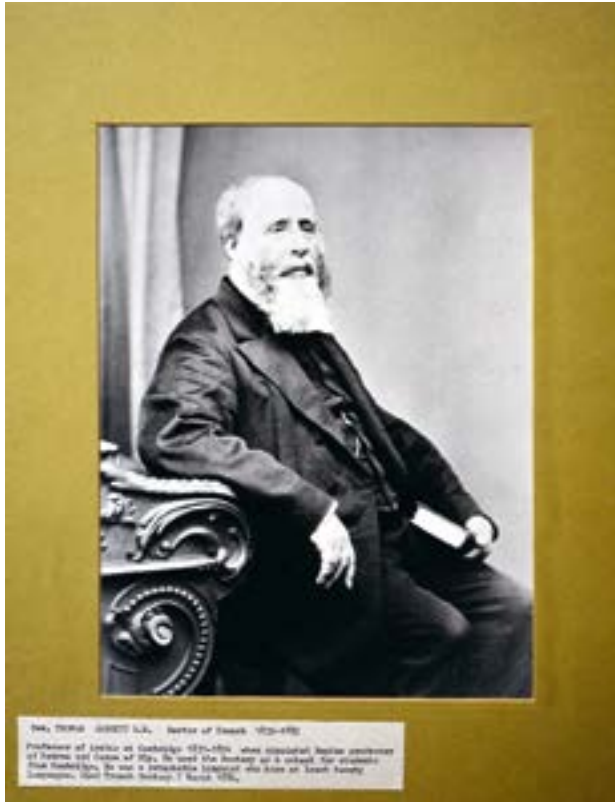
In memory of the Revd. Thomas Jarrett MA fifty years Rector of this parish, successively Professor of Arabic and Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Cambridge also Canon of Ely he died 7th March 1882 aged 81 Also of Sarah Hume wife of the Revd. Thomas Jarrett who died at Totnes July 21st 1887 aged 84.



The tomb of the Rev'd Thomas Jarrett (d. 1882) and of his second wife, Sarah (d. 1887) photographed in the 1930s, before the removal of the iron railings.

Jarrett was a Fellow of St Catharine's College, which held the gift of the living of Trunch. In those days Fellows of Colleges were not allowed to marry. For those in Holy Orders (which many were), appointment to a College living was the respectable escape route if, like Jarrett, they wished to do so. In his case the College helped him even further, because to house him and his new wife it also put up £600 – a huge sum in those days – to build him a fine new rectory. Here he and his successors lived until – to the dismay of the village – the Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance recently sold it.

Unlike College Fellows, University professors were allowed



The Rev'd Thomas Jarrett, on his appointment as Regius Professor of Hebrew and Canon of Ely in 1854.

to marry. This enabled Jarrett's connections with the University to continue through the many years that he served as Rector of Trunch. In 1831 he was elected as Professor of Arabic, a chair he held until he was elected as Regius Professor of Hebrew in 1854. As there was no retirement age in those days, he continued to hold this post until his death in 1882.

To modern eyes this looks very questionable. As rector of a Norfolk parish 85 miles north of Cambridge, how could he have carried out his University duties, particularly as there were no railways into Norfolk until 1845, so journeys had to be made on foot, on horseback or by stagecoach? And as the holder of a Cambridge chair, how could he have carried out the duties of a country parson?

On the first question, the rules about Cambridge professorships were very different at the time. In theory he might be expected to give lectures, but in practice lectures by professors in at least some subjects were seen

as optional. Most undergraduate instruction was delivered in college by tutors and college lecturers – which Jarrett had been before his election to a chair.

Insofar as Cambridge chairs carried a duty to reside, no one seems to have enforced this. In essence, a Cambridge chair was seen not as a job but as a piece of property, which the owner – the professor – could do with as he liked. Some made themselves useful in the University; others were completely idle. The *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (ODNB) tells us that Thomas Martyn (1735–1825, founder of the Linnaean Society) 'treated his professorship as a sinecure, and had ceased to live in Cambridge, or even visit it, for nearly 30 years'. Falling somewhere between the two extremes, Jarrett retreated to a Norfolk rectory, where he built up a large library, with which he spent long hours in earnest scholarship – and in teaching.

The Jarretts had no children; and so they used the empty bedrooms in the massive rectory that St Catharine's had kindly built for him to set up a private finishing school to prepare candidates for admission to the University. And from this enterprise it seems he made a considerable sum of money. An advertisement in a newspaper in 1834 informed the world that he had:

made arrangements for receiving into his family 8 pupils whom he would prepare for university. Terms per annum - above 16 with a separate room each £100. Pupils under that age £60.



The Rev'd Thomas Jarrett with his second wife in 1880.

As a hundred pounds in 1834 was worth around £16,000 today, the fees of eight pupils at these rates would have brought in the present-day equivalent of c. £100,000 a year. It must be his income from this school, rather than from his recondite writings, that made him wealthy: his estate was valued at £12,705 on his death, the equivalent of £1.5 million today. Most of his pupils at the rectory would have been Cambridge admission candidates, but some of them may well have been established students, who went to Trunch to study Arabic or Hebrew under him – or one of the many other languages that Jarrett knew.

For Jarrett was an astonishingly learned man, as is clear from the account EJ Rapston – later Professor of Sanskrit at Cambridge – gave of him for the ODNB in 1892. Jarrett began as mathematician, inventing a new system of algebraic notation, which was published 1831. He then turned his attention to languages. Rapston tells us he 'knew at least twenty languages, and taught Hebrew, Arabic, Sanskrit, Persian, Gothic, and indeed almost any language for which he could find a student'. Most or all of whom, presumably, had their lessons in the Trunch rectory.

In the 1850s Jarrett put his intellectual energies into creating a new system for bringing written English into line with the way the language is now spoken. His plan was to endow written English as traditionally spelt with a set of diacritical marks – accents or marks over or under the letters to clarify the sounds they stand for, as used in written French or German, or more elaborately in modern Turkish. In principle this would have been a simpler and more realistic scheme for making written English reflect the spoken language than some of the utopian schemes of the time designed to rationalise traditional spelling and, on the face of it, one feels it ought to have succeeded.

Sadly, Jarrett showed less intelligence in publicising the scheme that he had shown when he devised it. In 1838 he published a little book entitled 'A new way of marking the sounds of English words without change of spelling, applied in a series of progressive lessons: a book for children, teachers, and foreigners'. This might have been a useful text if his scheme had been adopted as the standard way of printing English texts, but without that, it made the task of learning to read more complicated, and to no purpose. In the preface to the book he said the system 'has been successfully used in a Village School' for several years. Presumably this was the Church of England school at Trunch, which he directed, and I suspect it was the only school that ever used it.

He then devoted most of the rest of his life to transliterating classic Hebrew, Arabic and Sanskrit texts from the original scripts into Latin characters, again elaborated with his diacritical marks – a remarkably pointless exercise, since those who wanted to study these texts in the original language would want to read them in the original script, and nobody who wished to learn how written English is correctly pronounced would ever use these texts for that purpose.

Surprisingly, some of Jarrett's transliterations were published; though unsurprisingly, his transliterations of the Koran and some important Sanskrit texts remained unpublished at his

death. This is presumably why, in a paragraph on Jarrett in his 1902 history of our College, Bishop Browne said: 'it must be confessed that his ingenuity led him into sad waste of his time and of his really solid powers'.

Unlike some contemporaries, who scandalously pocketed their parish income but never visited them, Jarrett lived in Trunch and carried out his priestly duties in person. Some letters that he wrote in 1835 to a Cambridge colleague (and that are now in the College archives) suggest that he fulfilled them conscientiously – but without enthusiasm, and with only limited success. The parish, he wrote, 'does not afford a flattering prospect'. He tried to 'preach plainly and earnestly' but, though the congregation was attentive, 'very little impression seems to have been made', and he wondered how 'I shall proceed to rouse the attention of this apathetic people?'

To his dismay the Ranters, as he called them – the derisory Anglican term for Primitive Methodists – had moved in on Trunch and were holding rival services in a barn that poached his Sunday evening congregation. He thought that, after enjoying a bit of 'wild fire', the deserters would eventually come back. It seems this did not happen. The Primitive Methodists grew and flourished and, before long, had a chapel of their own, with the usual red brick walls and tall arched windows.



The glory of Trunch church: the font canopy dates from 1502.

Like many diligent Anglicans of the time, Jarrett wanted to encourage his illiterate parishioners to learn to read and write. There had been a 'Sunday school' (in those days, classes in basic literacy for adults) but, though initially successful, it had 'quite fallen away'. The real solution to the literacy problem, he said, was a school for the children of the poor. This hope he saw fulfilled because, in the 1850s, a church school was built next door to the church (in which his book may or may not have helped advance the children's learning!).

In 1989 Joan Bain wrote *The Two Farms*, a book about her childhood in Trunch in the 1920s, when old people were still alive who remembered Jarrett's later years as rector. In those days, she said, the rector 'was looked up to as the top man of the parish and was expected to predominate in village affairs



The gilded and painted reredos behind the altar incorporates a row of shields of people and institutions connected with the church, including St Catharine's wheel, indicating that our College was patron of the living at the time it was carved in 1881, during Jarrett's rectorship.



The Cambridge brick tomb of the Rev'd Thomas Jarrett (d. 1882) and of his second wife, Sarah (d. 1887), located alongside the south porch of the church in which he was Rector for fifty years.

as well as those of the church. The influence and example of the rector and his family set the tone of the parish during his incumbency'. In the 1880s, she said:

Village morale was at a low ebb and lacked any restraining influences. An old rector was at the end of an incumbency of more than fifty years ... Strong beer was cheap, and the only recreation open to most of the village men was to get themselves blind drunk on Saturday night before they staggered home to beat up their wives.

All this changed, she went on to say, when a young new rector and his family arrived. The muscular Christian who succeeded Jarrett was William Kimm, another former Fellow of St Catharine's. Under his leadership 'the affairs of the church slowly returned to normal' and a Men's Club was formed to encourage better masculine behaviour.

However, a local paper tells us that, in 1880, when Jarrett returned to Trunch from one of his periodic stays in Ely (where, as Regius Professor of Hebrew, he was an *ex officio* canon), the church bells were rung to celebrate his return. From his photograph, it looks as if he was a kindly man, if perhaps a rather sad one. So even if he scored low marks as a village disciplinarian, it looks as if his parishioners were fond of him.

The Rev'd Percival Goodrich, one of Jarrett's successors, published a book called *The Story of Trunch* in 1939 in which he praised Jarrett's learning, but then added the surprising information that he 'had a mental illness and left the living for a time'. Sadly this is true: in 1876 the Lunacy Commissioners ruled him to be 'of unsound mind and a person not sufficient for the government of himself, his manors, messuages, lands, tenements, goods and chattels'. What form his illness took we do not know, but Jarrett eventually recovered and returned to Trunch and, in 1879 – three years before his death – he remarried, his first wife having died the year before in Weston-Super-Mare, where presumably she is buried. His second wife was a widow in her 70s, and it is her body, not his first wife's, that in the altar tomb now rests with his.

A minor puzzle about Jarrett is the precise date of his birth, and hence his age at death. All writings about him give his year of birth as 1805 but, if the information on the tomb inscription is correct he was really born in 1800 or 1801. This earlier date is corroborated by his age as given in the census returns. As people usually know when they were born, it looks as if Professor Rapston made a mistake in his piece for the ODNB, which everyone has subsequently copied.

On his death Jarrett left his valuable library to the College, for which his name is remembered every year at the Commemoration of Benefactors.

Professor John Spencer (Selwyn, 1965 Law; Reader (1991–95) and Professor (1995–2005) of Law at Cambridge, now Emeritus Professor of Law)

With grateful thanks to Professor John Baker (1971, Law; Honorary Fellow 2012), Sarah Fletcher (Deputy Librarian at St Catharine's), Peter Horsefield (for assistance with the archival photography) and local historians Dr Neville Lee and Val Dagley.

LAWNMOWER POETRY

The manicured greensward of Main Court was the surprising subject of news bulletins on ITV's 'News at Ten' in May 2025, as well as featuring on German TV's popular 'Tagesthemen' ('Topics of the Day') and in a full-page report in *The Times* on Saturday 17 May 2025. The reason for all this interest was the publication in the literary journal *Critical Quarterly* of an article by Catz postgraduate student and Harding Scholar, Francesca Gardner (2022, English), on the unlikely topic of lawnmower poetry.

Francesca's article, entitled 'Lawnmower Poetry and the Poetry of Lawnmowers' (doi.org/10.1111/criq.12818) begins by stating that 'the lawnmower is not the sexiest of subjects', itself a quote from Brian Radam's *Lawnmowers: an illustrated history*. She goes on to show that poets have found otherwise, creating a 'microgenre of lawnmower poetry' that embraces 'the pastoral and the Georgic [poetry concerned with rural life and labour], tackles themes such as violence, childhood, mortality, masculinity and the "quotidian", juggles classical and biblical contexts and negotiates binaries such as man and machine, nature and machine, the country and the city (or, more specifically and ambiguously, the country and the suburb), agency and determinism, destruction and preservation, and conflict and harmony'.

In several of the poems analysed by Francesca, the lawnmower (and its cousin, the scythe) are seen as destructive and disruptive, causing harm not only to the grass but also to creatures caught up in the blades, whether the hedgehog of Philip Larkin's poem, 'The Mower' (1979) or the nesting bird of Andrew Marvell's 'Upon Appleton House' (c. 1651).

In these and other poems that use grass cutting as a metaphor, there are religious echoes: 'All flesh is grass' says Isaiah 40:6, and in medieval iconography, death is depicted as the Grim Reaper harvesting souls with his scythe. For Andrew Marvell, the destructive scythe also stands for the evils and violence of the English Civil War. In both poems, the human mowers regret the violence resulting from their grass cutting and 'discover a capacity to be careful, sensitive and empathetic' – more at one with nature rather than seeking to triumph over it. Larkin's poem ends: 'we should be careful / Of each other, we should be kind / While there is still time' (words that were widely quoted during the COVID-19 pandemic).

According to Francesca, British poets are also interested in the lawn 'as a nostalgic space, so lawnmowers are often associated with childhood memories, especially of fathers working'. Andrew Motion's collection called 'The Mower: New & Selected Poems' (2009) begins with 'a moving elegy for his father on happy memories of him mowing the lawn'. Here the father is presented as a figure of safety, reliability and dependability, but Michael Laskey's 1999 'The Lawnmower' uses the machine to describe the opposite: fatherly 'despotism and neglect' – 'the father is so intent on mowing straight lines that he misses out on the joyful messiness of life with his children'.

Most of the poems in the paper are by recognised poets but Francesca also found examples written by amateur lawnmower enthusiasts. Tony Hopwood's parody of the hymn 'Morning Has Broken' ('Mower has broken, / Gardener's in mourning. / Missus has spoken, / Had the last word') was published in 2013 in *Grassbox*, the Old Lawnmower Club's magazine (yes, there truly is such a club, formed in 1990 to 'promote the collection, preservation and display of lawn mowers made from 1830 onwards', now with more than 800 members around the world).

In 2002, the same *Grassbox* magazine published a poem by Peggy Miller that mocks mower-obsessed men. 'A Lawnmower Widow's Lament' begins: 'I once was loved and cherished by a man who was quite handsome / But now I'm second fiddle to a Dennis or a Ransomes'.



Francesca Gardner being interviewed about her PhD research by a German TV channel on the Main Court lawn.

There is poetry too in the sounds that lawnmowers make, as captured in 'The Song of the Lawn-Mower' (1902) by Amos R Wells:

'Twas the gayest lawn-mower that ever was seen,
Its body was red and its handle was green.
It ran on the lawn for the most of the day,
And oh! how it rattled and clattered away!

with its repeated refrain:

Ke-clickety, clickety, clickety, klot!
The work, it is hard, and the day, it is hot.

Francesca's article ends by quoting Roy Mitchell's 'Ode from an Old Mower' (2002; again from *Grassbox*) in which man and mower have become one, both seeking a peaceful retirement from the constant labour needed to keep the garden beautiful:

A drop of fuel, a squish of oil
Is all I'm asking for my toil.
I've done my job for many years
I haven't caused too many tears ...
But smart new fly boys crowd the scene
And I'm a creaky old has been.

Christopher Catling (1975, English)

MY FAVOURITE HYMNS

Christians have been singing hymns since the earliest days of the Church. Pliny the Younger, the Roman governor of Bithynia and Pontus, wrote to the Emperor Trajan in AD 112 AD asking for advice on how to handle the growing number of Christians in his province. He observed that they were 'accustomed to meet on a fixed day before dawn and sing a hymn to Christ as God and then share a meal'.

Hymn singing continues to play a central role in the life of our College. In particular, the Luminaria candlelit service, sung by our Girls' Choir on alternate Tuesdays, begins with the Phos Hilaron. Dating from the 4th century and literally meaning 'Joyful Light' (also known as 'Hail Gladdening Light'), this is the oldest known hymn that is still in use.

During Easter Term 2025, College Fellows and guests were invited to share their own love of hymns by preaching a sermon on their favourites. The first of these was given on 4 May by Dr Charles Moseley, Life Fellow at Hughes Hall, Middle English tutor to many Catz undergraduates in the 1970s and 1980s, and the author of *A Joyful Noise*, a history of 24 hymn writers and their times. The following is an edited version of his sermon.

In good Cambridge fashion, let us start by defining terms. Thomas Aquinas suggests what a hymn ought to be – and perhaps too rarely is – in his *Commentary on the Psalms*: 'a hymn is to praise God in song; a song is the exultation of the mind when, dwelling on eternal things, it bursts forth in voice'. Note that Aquinas' words, translated as 'exultation' and 'burst forth', imply something emotional, spontaneous. But how can that spontaneity exist when someone else wrote the words and tune?

And choosing a favourite hymn is tricky, for hymns are words plus music working together, and sometimes one element overwhelms the other, and what is favourite one week may not be the next.

To get some sort of crossbearing on what a great hymn can do I'll start by mentioning some very unfavourite – bluntly, *dire* – examples. I was once at a Good Friday service where I was expected to sing 'We have a king who rides on a donkey', repeated three times, then 'And his name is Jesus', to the tune of 'What shall we do with a drunken sailor?'. Not much bursting forth in song and exultation there for me!

CS Lewis remarked in his autobiography *Surprised by Joy* that in the horrors of the Flanders trenches men would find comfort in lines from hymns that they'd sung at home, never really having thought about what those words meant until the world went mad. Fat lot of comfort a drunken sailor would be in those circumstances!

There is worse: my early edition of *Hymns Ancient & Modern* – a collection revolutionary in its day (1861), for the Church of England did not allow hymns in church until 1820 – has a section 'For the Young' which included one hymn (No. 258) that I mischievously suggested to my daughter for her wedding: 'I was a wandering sheep, I did not love the fold, I did not love my father's voice, I would not be controlled'.

A less extreme dislike is 'All things bright and beautiful'. Having discovered why Fanny Alexander wrote it (to explain the line 'maker of heaven and earth' in the Apostles' Creed) and for whom (children), I can forgive her. We should also acknowledge her contribution to the first edition of *Hymns A&M*, and celebrate her fine version of 'St Patrick's Breastplate', one of our most ancient poems – it is actually a spell or incantation and I nearly chose that, and Stanford's fine musical setting, for tonight.

So what, for me, *does* make a good hymn? In this mix of music and words, *both* have to work. A hymn has to be singable even by people with little ear for music, for singing together is very important to humans. It is, and always has been, a very powerful way of bonding a

community – for good or ill. Think of football and rugby chants, marching songs and sea shanties. But tunes can be a sort of analgesic, and it is well sometimes to try to get the tune out of your mind to look at the words alone: for I want my hymns to say or express something important.

One reason why I admire the work of Percy Dearmer, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Martin Shaw in compiling the *English Hymnal* (1906) is that they understood this, and I especially revere Vaughan Williams, then an unknown organist at a South London church (and an atheist to boot) who was chosen by Percy Dearmer as music editor in preference to such big names as Stanford, Parry or Stainer.

The earliest hymns we have date from the late 4th century, the time of St Ambrose. The Church was then still insecure, only having become the official religion in AD 384. The pagan altars still smoked and Christians themselves were bitterly split between those accepting the Trinitarian Nicene Creed of 325 and Arians who denied that Christ was co-eternal and of the same substance with the Father.

The hymns Ambrose wrote were superb – and above all *memorable* – summaries of Catholic doctrine, with catchy tunes. A contemporary said those tunes ‘ravished’ the people. Fundamentally his hymns are *communal* statements of belief. Much later, hymns, though still sung in community, responded to changes in sensibility and became much more emotional and personal.

No early hymnodist makes us sing in the first person, singular or plural, but after the revolution of the Middle Ages – specifically the 13th century – there is a greater stress on a personal relationship with the Saviour, and of our love for Christ and his for us, which manifests itself in an outpouring of what we call praise.

So, examples: here’s my first goosebump stimulus. Ambrose and Augustine lived in times of heady intellectual and political ferment. Their contemporary Prudentius, a major poet and polemicist, gave us one of my favourite Christmas hymns: ‘Of the Father’s heart begotten’ (*New English Hymnal* 33).

Part of a much longer poem, it is not only a fine summary of Trinitarian theology, but also a great joining with all of Creation in an outpouring of joyful praise, and in the *NEH* it is has a splendid ancient tune, recorded first in one of my favourite Reformation collections, the *Piae Cantiones* which Jaako Suomalainen, head of the Cathedral School in Turku, Finland, published in 1582. It’s a joy to sing – especially when the organist adds a few twiddly bits and the choir gets excited – and the last verse has (for me) a spine-tingling descant. You know Christmas has come to Narnia when you sing it.

But Christmastide does not last forever, and the turning year will surely bring storms: literal, emotional and intellectual. A storm on that treacherously windy lake of Galilee gave us one of the most vivid and potent anecdotes in the Gospels, with the Lord calmly asleep on the bottom boards while everyone else is in a state of panic.

I have known first-hand what anxiety a storm at sea can cause. As a youth I worked as a deckhand on the little trawlers sailing to Iceland out of Fleetwood and my very first 48 hours at sea was spent plugging into a most uncomfortable gale.

Psalm 107 got it right:

They that go down to the sea in ships, and occupy their business in
great waters;
These men see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.
For at His word the stormy wind ariseth, which lifteth up the
waves thereof.

They are carried up to the heaven, and down again to the deep.
Their soul melteth away, because of their trouble.
They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at
their wits' end.
So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, he delivereth
them out of their distress.
For He maketh the storm to cease, so that the waves thereof are
still.
Then are they glad because they are at rest; and so he bringeth
them unto the haven where they would be.

Charles Wesley – to my mind, among the finest religious poets writing in English – would have fervently endorsed these words, for his fine ‘Jesu, lover of my soul’ grew out of a serious storm at sea – and perhaps recalls that psalm too, for he was soaked in Scripture. In 1735, newly ordained, he and his brother John set off for Georgia to serve as ministers to the new colony. Their ship was the *Simmonds*, about 100 tons. Other passengers included some Moravians, refugees from persecution in Bohemia. It was midwinter, not a good time in the northern Atlantic, and the third big storm spilt the main sail and sprung the mainmast. Many of the English panicked, while the Moravians calmly sang hymns and prayed. Their deep faith, their trust in God, deeply impressed both brothers, and certainly affected their spiritual and theological paths.

Their ministry in Georgia was, bluntly, a disaster. They soon came home. Both then frequented the Moravian chapel in London’s Aldersgate Street. In 1738, both had an experience there, movingly described in John Wesley’s *Journal*, which would now be called conversion – that moment when intellectual *knowledge* becomes something you intimately *feel*: which changes for ever the way you see: like falling in love.

It was soon after this that Charles wrote ‘Jesu, lover of my soul’. His title for it was ‘In Temptation’: and one major sense of the word ‘temptation’ is nothing to do with lust for chocolate, or other things, but testing, a time of trial; and in all real trials what is tested may break, and create panic – as did some of the Wesleys’ shipmates in that storm. And at the poem’s heart is not a theological theorem, but a passionate *relationship* with the risen Lord who calmed the storm on Galilee and brought the boat safe to its haven.

John Wesley thought the poem too sentimental and gave it no tune when he published *Hymns and Sacred Songs* in 1740. We do not know to what tune it was sung originally, but alumnus John Bacchus Dykes (1843), who turned down the Chair of Music here (see the 1983 and 2024 *Magazines*) wrote for it the fine tune ‘Hollingside’.

But the tune I much prefer, and enjoy bellowing, is Parry’s ‘Aberystwyth’, of 1876, named after the recently founded University College Wales (now Aberystwyth University), where he was the first professor at the new department of music. Welsh people say it is the finest hymn tune ever written, and they might be right. You can hear the storm in Parry’s melody and harmonies; you can hear, in the four rapid notes, the billows rising to their high note pause, before they curl and break; and at the end the storm calms and the ship does glide back into the haven of its opening chord.

My long voyage, like most people’s, has seen many storms, real and metaphorical. As my weather-beaten sail now bends to shore, as my bark nears its haven, this hymn has come to mean more and more to me, and Parry’s tune in my head inflects the words with even more meaning. Which raises an interesting question: one I hinted at earlier when I mentioned how hymns have changed their function, and how they work, over the centuries. When you have dozens of people all singing someone else’s highly

personal words *in a group*, what is their relationship to the impulse, the effusion of *individual* feeling, those words describe? To the 'I' of the poem?

My thought, and experience, is that this group singing of such things can subtly change, perhaps not immediately or even quickly, from a secondary record of experience to experience itself. We borrow someone else's words to know what it is we want to say: like when we quote a favourite love poem to our beloved. The saying and the singing changes us. And the poem becomes our own.

To conclude: I nearly chose another hymn special for me, which we shall shortly sing. The great John Mason Neale (whose best-known hymn is 'Good King Wenceslas') quarried 'Jerusalem the Golden' out of a very long poem by Bernard of Cluny. Again, its grand tune, by Alexander Ewing, enhances its words of passionate longing. I have chosen it as one of the hymns for my friends to sing when in the end they mark the butt and seamark of my utmost sail. After all, I do so want people to enjoy themselves, and to ascribe to God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost, as is most justly due, all might, majesty, dominion and praise, henceforth and for evermore. Amen.

Dr Charles Moseley, Life Fellow at Hughes Hall



*In keeping with the College's Environmental Sustainability Strategy, the inserted beds are largely planted with self-seeding or perennial plants that need no irrigation and that are attractive to insects – plants such as the tall wiry stemmed *Verbena patagonica* (also known as *V. bonariensis*) with its tufts of purple nectar-rich flowers that are a magnet for bees and butterflies.*



Dr Martin Parker Dixon (Fellow 2024), thanks to his experience as a proctor for the University, was able to deputise for Professor Richard Dance (Fellow 1997) as Praelector for our May 2025 graduation procession and ceremony.

THE FELLOWSHIP

Fellows at 1 October 2025 are listed in order of seniority, following the Master and President. For Official and Professorial Fellows, the year of election to a Fellowship conferring membership of the Governing Body is shown; seniority might include previous periods as a Fellow.

* *New and returning Fellows (see the College Report for details).*

† *Inducted the following year*

Official and Professorial Fellows

Sir John Bengier, 2023, Master

Professor David Aldridge, 1997, Head of Aquatic Ecology Group; Dawson College Professor of Zoology, President

Professor Hans van de Ven, 1988, Professor of Modern Chinese History

Professor Ian Willis, 1989, Professor of Glaciology; Lambourne Fellow

Professor Sir Christopher Clark, 1990, Regius Professor of History; Ostrer Professorial Fellow in History

Professor Geoffrey Kantaris, 1990, Professor of Spanish & Portuguese

Mr Michael Kitson, 1992, University Associate Professor International in Macroeconomics and Assistant Director of the Centre for Business Research

Professor Michael Sutcliffe, 1993, Professor of Biomedical Engineering; Trevor Marwood Professorial Fellow

Professor Katharine Dell, 1996, Professor of Old Testament Literature & Theology

Dr Caroline Gonda, 1996, Glen Cavaliero Fellow, College Associate Professor in English

Professor Nora Berend, 2000, Professor of European History

Professor Richard Dance, 2001, Professor of Early English

Professor Peter Wothers, 1999, Professor of Chemistry; Rushton Fellow

Professor Mark Elliott, 1998†, Professor of Public Law

Ms Irena Borzym, 1999, Sir Harvey McGrath College Associate Professor in Mathematics

Professor Abigail Brundin, 2003, Professor of Italian

Professor Sriya Iyer, 2000, Professor of Economics and Social Science

Professor Matthew Mason, 2001, University Physiologist and Professor of Comparative Physiology; Robert Comline Fellow

Professor David Bainbridge, 2003, University Clinical Veterinary Anatomist and Professor of Veterinary Anatomy

Professor Harald Wydra, 2003, Professor of Politics; Henry Philpott College Professor in Politics

Dr Hester Lees-Jeffries, 2006, University Associate Professor in English

Dr Edward Wickham, 2006, Affiliated Lecturer in Music; Director of College Music; David Epps Fellow

Professor Gillian Carr, 2006, Professor of Conflict Archaeology & Holocaust Heritage

Professor Richard Harrison, 2006†, Professor of Earth & Planetary Materials

Professor Jeffrey Dalley, 2007, Professor of Molecular & Behavioural Neuroscience

Dr Ivan Scales, 2008, Sir Harvey McGrath College Associate Professor in Geography

Professor Simon Taylor, 2016, Management Practice Professor of Finance

Professor Stuart Althorpe, 2010, Professor of Theoretical Chemistry

Professor Stefan Marciniak, 2011, Professor of Respiratory Science and Director of the Cambridge MB/PhD programme

Professor Hazem Kandil, 2012, Professor of Political Sociology

Professor Jessica Gwynne, 2014†, Professor of Materials Science; Harold Ridgeon Fellow

Dr Yujiang River Chen, 2017, Bevil Mabe College Associate Professor

Professor Michael Nicholson, 2018, Professor of Transplant Surgery

Professor Julian Allwood, 2018, Professor of Engineering & the Environment; Dudley Robinson Professorial Fellow

Dr Valentina Caldari, 2018, College Associate Professor in History

Dr Colin Higgins, 2018, Librarian

Dr Sura Qadiri, 2018, Dawson College Associate Professor in Modern & Medieval Languages

Professor Chiara Ciccarelli, 2018, Professor of Physics

Dr Niamh Gallagher, 2018, University Associate Professor in Modern British and Irish History

Ms Helen Hayward, 2019, Operations Director

Dr Varun Warriar, 2019, University Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Ms Nicola Robert, 2019, Bursar

Professor Pierre Raphaël, 2019, Herchel Smith Professor of Pure Mathematics; Nicholas Handy Fellow

Dr Peter Candy, 2022, University Assistant Professor in Civil Law

Professor Rahul Roychoudhuri, 2020, Professor of Pathology

Dr Holly Canuto, 2020, Director of Education (Medical and Veterinary Sciences Triposes) in the School of the Biological Sciences; Senior Tutor

Dr Andrzej Szewczak-Harris, 2020, Associate Teaching Professor of Pharmacology

Dr Liana Chua, 2021, University Assistant Professor in Malay World Studies

Dr Noriko Amano-Patiño, 2021, University Assistant Professor in Economics

Dr Hend Hanafy, 2021, University Assistant Professor in Criminal Law; Tom Ivory Fellow

Dr Mikhail Safronov, 2022, University Assistant Professor in Economics

Dr Nisha Nixon, 2022†, Academic Clinical Fellow in Ophthalmology

Professor Colm Durkan, 2022, Professor of Nanoengineering Science

Ms Catherine Twilley, 2023, Development Director

Professor Adrian Liston, 2023, Professor of Pathology

Dr Pablo Olmos, 2023, Teaching and Research Fellow in Economics; Bibby Fellow

Dr Doriane Zerka, 2023, University Assistant Professor in Medieval German Literature

Professor Matthew Gaunt, 2023, 1702 Yusuf Hamied Professor of Chemistry

Professor Dennis Grube, 2023, Professor of Politics and Public Policy

Dr Simon Richardson, 2024, Senior Clinical Research Associate; Honorary Consultant Haematologist

***Dr Martin Parker Dixon**, 2024, Deputy Senior Tutor

***Dr Hannah Pinnock**, 2025, Fellow in Veterinary Medicine

***The Rev'd Nell Whiscombe**, 2025, Chaplain

***Dr Sebastian Raza**, 2025, Teaching Associate, Department of Sociology

***Professor Anne Willis**, 2025, Director of the Medical Research Council Toxicology Unit and Professor of Toxicology

***Dr Andrew Sagar**, 2025, Teaching and Research Fellow in Law; Baker-Fellingham Fellow

***Professor Tim Dalglish**, 2025, Dawson Professor of Young People's Mental Health; Dawson Fellow in Young People's Mental Health

Research Fellows

Dr Jan Huertas Martin, 2023, Junior Research Fellow in Chemistry



Bee enjoying gardens at St Chad's.

Honorary Fellows

- Professor Kai Erikson**, 1973
Sir Ian McKellen, 1982
Sir Terence English (Master 1993–2000), 1992
Mr James Wright (Fellow 1978–91), 1992
Professor Barry Supple (Master 1984–93), 1993
Professor Tao Soon Cham, 1996
Professor Sir Jonathan Bate, 2001
Mr Jeremy Paxman, 2001
Mr Richard Smethurst, 2001
Professor David Ingram (Master 2000–06), 2006
Professor Sir Richard Gardner, 2007
Professor Charles Higham, 2008
Sir Emyr Jones Parry, 2008
Sir Nicholas Penny, 2009
Professor Haro Bedelian, 2010
Professor Sir Peter Barnes, 2011
Professor Sir John Baker (Fellow 1971–2011, Emeritus 2011), 2012
Professor Arnoldus Blix, 2012
The Rt Hon. The Baroness Fairhead of Yarm, 2012
Dr Joanne Harris, 2012
Sir Harvey McGrath (Fellow Commoner 2004–13), 2013
Sir David Harding, 2013
Professor Robert Saxton, 2015
Professor Dame Sarah Springman, 2015
Mr Nigel Hess, 2016
Professor David Armitage, 2016
Professor Dame Jean Thomas (Master 2007–16), 2017
Professor John Shelton Reed (Fellow 1996–97), 2017
Mrs Elaine Ng, 2018
Professor Helen Small (Research Fellow 1990–93), 2018
Professor Daniella Tilbury, 2018
Mr Peter Dawson (Fellow Commoner 2016–19), 2019
Mrs Christina Dawson (Fellow Commoner 2016–19), 2019
Professor Yuri Oganessian, 2019
Dr Roger Harrabin, 2020†
Mr John Hooper, 2021
Mr Malcolm Martineau, 2021
Professor Johan Bolhuis, 2022
Mr John Harvey, 2022
Mr Jonathan Scott, 2022
Sir Tim Waterstone, 2022
The Rt Hon. Lord Justice (Sir Mark) Horner, 2023
Professor Sir Mark Welland, (Master 2016–23), 2023
Professor Bill Sutherland, (Fellow 2008–23), 2024
Mr David Isaac, 2024
Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock, 2024
***Dr Jenni Gibbons**, (Fellow 2016–24), 2024
***The Very Rev'd Mark Bonney**, 2024
***Professor Douglas Moggach**, 2025

Emeritus Fellows

Professor Alan Beardon (Fellow 1968), 1987
Dr David Keeble (Fellow 1964), 2000
Professor Paul Raithby (Fellow 1983), 2000
Dr Michael Message (Fellow 1962), 2002
Dr John Thompson (Fellow 1971), 2006
Professor David Pyle (Fellow 1989), 2006
Professor Donald Broom (Fellow 1987), 2009
Professor Robert Bennett (Fellow 1996), 2011
Professor Richard Barnes (Fellow 1978), 2011
Professor Robert Gordon (Fellow 1995), 2012
Professor John Pickard (Fellow 1990), 2013
Professor Kevin Dalton (Fellow 1997), 2014
Professor Ron Martin (Fellow 1974), 2015
Dr John Little (Fellow 1980), 2016
Professor John Pyle (Fellow 1986), 2018
Dr Patrick Palmer (Fellow 1987), 2018
Dr Robert Wardy (Fellow 1984), 2019
Dr Paul Hartle (Fellow 1977), 2019
Dr John Xuereb (Fellow 1994), 2020
Professor Peter Tyler (Fellow 1983), 2020
Professor Anthony Davenport (Fellow 1995),
2023
Dr Sergei Taraskin (Fellow 2002), 2023
Dr Rose Melikan (Fellow 1993), 2024
Professor Eilis Ferran (Fellow 1987), 2024

Fellow Commoners

Mr Roger Stratford, 1992
Lady Morven Heller, 2003
Mr Guy Beringer, 2008
Mr Herb Bate, 2009
Mr Philip Bowring, 2009
Mr Mark Richer, 2009

The Rt Hon. The Lord Horam of Grimsargh,
2010

Mr Timothy Adams, 2011
Professor Tony Watts, 2014
Mr John Endicott, 2015
Mr Neil Ostrer, 2016
Mr Mark Humphries, 2016
The Rt Hon. The Lord Browne of Ladyton, 2019
Dr Lyn Welland (Lady Welland), 2020
Mr Garrett Curran, 2023
Mrs Tina Patel, 2023
Mr William Paul, 2023

Bye-Fellows

Dr Deepshikha Acharya, 2024
Dr Eric Brewster, 2024
Dr Wayne Boucher, 2024
Dr Richard Chapling, 2024
Dr George Fortune, 2024
Dr Joanna Krupka, 2024
Dr Yin-Wei Kuo, 2024
Dr Denis Lacabanne, 2024
Dr James Lello, 2024
Dr Francesca Moore, 2024
Dr Catherine O'Brien, 2024
Dr James Olsen, 2024
Dr Joao Rodrigues, 2024
Dr Felix Waldmann, 2024
Dr Andrea Chlebikova, 2025
Dr John Fawcett, 2025
Dr Rebecca Fell, 2025
Dr David Khachaturov, 2025
Dr Anna Lefteratou, 2025
Dr Cassie Lowe, 2025



*The wildflower beds at St Chad's are at their best in May and June: this colourful mix includes ox-eye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), catchfly (*Lychnis viscaria*), hedge bedstraw (*Galium mollugo*) and deep purple (*Salvia nemerosa*).*

MATRICULANDS

Matriculated on 8 October 2024

- Alderwish, Zayn**, Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion
Althaus, Lucas, Natural Sciences
Anthony, Bertie, Economics
Anto, Ashleya, Medical Sciences
Arun, Brinda, Human, Social and Political Sciences
Asad, Aleena, Law
Baillieu, Francesca, History
Bateson, William, Classics
Baylis, Phoenix, Natural Sciences
Behr, Edie, Modern and Medieval Languages
Ben Mesbah, Elias, Engineering
Blackbird, Luke, Geography
Booker, Alice, Geography
Bower, Charlotte, Land Economy
Brahma, Lakshmidhar, Engineering
Brown, Locky, Mathematics
Bunkle, Joe, Geography
Burleigh, Flora, Psychology and Behavioural Sciences
Carter, Alex, History and Modern Languages
Carter, Alex, Mathematics
Challacombe, Freddie, Medical Sciences
Chan, Tania, Law
Cheong, Josh, Modern and Medieval Languages
Cochrane, Cara, Natural Sciences
Collins, Millie, Natural Sciences
Copas, Rosabella, History
Crook, Rachel, English
Crosbie, Aaron, Computer Science
Cunningham, Daniel, Economics
Devinani, Srija, Economics
Devlin, John, Engineering
Dey, Krittika, Economics
Dicson, Jamie, Medical Sciences
Evans, Tabitha, Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion
Fernandes, Xavier, Philosophy
Furness, Emma, Veterinary Sciences
Gallagher, Erin, Natural Sciences
Gill, Anais, Geography
Goraieb-Seaborn, Xavier, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
Green, Daniel, Natural Sciences
Hall, Arlo, Archaeology
Han, Yuchen, Natural Sciences
Hardin, Joey, Music
Harris-Robinson, Ant, Law
Herberg, Talia, Modern and Medieval Languages
Howarth, Jude, Law
Huang, Yun, Natural Sciences
Islam, Nailah, Human, Social and Political Sciences
Iudintseva, Sofia, Economics
Julka, Kenesha, Medical Sciences
Kalam, Abdul-Aziz, Medical Sciences
Kenny, Elizabeth, Modern and Medieval Languages
Kong, U, Mathematics
Koul, Lakshya, Medical Sciences
Kuang, Thomas, Natural Sciences
Lashua, Alice, Geography
Lawson, Theo, Mathematics
Lee, Emilee, Psychology and Behavioural Sciences
Lee, Isabel, Music
Levy, Charlie, Natural Sciences
Li, Evelyn, Natural Sciences
Linnane, Lucas, Geography
Lipton, Minna, Human, Social and Political Sciences
Liu, Jianqi, Mathematics
Liu, Zengrui, Natural Sciences
Luxford, Alicia, Engineering
Magee, Jessica, Law
Makharia, Rahul, Medical Sciences
Manoharan, Shakthi, Economics
Marlow, Evie, Geography
Mayfield, Scarlett, Modern and Medieval Languages
Megilley, Izzy, English
Mezzanotte, Mia, Natural Sciences
Mohammed, Imran, Engineering
Montgomery, Millie, History
Moraes, Andre, Engineering
Morgan, Jen, Human, Social and Political Sciences
Muzammel, Isha, Medical Sciences
Nettleton, Iestyn, Natural Sciences
Ng, Yu Hung, Natural Sciences
Nimmo, Alex, Engineering
Oladele, Sarah, Law
Omoyele, Venus, Land Economy
Osbourne, Lola, History
Osman, Babikir, Natural Sciences
Packer, Michael, Engineering
Patel, Sunay, Economics
Peaty, Eve, English
Pettit, Felicity, Medical Sciences
Pollard, Charlotte, Veterinary Sciences
Puski, Kevin, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
Pykhtin, David, Mathematics



2024 Matriculands.

- Qiu, Thomas**, Natural Sciences
Randall, Ruby, English
Rogers, Dominic, Natural Sciences
Rose, Charlie, Music
Rudd, Freddie, History
Rutter, Alex, Philosophy
Satheeshkumar, Thasaangan, Medical Sciences
Scott, Isabella, Veterinary Sciences
Shant, Shiv, Law
Sharma, Aarushi, Psychology and Behavioural Sciences
Shield, Isobel, Geography
Silk, Emilie, Engineering
Smith, Jacob, English
Starbuck, Evelyn, Medical Sciences
Sureshkumar, Kevin, Mathematics
Szumielewicz, Weronika, Geography
Tailor, Kush, History
Tait, Joe, Engineering
Tang, Andy, Mathematics
Thomas Giles, Mia, Human, Social and Political Sciences
Tingley, Ella, Engineering
Tsang, Ephen, Natural Sciences
Turner, Emily, English
Tye, Nathan, Law
van Winden, Maarten, Natural Sciences
Vashisht-Pigem, Rahul, Natural Sciences
Wang, Shuya, Natural Sciences
Warren, Alex, Engineering
Whitmore, Tia, Law
Wooler, Millie, English
Ye, Steven, Natural Sciences
Zamil, Zarah, History and Politics
Zhang, Bolun, Natural Sciences
Zhang, Chenxi, Mathematics
Zhang, Allan, Human, Social and Political Sciences
Zhang, Copper, Mathematics
Zhao, Kristin, Mathematics
Zhen, John, Computer Science
Zheng, Eason, Natural Sciences
Zhou, David, Economics
Zhu, Cherry, Engineering

NEW POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

These students matriculated during academic year 2024–25

- Abdullah, Muhammad Farhan Shahmi**, MPhil in Sociology
Adams, Sarah Louise, MPhil in Biological Science
Akrasi, Michael Gyapong, MPhil in Conservation Leadership
Alabrune, Victor, Master of Finance
Al Gasem, Khalid, Global Executive MBA
Ali, Hassan, Executive MBA
Aponte, Mateo, MBA
Arrais Pacheco, Miguel, PhD in History of Art
Aunger, Sarah, PhD in Clinical Neurosciences
Baban, Maxim, MBA
Baker, Harriet, PhD Radiology
Baksys, Mantas, Certificate of Postgraduate Study in Computer Science
Baldizon Diaz, Roberto, Global Executive MBA
Behrens, Saskia, MPhil in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic
Beltrame, Rinaldo, Master of Finance
Bentall, Lucy, PhD in Plant Sciences
Bentham-Clark, Isabella, MPhil in Basic and Translational Neuroscience
Berlingieri, Angelo, MBA
Boey, Jia Ning, MPhil in Environmental Policy

- Bold, Bujinlkhamb**, Global Executive MBA
Braga Calais Correia Pinto, Julian, Global Executive MBA
Breus, Andrew, Executive MBA
Broadfoot, Joshua, PhD in Pharmacology
Burgess, Iain, Executive MBA
Burns, Sydney, MPhil in English Studies
Busari, Hauwa, MPhil in Architecture and Urban Studies
Chen, Zheng, MPhil in Environmental Policy
Chen, Shan Shan, Global Executive MBA
Chew, Elizabeth, PhD in Physiology, Development and Neuroscience
Chiang, Kang Pey, Executive MBA
Choudhury, Mohammed, PhD in Engineering
Cinamon Nair, Yamini, PhD in Politics and International Studies
Colomer I Ferrer, Oriol, PhD in Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
Cook, Benjamin, MBA
Cross, Amy Elizabeth, PhD Pathology
Dack, Jonathan, Global Executive MBA
Davidson, Abbie, PHD in Physics
Doan, Ngoc Anh, MPhil in Data Intensive Science
Domanski, Lukasz, PhD in Physics
Dorman, Catherine, MBA
Doyle, Connor, PhD in Physiology, Development and Neuroscience
Dundee, Rachel, PGCE in English
Eland, Floris Hendrik, MBA
Emanuel, Lucy, PhD in Archaeology
Eriksson, Hanna, MPhil in Finance
Farrugia, Quinn, MBA
Fischer, Lisa, Master of Law
Foschia, Ella, PhD in History
Fu, Die, Master of Finance
Gao, Chang, MBA
Gasior, Tomasz, Global Executive MBA
Ginnis, Jack, PhD in Materials Science
Gnanapragasam, Karthikesh, MBA
Goh, Ze Kai Aldric, PhD in Engineering
Gondal, Fahd, Global Executive MBA
Goolcharan, Sharda, Master of Finance
Goswami, Aditi, Global Executive MBA
Griffiths, Isobel, Global Executive MBA
Guan, Ziyao, MBA
Guo, Betty, Master of Finance
Harrison, Eugene, MBA
Harun, Meraaj, Master of Architecture
Hernaes, Iker, MPhil in Management
Hill, Arthur, MPhil in Polar Studies
Holtmann, Tobias, Master of Finance
Horwitz, Luisa Maria, MBA
Howe, Alexandra, MPhil in Film & Screen Studies
Hu, Wanli, MBA
Hu, Xinwen, MPhil in Bio Sciences
Indrawan, Yohannes Glenn, MBA
Jain, Tanya, MBA
Jain, Utsav, MBA
Jaruwattanasakul, Orranat, MBA
Jenkins, Olivia, MBA
Kalmijn, Mieke, MPhil in Data Intensive Science
Kisvárdai, Imre, MPhil in Planetary Science and Life in the Universe
Kok, Hall Yiu, MPhil in Biological Sciences
Knowles, Harvey, MPhil in Early Modern History
Lam, Chak, Executive Master of Accounting
Lasnier, Pascal, MPhil in Advanced Computer Science
Lau, Pierre, MPhil in Nuclear Energy
Lau, Wing Keung, Global Executive MBA
Lee, Kyoungmin, MBA
Lester, Stephanie, Master of Law
Li, Peiju, Master of Finance
Li, Victor Wei Te, MBA
Lim, Wen Kin, PhD in Biological Sciences
Liu, Lina, Executive Master of Accounting
Liu, Xianchun, MPhil in Planning Growth and Regulations
Lockwood, Emma, MPhil in Population Health Science
Longworth, Jay, Executive MBA
Lorusso Notaro Francesco, Agustin, PhD in Chemistry
Lu, Sijie, Master of Philosophy in Innovation, Strategy, and Organization
Lubis, Bachrum, Master of Finance
Lucas, Jack, MAsT in Pure Mathematics
Luo, Anna, Master of Finance
Maharaj, Vivek, Executive Master of Accounting
Mahmud Bin Harun, Chowdhury, MBA
Mangan, Annabel, MPhil in Real Estate Finance
Mao, Tianyuan, MBA
Marshall, Jacob, MPhil in Sociology
Meng, Xinyi, MPhil in Architecture and Urban Studies
Mugford, Angus, Global Executive MBA
Muhamad, Irawan, MPhil in Technology Policy
Muhammad Hatta, Muhammad Hazwan bin, Global Executive MBA
Munyiri, Akola, Master of Law
Murphy, Daniel, Master of Finance
Nagy, Salma, PhD in Sociology
Naidoo, Kavendra, Global Executive MBA
Nakoula, Julnar, MPhil in Biotechnology
Neuendorf, Elias, MBA
Nguyen, Van Quynh, MBA
Nickel, Kyle, PhD in Biological Sciences



Postgraduate matriculation, October 2024.

Noordeen, Mohammed, Global Executive MBA

Norbu, Namsay, MBA

Norman, Nicholas, MBA

Nwagwu, Kelvin, Master of Finance

O'Callaghan, Oisín, Executive MBA

Offner, Claudia, PhD in Geography

Paredes Valderrama, Álvaro, PhD in Sociology

Parfit, Benedict, Global Executive MBA

Passolt, Daniela, Executive MBA

Paul, Sourodip, MBA

Pei Ern, Cheah, Advanced Diploma in Economics

Pescod, Haylee, PhD English

Peverelli, Marta, PhD in Medicine

Philip, Joanna, MBA

Pinyotamanotai, Racha, MBA

Poon, Jessica, MPhil in Polar Studies

Qasim, Nageen, Global Executive MBA

Ramaswamy, Suchitra, Executive MBA

Rivero Cruells, Juan Carlos, MBA

Rowntree, Esther, MPhil in Biological Sciences

Şahin, Silanur, MBA

Saigol, Tania, Executive MBA

Saillez, Mats, MPhil in Energy Technologies

Sajwani, Malik, Master of Finance

Sari Putri, Yvonne, MBA

Sear, James, MPhil in Quantitative Climate and Environmental Science

See, Zheng Hong, PhD Law

Sengupta, Anirudha, Executive MBA

Sinha, Prakruti, Executive MBA

Shan Bai, Alex, MBA

Sheehan, Robert, Global Executive MBA

Shonchhatra, Rikhil, Executive Master of Accounting

Stothard, Lucy, PhD in Classics

Su, Yu-Heng, MBA

Tagg, Helena, MPhil in Bio Sciences

Tang, Kai Yin, Global Executive MBA

Tang, Si Jie, PhD in Pathology

Thakrar, Deepak, Executive MBA

Thawait, Anjali, Master of Finance

Thomas, James, MPhil in Finance and Economics

Trinh, Quang Manh, MBA

Tsereteli, Nikoloz, MBA

Uota, Allara Reddan, MBA

Vanoni, Rashid, Global Executive MBA

Vasandani, Noopur, Master of Finance

Verma, Ayush, MPhil in Development Studies

Virga, Elianna, Executive Master of Accounting

Wagh, Pallavi, Global Executive MBA

Wang, Haiqing, MBA

Wang, Ke, Master of Finance

Wang, Lena, PhD in Philosophy

Wang, Xingkai, MRes in Photonic and Electric Systems

Wee, Ervin, MBA

Whitehead, Emilia, MPhil in Classics

Wong, Yit Xiang, MPhil in Development Studies

Wu, Jiayi, MPhil in Economics

Xiao, Naicheng, MPhil in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic

Xiaowei, Zhu, Executive MBA

Xiong, Yuxi, MPhil in Planning, Growth and Regeneration

Xu, Zhitong, MPhil in Sociology

Yang, Shixian, Master of Finance

Ye, Jing, Executive MBA

Ye, Xiaoqi, Global Executive MBA

Yin, Yijing, MBA

Yip, Esther, PhD in Education

Yu, Kuangyi, MPhil in Real Estate Finance

Zhang, Lingqing, MPhil in Economics

Zhang, Shiman, MBA

Zhu, Xiaowei, Executive MBA

Zubizarreta Rodriguez, Jose Francisco, MBA

Zurowski, Maciej, PhD in Genetics

COLLEGE PRIZES AND AWARDS

The following awards and prizes were awarded by St Catharine's in recognition of students' exceptional achievements in 2024–25.

Anthropology and Archaeology Prize

Rippengal Memorial Prize: Emma Chandler (2022, HSPS)

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Prize

Jarrett Prize: Georgia Turner (2021, AMES)

Classics Prizes

Lacey Prize: Elizabeth Lepley (2023, Classics)

Palmer Prize: Helen Brookes (2022, Classics)

Economics Prizes

New Horizon Global Prize: Sunay Patel (2024, Econ), Krittika Dey (2024, Econ), David Zhou (2024, Econ), Bertie Anthony (2024, Econ)

Rasa Prize Fund: Charlie O'Brien (2022, Econ)

RS Sayers Prize: Aman Akram (2023, Econ)

Engineering Prizes

Alexandria Prize: Cherry Zhu (2024, Engrng)

Birfield Memorial Scholarship: Joe Barney (2021, Engrng), Harris Bond (2022, Engrng), Anna Ritschl Ebell (2022, Engrng), Iain Lam (2022, Engrng), Oscar Newall (2022, Engrng), Emilie Silk, (2024, Engrng), Joe Tait (2024, Engrng)

Engineering Members' Prize: Rhu Ming Chan (2023, Engrng), Finn Dovey (2023, Engrng)

English Prizes

TR Henn Prize: Lucy Birch (2022, English), Eve Connor (2022, English), Juliette Gilchrist (2022, English), Phoebe Webb (2022, English)

Geography Prizes

William Balchin Prize: Joe Bunkle (2024, Geog),

Gus Caesar Prize: Joe Bunkle (2024, Geog), Alice Clarke (2022, Geog), Samuel English (2023, Geog)

Stephen Hinchliffe Dissertation Prize:

Alice Clarke (2022, Geog)

History Prizes

Figgis Memorial Prize: Francesca Baillieu (2024, History)

Ivo Forde Prize: Freddie Ogilvie (2023, History), Shirav Medepalli (2023, History)

Law Prizes

Adderley Prize: Samuel Soh (2022, Law)

Kemp-Gooderson Prize: Conall Fowler (2022, Law), Kriti Virmani (2022, Law), Shreya Tewari (2023, Law)

Lauterpacht Prize in International Law: Lisa Fischer (2024, Law)

Mooting Prize: Jude Howarth (2024, Law), Taina Chan (2024, Law)

Gooderson Memorial Award: Ellie Cowley (2002, Law), Connall Fowler (2022, Law), Saskia Shakos (2022, Law), Frankie Shepley (2022, Law), Kriti Virmani (2022, Law)



ALLY BARRETT

The magnificent ceanothus growing against the railings at the Trumpington Street end of Main Court are covered in powder-blue flowers in spring. Beyond are the two beech trees that were planted in front of the College gates in 1968.

Mathematics Prizes

TW Armour Prize: Rahul Kesavan (2023, Maths), Jianqi Liu (2024, Maths), Leo Reddy (2022, Mathematics)

Drury-Johns Prize: Hangzhi Wang (2021, Maths)

Medicine Prizes

John Addenbrooke Medical Prize: Adrian Ngai (2019, MedSci), Jessica Nwigwe (2022, MedSci), Tom Sardesi, (2019, MedSci), Mary Smolkova (2019, MedSci)

Medieval and Modern Languages Prizes

Sean Mulherin Prize: Alice Blundell (2023, MML), Libby James (2023, MML)

Posener Memorial Prize: Doa Acikgun (2021, MML), Cara Bossom (2023, MML), Molly Howard (2021, MML), Georgia Turner (2021, AMES), Rachel Whiteley (2021, MML), Jermaine Wong (2021, MML)

Tasker Prize: Cara Bossom (2023, MML), Jess Palfreyman (2023, MML)

Music Prizes

Dorothy Kolbert Prize: Rosanna Fenn Parente (2023, Music)

Karen Kerslake Memorial Prize for College Music: Jess Palfreyman (2023, MML)

HH Hull Award for Outstanding Contribution to College Instrumental or Vocal Music: Skye Elliot (2022, CompSci)

Peter Le Huray Prize: John Zhang (2022, Music)

Weaver Prize for Choral Music: Edie Behr (2024, MML)

Natural Sciences Prizes

Alan Battersby Prize in Chemistry or in Biochemistry: Marton Szabo (2023, NatSci)

Belfield Clarke Prize in Biological Sciences: Lizzie Grace (2021, NatSci)

James Brimlow Prize in Chemistry: Xunxu Kuang (2024, NatSci), Yu Hung Ng (2024, NatSci)

Robert Comline Prize in Systems Physiology: Alice Sparks (2022, NatSci)

Ray Driver Prize in Chemistry: Nestor Novakovic (2023, NatSci)

John Spencer Wilson Prize in Natural Sciences: Kei Fung Chan (2022, NatSci), Izzie Clowry (2021, NatSci), Millie Collins (2024, NatSci), Cameron Deverill (2023, NatSci), Christopher Leung (2023, NatSci), Evelyn Li (2024, NatSci), Jessica Nwigwe (2022, MedSci), Bolun Zhang (2024, NatSci)

Theology Prizes

Cuthbert Casson Prize: Ammie Vudathu (2021, Theol)

Corrie Prize: Dan Possener (2022, Theol)

Veterinary Medicine Prizes

Stéphane Francis Prize: Emma Furness (2024, VetMed), Brychan Thomas (2022, VetMed)

Daniel Owen Morgan Prize: Anna Hergenhan (2022, VetMed), Esha Patel (2023, VetMed)

Additional Prizes

Arthur Andersen Prize: Mary Woodfear (2022, VetMed) for examination performance in Management Studies Tripos

RS Briggs for Outstanding Tripos Performance: Joe Bunkle (2024, Geog), Freddie Challacombe (2024, MedSci), Brychan Thomas (2022, VetMed)

Hutcherson Prize for Outstanding Tripos Performance: Hayden Bedford (2021, ASNaC)

Lamont Prize for Leadership: Poppy Jo Lee (2022, HSPS)

Master's Sizar Award: Lauren Bennett (2023, Archaeol), Cara Bossom (2023, MML), Samia Rashid (2022, Classics)

DW Morgan Prize for Academic Excellence: Evelyn Li (2024, NatSci), Joe Tait (2024, Engrng)

Nicholas Prize for Leadership: Ammie Vudathu (2021, Theol)

Sydney Smith Memorial Prize: Isaac Howell (2022, NatSci), Charlie Levy (2024, NatSci), Lillian Lewis (2022, NatSci), Tereza Maxerova (2022, NatSci), Emily Smith (2023, NatSci), Shuya Wang (2024, NatSci), Steven Ye (2024, NatSci), Jack Yu (2022, NatSci)

UNIVERSITY PRIZES AND AWARDS

The following scholarships, awards and prizes were awarded by the University in 2024–25.

2024–25

Engineering Prizes

Arthur Shercliff Tripos Prize: Joe Tait
(2024, Engrng)

History Prizes

Frances Willmoth Prize: Philippa Adams
(2022, VetSci)

Law Prizes

The Faculty of Law Prize for LLM Race, Gender and the Law: Akola Munyiri (2024, Law)

Music Prizes

Répétiteur/Choral Conducting Training Scheme:
John Zhang (2022, Music)

University Conducting Scholar: Isabel Lee
(2024, Music)

Natural Sciences Prizes

Gordon Wigan Prize for the best Organic project in Part III Chemistry: Salvatore Nigrelli
(2021, NatSci)

Sociology Prizes

Cambridge Undergraduate Quantitative Methods SOC5 Prize: Amelia Moore
(2022, HSPS)

PhD Scholarships and Awards

Cambridge Gates Scholarships: Kyle Nickel
(2024, BioSci)

Harding Distinguished Postgraduate

Scholarships: Lukasz Domanski (2024, Physics), Connor Doyle (2024, Physiology, Development and Neuroscience), Wen Kin Lim (2024, Biological Sciences), Álvaro Paredes Valderrama (2024, Sociology), Lena Wang (2024, Philosophy)

Additional Prizes

Mastercard Foundation Scholars

Entrepreneurship Prize Competition:
Hauwa Busari (2024, Archit & Urban Studies)

2023–24

Further prizes and awards were conferred this year once the full set of 2023–24 examination results were available. The details below supplement those already reported in the 2024 edition of this *Magazine*.

Business Administration Prizes

Cambridge Judge Business School Dean's Diversity Scholarship for the Global Executive MBA: Tochim Eduputa (2024, Global Executive MBA), Anders Lundholm (2024, Global Executive MBA), Mikiko Senga (2024, Global Executive MBA)

Global Executive MBA Charity and Not-for-profit Scholarship: Tayler Hobba
(2024, Global Executive MBA)

Global Executive MBA Director's Scholarship:
Sapir Ifergan (2024, Global Executive MBA)

MPhil in Innovation, Strategy and Organisation Runner-up Dissertation Prize: Yutong Xia
(2023, Innovation, Strategy and Organisation)

Primavera Prize for Best Individual Paper from the NFP/Gov Sector: Michael Jones (2022, Executive MBA)

Engineering Prize

TRC Fox Prize in Chemical Engineering:
Hari Raghava Prasad (2020, NatSci)

Geography Prizes

Philip Lake II Fund Fieldwork Award:
Katie Peters (2021, Geog)

David Richards Travel Scholarship:
Scarlett Mendick (2022, Geog)

William Vaughan Lewis Dissertation Prize: Jamie Dawes (2021, Geog), Jessica Poon (2021, Geog), Olivia Rider (2021, Geog)

History Prizes

Frances Willmoth Prize: Bridget Eburne (2021, NatSci)

Ellen McArthur Grant: Christoph Alexander Hess (2019, AMES)

Prince Consort Grant: Jennifer McFarland (2021, History)

Law Prize

Rebecca Flower Squire Fund Scholarship: John Stavropoulos (2022, Law)

Management Studies Prize

Management Studies Tripos Best Project Prize: Sebastian Porter (2021, Mangmt)

Natural Sciences Prizes

Dias Part II Prize in Honour of Professor Lord Martin Rees: Harry List (2021, NatSci)

Department of Chemistry Postgraduate Departmental Travel Grants: Nisita Dutta (2022, Chemistry)

Departmental Prize for an Outstanding Performance in Part Ib, Chemistry B: Andrew Stuart Marriott (2022, NatSci)

Materials Science Armourers and Brasiers Departmental Prize (Part II): Toni Renz (2021, NatSci), Thomas Sweeney (2021, NatSci)

Materials Science Armourers and Brasiers

Departmental Prize (Part III): Kevin Mathew, (2021, NatSci)

Norrish Prize for the Best Theoretical Project in Part III Chemistry: Agustin Lorusso Notaro Francesco (2020, NatSci)

Thoday Prize: Pak Hei Yu (2022, NatSci)

Gordon Wigan Prize for the Best Organic Project in Part III Chemistry: Cherie-Anne Lee (2020, NatSci)

Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Prizes

Departmental Commendation for Excellent Performance on the Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos: Thea Hardman (2021, PBS)

Additional Prizes

Winifred Georgina Holgate-Pollard Memorial Prize: Eleanor Gibbins (2021, MedSc), Harry List (2021, NatSci), Pak Hei Yu (2022, NatSci) 2021

Mary Euphrasia Mosley Travel Award: Said Effendy Bin-Said-Iziddin (2023, Social Anthropology PhD), Poppy Jo Lee (2022, HSPS)

Worts Travelling Scholars Grants: Candela Gil (2022, NatSci), Mimi Henbrey (2022, MML), Tara Warrington (2022, MML)

2022–23

The details below supplement those already reported in the 2023 and 2024 editions of this *Magazine*.

Business Administration Prizes

Cambridge Executive Master of Accounting Innovation and Sustainability Scholarship: Xinmeng Lei (2023, Executive Master of Accounting)

Cambridge Judge Business School Dean's Diversity Scholarship for the Executive MBA: Benedicta Banga (2023, Executive MBA)

St Catharine's Benavitch Scholarship for the Cambridge Judge Business School MBA, 2023: Vianney Gomezgil Yaspik (2023, MBA)

Executive MBA Director's Scholarship: Lilit Yolyan (2023, Executive MBA)

Executive MBA Healthcare Scholarship: Daniel Drozdov (2023, Executive MBA)

Executive MBA Scholarship for Women:

Benedicta Banga (2023, Executive MBA)

Wider Cambridge: The Cambridge MBA Scholarship for Professional Diversity:

Vianney Gomezgil Yaspik (2023, MBA), Tinatin Meskhi (2023, MBA)

Masters of Finance Programme Scholarship:

Arthat Gupta (2023, Finance), Aruniya Selladurai (2023, Finance)

Engineering Prize

Part Ia Structural Design Course Prize:

Yee Hin Lam (2022, Engineering), Oscar Newall (2022, Engineering)

PHDS APPROVED

St Catharine's has been informed that the following PhD theses have been approved since 1 August 2024:

- Ashour, Dina:** The role of Zasp52 in the morphogenesis of the *Drosophila melanogaster* embryo.
- Chen, Minjia:** Integrated photonic iterative processors for computing.
- Cheung, Sau Yee:** Seeing the world through tearful eyes: similes in Job's laments.
- Christie, Louis:** Symmetry and other structures: topics in nonparametric regression.
- Cullen, Luke:** Who let the emissions out? Automating high-resolution emissions mapping to accelerate decarbonisation through informed decision-making.
- Dermody, Nadene:** The role of the multiple-demand system in fluid intelligence and selective attention: insights from lesion and neuroimaging studies.
- Elabbar, Ahmad:** Justice as an ideal for climate assessment.
- Elrick, Hillary:** Computational methods for the detection of somatic structural variants in cancer genomes using long-read sequencing.
- Goodman, James:** Cardiovascular effects of GLP-1 and glucagon dual receptor agonism in humans.
- Gotthardt, Marc-André:** Byron's poetics of events.
- Jones, Scott:** Structure and regulatory mechanism of human uncoupling protein 1.



This view of Main Court beds running parallel to Trumpington Street leads the eye to the ginkgo tree in Dawson Court (see the Magazine's front cover for the tree in its autumnal colours). The beds lining the path are edged with Teucrium, whose mauve-coloured flowers in summer attract honeybees and bumblebees, as well as tortoiseshells and peacock butterflies. This plant thrives in dry soils and hot climates so needs little watering.

- Kalus, Frey:** Ecologies of reading in Dante and Rilke.
- Katsantonis, Ioannis:** Dynamics of motivation, self-regulation, and feedback in Greek adolescents' academic achievement: a mixed-methods study.
- Lepper, Ellamae:** Narrating hospitality: salons in French fiction, 1789–1848.
- Lin, Jiacheng:** Rational design and application of antibodies for amylin and amyloid beta.
- Lu, Xinmeng:** New senses and formations in Old English glosses and translations, with particular reference to the Psalter and the Gospels.
- Luu Hoang, Kim Ngan:** Butyrophilin family genes as putative coeliac disease risk loci.
- Mansour, Mariane:** Estimating the performance of optical fibre communication systems.
- McKeown, Rachel:** The mechanical regulation of Semaphorin3a signalling in the developing *Xenopus Laevis* brain.
- Müller, Moritz Leander:** A Schottky-to-Ohmic transition in epitaxial ferroelectric hafnia devices.
- Nava, Tobia:** Biomechanics of eustachian tube dysfunction: from mechanics to assessment.
- Owusu, Melz:** The erotic, the speculative, and the surreal: considering the spiritual as a site of (modal) knowledge cultivation through the lens of a queer black feminist radical imagination.
- Rennie, Ailie:** The impact of release on mandatory life-sentenced prisoners' identities.
- Riebesell, Janosh:** Towards machine learning foundation models for materials chemistry.
- Ritter Von Horstig, Felix-Ekkehard:** Measurements of fast dynamics of hole spins in silicon.
- Robinson, Dora:** The United Kingdom's responses to adverse Strasbourg judgments: a look inside government.
- Smith, Benjamin:** Enhancing the study of battery degradation using machine learning to get more out of data.
- Stephenson, Samuel:** Which way to net zero?: The influence of politics on the creation of net zero pathways and the implications for delivering a zero carbon future.
- Tan, Chee Yong:** The Malayan dilemma: race, power and state formation in Malaya.
- Teng, Wen Li:** The drivers of government megapolicies: internal settler colonisation in Indonesia.
- Toth, Norbert:** Applications of machine learning to the petrographic analysis of Icelandic gabbroic xenoliths through light, electron and x-ray microscopy.
- Vathrakokoili-Pournara, Anna:** Cellular kaleidoscope: unveiling tissue microenvironment in health and disease.
- Willis, Thomas:** Common variants in antibody deficiencies.
- Wilod Versprille, Livia:** Neural and neurochemical mechanisms of sustained visual attention.
- Wong, Shu Ling:** Relationships between motivation to use social network sites, relational interdependent self-construal, achievement goals, social goals, and academic performance among Malaysian adolescents.
- Zator, Katarzyna:** The atom surface site interaction point approach to non-covalent interactions.
- Zebrowska, Monika:** Essays on craft and communities.

NOTES AND DATES

The Magazine

The *St Catharine's Magazine* is an annual report of the College's activities and achievements over the preceding year and of alumni news and announcements. The *Magazine* is compiled and produced by an editorial board made up of College Fellows, staff and students and Society volunteers.

We always enjoy hearing from our Members and friends. Submissions to this *Magazine* are welcomed and should be addressed to the Chair of the Editorial Board, Christopher Catling (editor@caths.cam.ac.uk). Material and news received from alumni after the end of July will normally be held over to the following year.

The Society

The St Catharine's College Alumni Society, founded in 1923, is dedicated to helping its members stay connected with one another and fostering a mutually beneficial relationship between the College and its alumni. The Society has a website, where you can find out more about its work and opportunities to connect with other Catz alumni: stcatharinesalumni.co.uk.

Any enquiries about the Society, other than those for the Chair of the Editorial Board or the Treasurer, can be addressed to the Secretary: society.secretary@caths.cam.ac.uk or to the Alumni and Development Office (+44 1223 338337; alumni.office@caths.cam.ac.uk).

The Alumni and Development Office

The Alumni and Development Office maintains links between St Catharine's and its Members and friends around the world, and seeks support for vital projects. The Development Director and Alumni Engagement Manager, alongside the College's Communications Manager, work with the Society to produce this *Magazine*.

Society Branch membership

The Society has up to ten UK regional branches. Members are advised of local events within each branch based on their home postcode. Anyone who wishes to be included in more than one branch email list should contact alumni.office@caths.cam.ac.uk.

The Society's Committee and Branch Chairs

The Society welcomes new committee members and those offering themselves as Branch Chairs in new areas or where there is a vacancy. Anyone who wishes to be recommended by the Committee for election at the 2026 AGM should write to society.secretary@caths.cam.ac.uk before the end of February 2026. Anyone who wishes to be considered for election at the AGM without a Committee recommendation should contact the Secretary at the address above before 31 August 2026. Proposers and seconders are not required but Members should provide a short statement of their background and the reason for their interest in the Committee's work.

Communication preferences

Please consider if you can receive College publications digitally rather than in print, to help us to preserve natural resources and avoid waste. If your contact details have changed recently, or you would like to update how you receive publications, please let us know: caths.cam.ac.uk/keep-in-touch.

Annual Society Reunion and AGM

We look forward to welcoming all Members back to College for the Society's Annual Dinner and AGM on Saturday 26 September 2026. Further details and material for the AGM will be available on the Society website nearer the time: stcatharinesalumni.co.uk.

Alumni events

The Alumni and Development Office is pleased to confirm these dates for your diary in 2026:

- Saturday 31 January 2026:** 1473 Foundation Gala
- Friday 13 February 2026:** Ten Years On (2015 matriculands)
- Tuesday 17 February 2026:** Alumni Evensong
- Friday 20 March 2026:** Temple Church choir concert and drinks reception
- Saturday 21 March 2026:** Woodlark Society Luncheon
- Friday 27 March 2026:** MA Dinner (2019 matriculands)
- Saturday 11 April 2026:** Members' Reunion (1984–87 matriculands)
- Saturday 25 April 2026:** Acheson-Gray Sports Day and Dinner
- Thursday 14 May 2026:** Young Alumni Event
- Tuesday 26 May 2026:** Alumni Evensong
- Saturday 20 June 2026:** Catz Marquee at the Bumps
- Friday 3 July 2026:** Henley Royal Regatta Alumni Gathering
- Sunday 5 July 2026:** Family and Friends Garden Party
- Saturday 5 September 2026:** Benefactors' Garden Party
- Saturday 12 September 2026:** Members' Reunion (2006–08 matriculands)
- Tuesday 27 October 2026:** Alumni Evensong
- Sunday 1 November 2026:** All Souls
- Wednesday 25 November 2026:** St Catharine's Day

For further information about these and other upcoming events please visit the website (caths.cam.ac.uk/events) or contact events.officer@caths.cam.ac.uk.

Alumni dining rights

St Catharine's alumni who have taken their MA (approximately six years after matriculation for an undergraduate course) or graduated from a postgraduate course are eligible to dine at High Table free of charge once a term, as long as they are not studying at the College. Alumni can bring an adult guest at their own expense; the current cost of this will be confirmed when booking. Dining is currently available on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays during term and on a Tuesday out of term, excluding August. Dining may only go ahead with a minimum of four diners (including at least one presiding Fellow). A maximum of six alumni and guests can dine on any one night. Contact alumni.office@caths.cam.ac.uk for more information or to book.

Visiting College

The College is always happy to welcome back familiar faces. Members and friends can notify us of their visits in advance by contacting alumni.office@caths.cam.ac.uk, to help ensure we can offer the best possible welcome. Outside of term-time we offer bed and breakfast accommodation to guests. Visit caths.cam.ac.uk/B&B.

Contact conference@caths.cam.ac.uk to learn more about a ten per cent discount offered to alumni on conference, event and B&B bookings. We regret that the College cannot provide parking, but the Cambridge Park & Ride services now permit overnight parking for a fee. More information is available from cambridgeparkandride.info.

