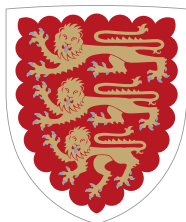


ORIEL COLLEGE RECORD



2024

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Oriel in Colour by Gillian Cairns (2013)

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FRONT COVER

A watercolour of the Hall front by Walter Gandy, dating from around 1910. Gandy lived in London at the turn of the twentieth century, and travelled throughout England and the near continent, painting landscapes and urban scenes, often in exquisite detail. He exhibited at the Royal Academy Exhibition in 1911.

(Picture from David Hodgson)





COLLEGE RECORD

VISITOR

His Majesty King Charles III

PROVOST

The Lord Mendoza of King's Reach, MA, CBE

FELLOWS

Andrew Timothy Boothroyd, MA (MA, PhD Cantab); Professor of Physics; Rhodes Fellow and Tutor in Physics

John Michael Spivey, MA, DPhil (MA Cantab); Misys and Andersen Fellow, Tutor in Computer Science; Vice-Provost (retired 30 September 2024)

Annette Marianne Volfing, MA, DPhil, FBA; Professor in Medieval German Studies; Knight Fellow and Tutor in Modern Languages (German)

David Michael Hodgson, MA (BSc Bath; PhD Southampton); Todd Fellow, Professor of Chemistry and Tutor in Chemistry

Lynne Suzanne Cox, MA DPhil (MA, PhD Cantab), FRSB; George Moody Fellow and Tutor in Biochemistry

Oliver Edward Edmund Pooley, MA, BPhil, DPhil (MAST Cantab); Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy

Bruno Gabriel Felix Currie, MA, DPhil; Monro Fellow and Tutor in Classics

John Edgar Huber, MA, DPhil (MA, MEng, PhD Cantab); TI Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science

Yadvinder Singh Malhi, MA (MA Cantab; PhD Reading), CBE, FRS; Professor of Ecosystem Science and Frank Jackson Senior Research Fellow in Biodiversity and Conservation

Christopher Charles Bowdler, MA, MPhil, DPhil (BA Cantab); MacPherson Fellow and Tutor in Economics

Juliane Kerkhecker, MA (Staatsexamen Tübingen); Fellow by Special Election, Grocyn Lecturer and Tutor in Classics; Senior Dean

Michael Peter Devereux, MA (MSc LSE; PhD University College London); Professorial Fellow in Business Taxation

Lucinda Anne Ferguson, MA, BCL, PGDip, LATHE (LLM Queen's University, Canada); Fellow and Tutor in Law (until 30 September 2024)

John Hamish Armour, MA, BCL (LLM Yale; BVC London), FBA; Professor of Law and Finance

Julia Carolin Mannherz, MA (MA London; PhD Cantab); Rhodes Fellow and Tutor in History

Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra, MA (MPhil, PhD Cantab); Colin Prestige Fellow, Professor of Metaphysics and Tutor in Philosophy; Senior Tutor

Lars Fugger, MA (MD, PhD, DMedSc Copenhagen); Mary Machin Fellow and Professor of Neuroimmunology

Ian Robert Horrocks, MA (MSc, PhD Manchester), FRS; Professorial Fellow in Computer Science

Sandra Robertson, MA (BA Edinburgh); Professorial Fellow in Finance; Chief Investment Officer, Oxford University Endowment Management

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

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

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

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

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

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

Paul Wayne Yowell, MA, BCL, MPhil, DPhil
(BA, JD Baylor); Benn Fellow and Tutor in
Law; Tutor for Graduates

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Robert James David Wainwright, MA,
MSt, DPhil (BA Dunelm); Fellow and
Chaplain; Dean of Visiting Students;
Pictures and Chattels Fellow

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

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

David Nicholas Maw, MA, DPhil, FRCO;
Fellow and Tutor in Music; Director of
Music; Fellow Librarian

Mark Robert Wynn, MA, DPhil, FBA;
Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of
the Christian Religion

Timothy Elliott, MA (PhD Southampton),
FMedSci, FRSB; Professorial Fellow in
Immuno-oncology

Cécile Bishop, MSt (MA Po Paris; PhD
King's College London); Kelleher Fellow
in French and Tutor in Francophone
Post-Colonial Literatures and Cultures

Margaret Lynne Jones, MA, FCA, FGIA;
Treasurer

Marco Zhang, MSc, MA (BSc, BCA,
VUW New Zealand); Development
Director

Dominic Alonzi, MBiochem,
DPhil, FHEA; Fellow and
Tutor in Biochemistry



Olivia Laura Elder, MA, MSt
(PhD Cantab); Fellow and
Tutor in Ancient History



Bernadette Carmel Young,
MA, DPhil, (BA, MBBS
Melbourne), MRCP, FRCPath;
Clinical Fellow in Medicine



ADAM DE BROME FELLOW

John Cook, MA

RALEIGH FELLOW

Charles A Potter, (JD Detroit)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

David Nicholas Maw, MA, DPhil, FRCO

ISOBEL LAING POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Kerstin Timm, (MRes, PhD Cantab); Career
Development Fellow in Pharmacology

FRANK JACKSON SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Constance Lynne McDermott, (BA Amherst;
MSc Washington; PhD British Columbia)

AJ CARYLYE RESEARCH FELLOW IN HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT

Robert Kuan Kit Cheah, BA, MPhil

LEVERHULME JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN PHILOSOPHY

Alexander Roberts, BA, BPhil, DPhil

JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS

Henrique de Andrade Gomes, (BSc, MSc
São Paulo; PhD Cantab)

TURPIN JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN HISTORY

David Damtar, DPhil (BA Kumase; MA St
Petersburg)

SIR JOHN ELLIOTT JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN EUROPEAN HISTORY 1500–1800

Valerio Zanetti, (BA Milan; MA Sheffield;
PhD Cantab)

AGAINST BREAST CANCER JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW

Lina Hacker, (BSc Bonn; MSc Aachen; PhD
Cantab)

AGAINST BREAST CANCER SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN ONCOLOGY

Simon Richard Lord, DPhil, BM, FRCP

SUPERNUMERARY RESEARCH FELLOWS

Eric Beinhocker, (BA Dartmouth; MSc
MIT); Professor of Public Policy Practice

Ben Caldecott, DPhil (BSc London; MPhil
Cantab); Director of Oxford Sustainable
Finance Group and Lombard Odier
Associate Professor of Sustainable
Finance

Max Crispin, MBiochem, DPhil, FRSC,
FRSB; Professor of Glycobiology,
University of Southampton

Philipp Grünewald, (MSc, PhD Imperial
College London; Dipl Eng Wedel), FICE
(from 8 November 2023)

Nicholas Eyre, MA, DPhil; Director of
Centre for Research into Energy Demand
Solutions (CREDS)

FRANK JACKSON SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Charlie Wilson, (BA Cantab; MSc Imperial
College London; PhD University of
British Columbia) (to February 2024)

DEAN OF DEGREES

Tristan Emil Franklino, MA, MPhil, DPhil
(MA St Andrews)

DEANS

Marta Emilia Bielinska, BPhil, MMathPhys,
(BA, BSc Krakow); Welfare Dean

Tishan Wellalagodage, (MBBS Monash;
MMed Sydney); Junior Dean

Caitlin Ashcroft, BA; Welfare Dean
Mathew Thomas Kollamkulam, (BSc
 University College London); Junior Dean
 (to January 2024)
Miles Weatherseed, MMath; Junior Dean
 (from February 2024)

GRADUATE TEACHING AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS

Anne Calderbank, MPhil (MA Cantab);
 Theology
Fabian Falck, (BSc, MSc Karlsruhe Institute
 of Technology; MSc Imperial College
 London); Computer Science
Charis Jo, MSt; Classics
Jonathan Jame Perris, BA, MSt; English
Dominik Wagner, MSc (BSc Saarland);
 Computer Science
James Willoughby, (BSc Durham;
 MSc University College London);
 Computer Science
Zheneng Xie, (BA, MMath Cantab);
 Mathematics

EMERITUS FELLOWS

William Edward Parry, MA, DPhil; formerly
 Tutor in Applied Mathematics and
 Theoretical Physics
Robert Anthony Beddard, MA, DPhil (BA
 London; MA Cantab), FRHistS; formerly
 Sir Zelman Cowen Fellow and Tutor in
 Modern History
Robert Christopher Towneley Parker, MA,
 DPhil, FBA; formerly Fellow and Tutor in
 Classics
Graham Francis Vincent-Smith, MA, DPhil;
 formerly Philip and Pauline Harris
 Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics
Simon Hornblower, MA, DPhil, FBA;
 formerly Fellow and Tutor in Ancient
 History

Lauchlan Glenn Black, MA, DPhil (BA
 Cape Town); formerly Fellow and Tutor
 in English Literature and Senior Tutor
 (deceased January 2024)
David Owain Maurice Charles, MA,
 BPhil, DPhil; formerly Colin Prestige
 Fellow and Senior Research Fellow in
 Philosophy
Richard Henry Stefan Tur, MA (LLB
 Dundee); formerly Benn Fellow and
 Tutor in Jurisprudence (deceased
 December 2023)
David William Maskell, MA, DPhil;
 formerly Tutor in Modern Languages
 (French)
Mark François Edward Philp, MA, MPhil,
 DPhil (BA Bradford; MSc Leeds);
 formerly Fellow and Tutor in Politics
Richard Granville Swinburne, MA, BPhil,
 DipTheol, FBA; formerly Nolloth
 Professor of the Philosophy of the
 Christian Religion
Brigadier Michael James Fowler Stephens,
 MA (MA Cantab), CEng, MICE; formerly
 Bursar
The Revd John Barton, MA, DPhil, DLitt
 (Hon DrTheol Bonn), FBA; formerly
 Oriel and Laing Professor of the
 Interpretation of Holy Scripture
Keith Owen Hawkins, MA, DPhil (Dip
 Criminol, MA, PhD Cantab; LLB
 Birmingham); formerly Professor of Law
 and Society, Tutor in Law and Tutor for
 Graduates
James Frank Offen, MA, FRICS; formerly
 Estates Bursar
Douglas Kinnear Hamilton, MA, DPhil;
 formerly Emmott Fellow and Tutor in
 Engineering Science
Pedro Gil Ferreira, MA (Lic Lisbon; PhD
 London); formerly Fellow and Tutor in
 Physics

Teresa Jean Morgan, MA, DLitt (MA, PhD Cantab); formerly William and Nancy Turpin Fellow and Tutor in Ancient History

Brian Lee Leftow, MA (MA, MPhil, PhD Yale); formerly Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion

Edward Wilfrid Stephenson, MA (MA Cantab), FCT; formerly Treasurer and Bursar

Christopher Peter Conlon, MA (MB, BS, MD London), FRCP; formerly Professor of Infectious Diseases

Ian James Forrest, MA, DPhil (MA, MPhil Glasgow); formerly Professor of Social and Religious History, Catto Fellow and Tutor in History

Nicholas Eyre, MA, DPhil; formerly Jackson Senior Research Fellow in Energy

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

HONORARY FELLOWS

The Rt Hon The Lord Harris of Peckham (Philip Charles)

Sir Bryan Hubert Nicholson, KB, GBE, MA, FRSA

Professor Thomas Noel Mitchell, MA, MRIA (MA Dublin, National University of Ireland; PhD Cornell); formerly Provost, Trinity College Dublin

Lady Pauline Harris, DBE

Professor Eric Foner, MA (BA, PhD Columbia); formerly Harmsworth Professor of American History

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

Sir Michael Wright, MA

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

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

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

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

Sir David Geoffrey Manning, GCMG, KCVO, MA

James Mellon, MA

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

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

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

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

Jonathan Barnes, MA, FBA

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

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

Sir Crispin Henry Lamert Davis, BA, OBE

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

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

Robert McHenry, MA, DPhil; formerly Tutor in Psychology

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

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

Thomas Colm Kelleher, MA, FCA

Jonathan Stewart Lane, OBE, MA, FRICS

Philip Strone Stewart Macpherson, MA,
(MBA INSEAD)

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

Robin Harland, MA; formerly Adam de
Brome Fellow

Sir Paul Preston, KB, CBE, MA, DPhil, FBA,
FRHistS; Professor of International
History, London School of Economics

Professor Peter Biller, MA, DPhil, FRHistS,
FBA

Professor Sarah Coakley, MA (MA, PhD
Cantab), FBA; formerly Norris-Hulse
Professor of Divinity, University of
Cambridge; formerly Tutor in Theology

Professor Stephen A. Smith, MA (PhD
Birmingham), FBA; Emeritus Fellow All
Souls College

Moirá Paul Wallace, OBE, MA (MA Cantab;
AM Harvard); formerly Provost

Professor Malcolm Russell Ains, OBE, MA,
DPhil, FSA, FRHistS, IHBC; formerly
Professor of Conservation and the
Historic Environment and Vice-President
of Kellogg College

John Richard Shannon, MA, FCA

John Cook, MA; Adam de Brome Fellow

Geoffrey Austin MA; formerly Chair of
Oriel Alumni Advisory Committee
and Oriel College Development Trust;
formerly President of the Oriel Society

Dr Linda Elizabeth Doyle, (BE (Elect)
National University of Ireland; MSc, PhD,
PGDip Stats, Trinity College Dublin);
Provost, Trinity College Dublin

Professor Christina Shuttleworth Kraus,
MA (BA Princeton; PhD Harvard);
formerly Monro Fellow and Tutor in
Classics

Professor Anna Brechta Sapir Abulafia,
DLitt (DTh Amsterdam, LittD Cantab),
FBA, FRHistS

Professor Howard Michael Robinson, MA
(MPhil Nott, PhD Liv); formerly Lecturer
in Philosophy; Emeritus Professor and
Former Provost, Central European
University

**Professor Toeolesulusulu Damon Ieremia
Salesa**, DPhil (BA, MA Auckland); Vice-
Chancellor, Auckland University of
Technology

Dr John Nunn, MA, DPhil

Professor Abigail Adams-Prassl, BA, MPhil,
DPhil

Charles Antony Lawrence Skinner, MA

LECTURERS

Katrin Maria Kohl, MA (BA, MA, PhD
London; MA CNNA); Fellow of Jesus
College; Lecturer in German

Clive Newton, KC, MA, BCL; Lecturer in
Jurisprudence

Simon Andrew Skinner, MA, MPhil, DPhil,
FRHistS; Fellow of Balliol College;
Lecturer in History

Richard Tyrrell Coggins, MA, DPhil;
Lecturer in Politics

Andrew William Kenneth Farlow, MPhil
(MA Cantab); Lecturer in Economics

Nicholas Jackson Brett Green, MA, DPhil;
Lecturer in Chemistry

Hugh Robert Collins Rice, MA, MLitt (MA
Sussex); Lecturer in Music

Pamela Virginia Lear, (BSc, PhD London);
Lecturer in Medicine

A K M Adam, (BA Bowdoin; MDiv, STM
Yale; PhD Duke); Lecturer in Theology

- Victor Lee**, MA, DPhil (BSc, MPhil Hong Kong); Lecturer in Chemistry
- Douglas Kinnear Hamilton**, MA, DPhil; Lecturer in Engineering Science
- Matthew Peter Mills**, MA, BCL (LLM London); Lecturer in Law
- Stefanie Burkert-Burrows**, MSt (Staatexamen Eichstätt; PGCE Manc Met); Lecturer in German
- Simone Falco**, DPhil; Lecturer in Engineering Science
- Tristan Emil Franklino**s, MA, MPhil, DPhil (MA St Andrews); Lecturer in Classical Languages and Literature; Dean of Degrees
- Marie Kawthar Daouda**, (PhD, MA Sorbonne); Lecturer in French; Visiting Students' Co-ordinator
- Claire Pearson**, (BSc, PhD London); Lecturer in Medicine
- Irina Voiculescu**, (PhD Bath); Lecturer in Computer Science
- Alessandra Aloisi**, (PhD Pisa); Lecturer in French
- Amanda Holton**, MA, DPhil; Lecturer in English
- Vladimir Kuzetsnov**, MA (MSc, PhD Moscow); Lecturer in Chemistry
- Ayoush Lazikani**, BA, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in English
- Volker Deringer**, (Dipl-Chem, Dr rer nat RWTH Aachen); Lecturer in Chemistry
- Philipp Grünewald**, (MSc, PhD Imperial College London; Dipl Eng Wedel), FICE; Lecturer in Engineering Science
- Brendan Harris**, MA (MA Dunelm; PhD Emory); Lecturer in Theology
- Suzanne Rab**, MA, BCL; Lecturer in Law
- Cécile Varry**, (BA, MA École Normale Supérieure de Lyon); Lecturer in French
- Katherine New**, BA, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in Russian
- Arhat Virdi**, MA (MSc, PhD LSE); Lecturer in Economics
- Laurent Le Page**, (BEng Victoria, PhD New South Wales); Lecturer in Engineering Science
- Randy Bruno**, (BS Carnegie Mellon, PhD Pittsburgh); Lecturer in Neuroscience
- Emma Bond**, MSt, DPhil (MA Edinburgh); Lecturer in Italian
- Aurelio Carlucci**, DPhil (BSc, MSc Rome); Lecturer in Mathematics
- Eloise Mary McGaun Davies**, (MA, MPhil, PhD Cantab); Lecturer in Politics
- Bethany Dubow**, MSt (BA, PhD Cantab); Lecturer in English
- Annabel Hancock**, MA (MA York); Lecturer in History
- Ole Hinz**, MA (MPhil, PhD Yale); German Lektor
- Lara Miriam Ibrahim**, BCL (LLB, LLM Sheffield); Lecturer in Law
- Brett Kennedy** BM, BCh, PGDip, PGCert (TLHE) (MChem Bath; PhD Cantab), MRCP, FHEA; Lecturer in Medicine
- Sebastian Lewis**, DPhil; (LLM Harvard; LLB Universidad de los Andes (Chile)); Lecturer in Law
- John William Olson**, MDiv, DPhil; Lecturer in Theology and Religion
- Emily Qureshi-Hurst**, BA, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in Philosophy
- Azmi Rahman**, DPhil, MBBS (BSc Imperial College London), FHEA; Lecturer in Medicine
- Lola Salem**, DPhil (BA, MA Sorbonne; MA École Normale Supérieure); Lecturer in Music
- Lucia Akard**, MSt, DPhil (BA Skidmore); Lecturer in History
- Emma Bond**, MSt, DPhil (MA Edinburgh); Lecturer in Italian

Andrew Ceruzzi, (BSc Johns Hopkins, MSc, PhD University of Maryland); Lecturer in Engineering Science

Calin-Mihai Dragoi, MBiochem; Lecturer in Biochemistry

Julie Anne Farguson, MA, MSt, DPhil; Lecturer in History.

Amirmohammad Farzaneh, DPhil (BSc Tehran); Lecturer in Engineering Science

Elinor Payne, (MA, MPhil, PhD Cantab); Lecturer in Spanish

Louise Rosset, (MEng Imperial College London); Lecturer in Chemistry

Thomas Clark, Lecturer in Politics

Afra Pujol I Campeny, (BA, MPhil, PhD Cantab); Lecturer in Linguistics and Spanish (from HT24)

COLLEGE STAFF

ACADEMIC OFFICE

Joseph Cole; Academic Registrar

ACCOMMODATION

Hannah Simon; Accommodation Manager

ARCHIVE

Robert Petre; College Archivist

BURSARY

Oliver Sladen; Financial Controller

BUTLER

Asefay Aberaha; Head Butler

CONFERENCE OFFICE

Sue Drake; Conference and Events Manager

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Aarti Basnyat; Head of Communications

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Marco Zhang; Development Director

DOMESTIC OFFICE

Matthew Morgan; Domestic Bursar

ESTATES

Ian Skinner; Commercial Property Manager

Colin Bailey; Master of Works

Daniel Hurn; Building Maintenance Manager

HUMAN RESOURCES

Nina Thompson; Head of Human Resource

IT SUPPORT

Wikus Smit; Head of IT Support

KITCHEN

Maurice Cap; Head Chef

LIBRARY

Hannah Robertson; College Librarian

PORTERS' LODGE

Samuel Henry; Lodge Manager

PROVOST'S OFFICE

Rebecca Bricklebank; Personal Assistant to the Provost

TREASURER

Margaret Jones; Treasurer

PROVOST'S NOTES

As I write I am starting my seventh year as Provost of our wonderful College. During the past year we have laid the groundwork for the upcoming two years of celebration of the 700th anniversary of Oriel's founding. We also marked the 300th anniversary of the prestigious Regius Chair in History, currently held by Professor Lyndal Roper, with a grand dinner; and the 30th anniversary of the Harris Lecture Theatre, when we were privileged to receive a visit from Honorary Fellows Lord and Lady Harris.

Next year we will celebrate forty years of women at Oriel. The influence of women on the College was literally foundational, from Queen Eleanor of Castile, one of our first benefactors, to the relationship we held with Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as our longest-serving Visitor. Since 1985, Oriel's women have not only made a direct impact on the College but also on wider society with both Fellows and alumnae making significant



Photo by Jared Smith

Henrike Lähnemann, Professor of Medieval German, welcomed a hundred guests into dinner celebrating the 300 years of the Regius Chair in History with a trumpet call

contributions in their fields. We are looking forward to celebrating and marking their achievements as well as looking forward to those of the next generation.

Our ancient institution continues to inspire and thrive. I am proud of the work Governing Body and staff have completed over recent years to ensure that the Oriel legacy not only endures but is enhanced and protected for generations to come. A special treat has been the revival of our glorious floral borders and seeing new plants flowering every time I walk around our quadrangles. This is thanks to the efforts of my wife, Amelia, and our talented garden designer, Laura Heybrook. A highlight from the Master of Works was our successful bid of over £500,000 of government subsidy to kickstart a project decarbonising our heating infrastructure.

It is only through the ongoing philanthropy and generosity of our alumni and friends that we continue to attract the best students and provide them with opportunities to thrive. Your generosity has ensured that the Development Trust's campaign targets have been exceeded every year, from £45m raised by 2017 to £65m by 2024. We are now hoping to exceed £70m to mark 700 years.

Undergraduate numbers remain consistent with just over 90 new entrants this year, taking our total undergraduate population to around 330. There has been a welcome increase in graduate student numbers over the last two decades, following the University's strategic move to focus on research, with Middle Common Room membership now totalling around 260. The student body of the University itself now has a majority of graduates. Oriel is home to a thriving multicultural community, with 36.7 per cent of its student population identifying as BME. Some 60 per cent of postgraduate students come from 41 countries outside the UK and 20 per cent of undergraduates are from 31 countries outside the UK.

Our academic success continues with 89 per cent of students achieving a 2:1 or higher, and 33 per cent a First or Distinction. We had some particularly strong performances in Chemistry, Computer Science and Philosophy, Medicine (Preclinical) and Theology and Religion where a majority of students within each cohort achieved first class results. During the academic year, 27 DPhil students successfully completed their doctorates along with 72 Master's students who successfully completed their courses. My congratulations go to all graduates.

There were more athletes from Oriel at the Paris 2024 Olympics than from any other Oxford college. Oriel's Financial Economics alumnus Liam Corrigan (2021) won gold for the USA in the men's coxless four final. Charlie Elwes (2021), a graduate student completing a master's degree in Women's and Reproductive Health, also won gold as part of Team GB's men's eight. Nick Rusher won bronze for the USA in the men's eight and Tom Mackintosh was placed fifth in the men's single sculls. Both Nick and Tom joined Oriel in

Michaelmas term 2024. Nick will be studying for an MSc in Paediatrics and Tom for an MBA. At one point I was able to tweet that were Oriel a country we would rank 30th in the world medal table!

The Oriel men's first eight rowed over on all four days of Eights Week, retaining the Headship. Oriel boats have held the title a total of thirty-six times since 1815, which is more than any other college. Women's rowing also had a strong season despite Torpids being cancelled because of high streams and flooding. Four crews qualified to row in Summer Eights and the second boat went up three places, narrowly missing out on blades. At the Reading Amateur Regatta both women's crews raced to the semi-finals of their categories and at Henley Women's Regatta Oriel was the fastest college crew in the Aspirational Academic 4+ category.

Other sporting news includes our Women's Football team joining forces with St Edmund Hall to win the 2023–24 Women's Plate. The mixed Netball team were runners-up in the league and our Rugby team won their league. Some excellent efforts were also seen from our Alternative Ice Hockey and Men's Football teams that have bolstered their spirits to win next year.

This year saw a feisty production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* in First Quad. I am pleased that Oriel's dramatic tradition continues to be strong. Also, one of our students was assistant director to Sir Gregory Doran in his student production of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the Oxford Playhouse.

We were able to hear some excellent speakers covering a range of topics in this year's series of Oriel Talks. Jeremy Hunt, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented his optimistic account of the state of the UK economy. Paul Gilroy, Professor of Humanities at University College London and the founding director of the Sarah Parker Remond Centre for the Study of Racism and Racialisation, explored the legacy of colonialism in the UK. Major General Paul Tedman CBE, Commander of UK Space Command spoke soberingly about space and security. Dr Anne Makena, Co-Director of the Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx), Dr Chantelle Lewis, Andrew Pitt Junior Research Fellow in Black British Studies at Pembroke College and Dr Sugandha Srivastav, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, talked about their experiences of being BAME women. My contemporary, the legendary Hugo Spowers MBE and ex Dangerous Sports Club member (1978) discussed hydrogen-powered motoring.

Oriel's academic community has enjoyed a number of successes. Computer Science Fellow Ian Horrocks has sold his spin-out company Oxford Semantic Technologies to Samsung Electronics. Oxford Semantic Technologies holds cutting-edge technological capabilities in the areas of knowledge representation and semantic reasoning. Professor Pedro Ferreira was awarded the Eddington Medal by the Royal Astronomical Society

Photo by Jared Smith



The Provost enjoying an ice-cream with some schoolchildren during the Beating of the Bounds in May 2024

for his investigations ‘of outstanding merit’ into the Lambda Cold Dark Matter model of the universe. Dr Tristan Franklins was awarded a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship for the academic year 2024–25 and Marta Bielinska, DPhil student and Welfare Dean at Oriel, won the 2023 Du Châtelet Prize in the Philosophy of Physics.

We were pleased to welcome to Oriel Dominic Alonzi as Fellow and Tutor in Biochemistry, Olivia Elder as Fellow and Tutor in Ancient History and Bernadette Young as Fellow and Clinical Tutor in Medicine.

I am looking forward to having Cheryl Frances-Hoad as our next Visiting Fellow in Music. She is the first composer to be elected to the role in over a decade.

Oriel also welcomed a new Domestic Bursar, Matthew Morgan, a new Head of HR, Nina Thompson and a new Head of Communications, Aarti Basnyat. All have

seamlessly become essential figures in our community, contributing towards the efficient functioning of the College.

We bid farewell to two Fellows this year. I would like to offer the College's sincere thanks to Mike Spivey, Misys and Andersen Fellow and Tutor in Computer Science, for his work and dedication to College especially in his recent role as Vice-Provost. I would also like to thank Lucinda Ferguson, Fellow and Tutor in Law. I wish both the very best for their future.

It is with sadness I announce the deaths of two of our Emeritus Fellows, Richard Tur and Glenn Black. Richard was a beloved member of our community who was Oriel's Fellow in Jurisprudence for thirty-three years. Glenn was a favourite tutor when I was here and Oriel's first Fellow in English Literature.

As these Notes have described, the Oriel community of academics, students, and staff continues to thrive. The College is buzzing with activity in all aspects of its life, from research and teaching to major building work which will lead to massive improvement of the estate.

I look forward to welcoming many Oriel alumni and friends to College over the coming years.

Floreat Oriel!

Neil Mendoza

TREASURER'S NOTES

As Treasurer, delivering the complex operations involved in running the College is possible only with the support of a robust senior management team. Our managers at Oriel are outstanding, not only in their experience and capability, but also because they fundamentally understand the purpose of our work – to ensure the College is best prepared to pursue its key charitable and academic missions.

This year was incredibly important for College operations with the start in Michaelmas term of the long awaited East Range Project. A 250 tonne crane lifted the new temporary kitchens over the walls of Second Quad to provide the facilities serving the new dining space in the Senior Library. There was some concern about having such heavy plant in Oriel Square, especially as the ground penetration survey identified significant voids under the road. For two days the Master of Works, Colin Bailey, and I watched nervously as the 67m telescopic arm of the massive machine undertook the heavy lifting. No wind, no rain for two days – we were extremely relieved. Once the

Photo by Jared Smith



Provost's Court members being given a tour of the East Range Project

temporary facilities were installed the kitchen team had to grow accustomed to the new service space. Starting slowly with breakfast and lunch only, they then added back a meal service as soon as they could. By Christmas they were running all dining sessions again.

In addition to getting the East Range project up and running, our talented Estates team also delivered a stock condition report and a heat decarbonisation strategy to underpin our long-term planning for our estates. This strategy supported a successful application for government funding of over £500k for a project at Rectory Road to swap out gas boilers for air source heat pumps to be delivered in 2025–26. On the commercial front our property estate is delivering well, with strong performances in Oxford and a zero vacancy rate in the London portfolio.

We welcomed a new Domestic Bursar, following the departure of Tim Verdon, who had ably held the reins whilst we looked for a new permanent member of the team. I am very grateful for Tim's leadership, and much progress on planning the East Range project was made despite being told when I was hiring him, that all I needed was a 'safe pair of hands for a while'. Our new Domestic Bursar, Matthew Morgan, came to us from St Anthony's with a wide range of previous experience, from time at Theobalds Park Hotel, two years running the Malmaison in Oxford and a rather challenging time setting up the operations of the Solent Forts hotels. College operations are complex and Matthew is bringing all his experience to bear, except perhaps the skills he previously needed to skipper a rigid hull inflatable back to the mainland.

One notable challenge Matthew tackled was to improve security support at the Rectory Road site. Following a fire in 16 King Edward Street, successfully averted by Kevin Brackett in the Lodge before it could cause substantial damage, it became clear to the Governing Body that a similar incident at Rectory Road would be harder to manage from the main site. Governing Body approved, and Matthew has now recruited two new night porters for Rectory Road who took up their posts over the summer vacation.

It was a successful year in HR. Often this department is just considered part of the fabric of the College and the less heard, the more likely they are doing a great job. However, this year our new Head of HR, Nina Thompson, grabbed our paper-based systems and dragged them into a new era of staff self-service electronic records with the implementation of a new HR system. Online holiday booking, sick leave tracking, employment contracts, performance development, personal data and emergency plans, all now online and accessible by desktop or mobile devices. Nina also launched a refreshed Staff Forum, implemented a staff representative structure and provide additional staff welfare support through an Employee Assistance Programme, again mobile enabled. Seeing such rapid and sensible progress is hugely encouraging and challenges the whole team to innovate and improve.

A new team structure for the Head of IT has stabilised the staffing of this important function at Oriel. Splitting service desk function from infrastructure has given the team the ability to focus on what each area needs to achieve, enhancing individual responsibilities and providing clear pathways to improving service. In a college environment it can be difficult to cover all the elements an IT member needs to know, so segmenting in this way allows our Head of IT, Wikus Smit, to pinpoint the development needs of the team. Much work this year has gone into the implementation of additional security measures, implementing software to monitor and control network traffic, implementing automatic patching and upgrades, and a move to a zero-trust approach to endpoints joining our networks. Structural changes in segmenting the network adds physical security to prevent the lateral movement of bad actors if they ever do gain access to our systems. To understand what is required and implement effectively is complex but Wikus and his team relish the challenges.

The Finance team, under the long-term leadership of Oliver Sladen, continue to provide secure and solid support to the business. Careful budgeting across all functions has led to improving outturns and a balanced budget is firmly in our sights. The implementation of the purchase order processing module this year for big-ticket expenditure will ensure that the Governing Body can also see financial commitments clearly, improving our ability to manage funds and maximise the current opportunities for interest income on cash flow.

The Investment Advisory Body, with Greg Eckersley as the new Chair, has been working hard to ensure that we make the most of our endowment funds, guided by the risk appetite of the Governing Body, with a move from active management to passive investments as outperforming the market gets increasing difficult, and looking for increased diversity in investment type to balance risk and reward. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlie Skinner, who stepped down this year, for his long and thoughtful service as member and Chair of the IAC. We still have the benefit of his experience and sound advice on the Finance and Estates Committee so he did not get to step too far. Our external Committees were usefully boosted by John Tranter, retired Bursar of St Cross College who joined the Remuneration Committee and Mark Rosen who joined the Investment Advisory Committee. As always I am very grateful for the advice and support our external members provide in these important areas of governance.

As we progress towards the College's 700th birthday year, the Statutes Committee (now expanded to a broader remit as Statutes and Governance Committee) has been working on the refresh of our governing documents. Extensive work was done by my predecessor, Wilf Stephenson, and Brian Gasser who stepped down this year as Secretary, in setting a solid foundation for our plan to get the Statutes refreshed and through the

Privy Council in time. It has been a thoughtful year with the Governing Body considering key elements of the Charity Governance Code and making sure our decision-making structures and processes are working well in supporting the academic mission of the College. The shared discussion has been useful in confirming that our unique structure is fundamental.

At the end of this eventful year I challenged my senior team to tell me what had brought them joy during the year. Without exception the answers from each department included the experience of working together as a college-wide team. The implementation of a strong Staff Forum, the operational focus groups on the major projects, and the evidence through the funding of their operational priorities by Governing Body, is letting the teams know that their views are being considered and their voices listened to. There are also more social events which they are all enjoying – Festive Darts was mentioned so many times as a source of joy that it will have to become a new College tradition!

Margaret Jones
Treasurer



Photo by Jared Smith

The Senior Library is currently being used as dining space due to the extensive renovations around college

CHAPLAIN'S NOTES

One morning in October 2023 the Provost swept into Hall breakfast: 'Chaplain, we're planting a tree. Will you come and bless it?' So fifteen congregants assembled outside Chapel for an extemporised benediction and ceremonial shoveling by Lady Mendoza. The new magnolia flowered beautifully before Easter. The replanting of the Front Quad coincided with a sermon series in Michaelmas term on viticulture in the Gospels. Bishop Paul Thomas observed from Christ's parable of the fig tree in the vineyard that the Church must cultivate deep roots if it is to witness effectively in the present age.

Kate Forbes MSP, who narrowly missed becoming First Minister of Scotland, issued a similar call in her John Collins Lecture. She expounded her belief that the electorate admires and respects conviction but that politicians have lost a sense of vision in making moral choices. Voters, she said, should be able to scrutinise their politicians' consciences. Students were invited to consider at what point telling the truth might become politically advantageous.

While the plants grow in the flower-beds in front of Chapel, the demolition of the kitchens at the rear has shaken the foundations. Regulars at Morning Prayer have persevered over the machine noise, giving thanks daily for our principal benefactor Adam de Brome in the anniversary year of his 1324 benefaction. One of our guest preachers came from Berkeley in Gloucestershire where our founder Edward II died a prisoner in 1327. A current student has very kindly gifted an early twentieth century crucifix to be placed on the altar. It fills the space well and is a mark of the vitality of spiritual life in College, 'for other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.'

The Director of Music Dr David Maw continues to reap a musical harvest, assisted this year by no fewer than three organ scholars. Ash Wednesday commination, Ascension Day hymns from the tower, and the joint Evensong with Keble Chapel Choir were highlights. The launch of the recording *Henry Aldrich: Sacred Choral Music* afforded an opportunity to celebrate the high quality of music-making in Chapel with a presentation on Aldrich by Dr Dean Jobin-Bevens. As I write this, the choir is preparing for its tour to Portugal; making the group booking for flights involved spelling out every singer's name in NATO phonetic code over the telephone – twice!

Fruitfulness has been particularly evident in the weekly Chapel discussion groups. Two of these groups have continued to read St Luke's Gospel, while a third began as an Alpha Course and considered some challenging questions not so much about 'evidence' for the gospels but about what it feels like to have faith and how one might go about believing. The Sermon on the Mount has been the subject of midweek sermons and the Bible Clerks' study throughout the year, showing us how radical a life of discipleship will



Photo by Aarti Basnyat

The new altar crucifix, gifted by a current student

be. Another Oriel bishop, this one of Bath and Wells, brought his scientific background to bear on the presentation of Christ in the Temple in his sermon at the Candlemas Feast.

Of an older vintage, the retirement of the Vice Provost Dr Mike Spivey will be a loss not only for the College but for the choir in particular. He has sung with the bass section on a number of occasions and has been a discernible voice in Chapel over his many years at Oriel. It has been a pleasure to welcome back to Oxford from Edinburgh our former chaplain Mark Harris as Professor of Science and Religion. This has occasionally meant three Oriel chaplains at High Table (the third being Professor Nigel Biggar) all with strong Scottish connections. Dining in the Senior Library since Christmas has been an adjustment. While other colleges might make do in a marquee, we have all remarked on the ambience achieved in this temporary space thanks to the Master of Works. The quality of fare remains high though admittedly we will be pleased at length to return to the Hall.

Many Orielenses gathered at Westminster Cathedral for the ordination to the diaconate of one of our Emeritus Fellows, Sean Power. It was a moving occasion as he dedicated himself to service and the proclamation of the Gospel. He is completing his training at Allen Hall, named after Orielensis William Allen who founded the seminary at Douai in 1568. In view of teaching the Early Modern Christianity paper I was excited



The Bible Clerks. Hannah Preston, Michal Harris-Edwards, Claire Latham, Junsoo Kim, Chaplain, James Fulcher

to be able to visit the location of the Council of Trent (1545–63) in northern Italy; the cathedral boasts one of the best diocesan museums I have come across. Meanwhile the colloquium on *Three Fifteenth-Century Provosts* will be remembered by all those who attended.

The Decanal and Welfare team has worked tirelessly to support students, particularly with the increasing trend in mental health problems year-on-year. In many cases the need is primarily for someone with whom to talk things through but occasionally a crisis shows the team's extraordinary willingness to go the extra mile. The conflict in Israel and Gaza has provoked mounting

controversy, encampments and masked protest in the University, with sensitivities on all sides; in College the debate has been reassuringly courteous, building on our experience of addressing diversity of opinion within the community.

Speaking of united fronts: on a flying visit to the Other Place a few of us called at Clare, our sister college, also founded in 1326. The revels of certain Oriel students at an exchange dinner ten or more years ago are not forgotten; the porter teasingly questioned the wisdom of admitting Orielenses to look around. We had to concede that Clare's gardens along the Backs are luscious and large; Oriel's horticultural improvements are now a matter of honour and friendly rivalry.

'My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes....' *Floreat Oriel!*

*The Revd Dr Robert Wainwright
Chaplain*

CHAPEL SERVICES

On 12 May 2024, Iona Fielding (2021) received Holy Baptism at the hands of the Chaplain.

On 5 October 2024, Carenza Williams was married to Daniel Brennan (2021), with the Chaplain officiating.

PREACHERS AT EVENSONG

Michaelmas Term 2023

8 October	The Chaplain, <i>The Sower</i>
15 October	Revd Michael Print, <i>Bigger Barns</i>
22 October	Dr Jennifer Smith, <i>Reginald Pecock (Commemoration of Benefactors)</i>
29 October	Dr David Bennett, <i>Two Sons and a Vineyard</i>
5 November	Revd Bruce McDowall, <i>Labourers in the Vineyard</i>
12 November	Venerable Jonathan Chaffey, <i>Wicked Tenants of the Vineyard</i>
19 November	Rt Revd Paul Thomas, <i>A Fig Tree in the Vineyard</i>
26 November	The Chaplain, <i>Advent Carol Service</i>

Hilary Term 2024

14 January	The Chaplain, <i>The Land of Nod</i>
21 January	Revd Sam Aldred, <i>Noah's Birth</i>
28 January	Dr Erin Heim, <i>Noah's Ark</i>
2 February	Rt Revd Dr Michael Beasley, <i>Feast of Candlemas</i>
4 February	Very Revd John O'Connor, <i>Noah's Flood</i>
11 February	The Chaplain, <i>Noah's Bow</i>
18 February	Revd Prof John Barton, <i>Noah's Drunkenness</i>
25 February	The Chaplain, <i>The Tower of Babel</i>
3 March	Dr William Wood, <i>University Sermon for the Annunciation</i>

Trinity Term 2024

21 April	The Chaplain, <i>What Manner of Love</i>
28 April	Miss Nancy-Page Lowenfield, <i>Eyewitnesses</i>
5 May	Revd Andrew Rollinson, <i>Forgiveness</i>
12 May	Revd Dr Michael Lloyd, <i>Love Is Not Distant</i>
19 May	Revd Dr Andrew Pinsent, <i>A Farewell</i>
26 May	Revd Dr Rob Sawdy, <i>Three That Testify</i>
2 June	Revd Richard Avery, <i>God Is Love</i>
9 June	The Chaplain, <i>Risk</i>

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S NOTES

This has been another memorable year for Orielenses world-wide, as well as for those in College. The outpouring of goodwill and support by alumni for our students, Fellows, and staff as well as the number of alumni joining events spanning three continents shows Oriel continues to be an important part of people's lives long after they have graduated.

The biggest news of the year was the start of work on the First Quad, opening up the JCR Bar and refurbishing the kitchen. This necessitated dining to be moved to the Senior Library and our collection of rare and early books transferred to a secure, controlled, storage off-site.

The Senior Library as a dining space has given us myriad new opportunities to welcome Orielenses back to College. As well as dinners, we hosted an informal afternoon tea to allow our alumni and their guests to experience the eighteenth century room as it had never been used before. We invited members of the Provost's Court to a hard-hat tour to see the demolition work, and expansion of the bar. Because of the limited confines of the building, we regret that we were unable to invite the majority of our alumni, however we eagerly anticipate the opportunity to showcase the completed project to everyone.

Connecting Orielenses is one of the important, and most enjoyable, aspects of work for us in the Development Office. Seeing alumni from different generations suddenly

Photo by Richard Wakefield



1996–1999 Gaudy

realise that someone they had known professionally for years is also linked by the common thread of Oriel, or hearing about friends who had previously lost touch working out that they now live in the same city, are the kind of stories which drive our work, so please look for events as opportunities to meet other alumni and friends near you, and do contact us so we can help put you in touch with long lost connections.

An event that we particularly encourage you to attend is your Gaudy. Gaudies are unique because they are reunions of small year groups and you are guaranteed to know the other guests. In the past year we have welcomed back years 2012–13, 1996–99, and 1980–83.

In March, the Provost and I visited Hong Kong to thank Hoi Tung (1991) for his extraordinary gift to endow our Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering. In his characteristically generous way, Hoi also hosted a dinner connecting over twenty Orielenes and partners.

In 2025, we mark forty years since the first group of female students were admitted to Oriel. We are looking forward to celebrating the enormous positive change Oriel has witnessed over the past four decades; reinforcing the tremendous impact women have made to our alumni, student and academic communities. Do keep an eye out for our special events during the coming year to celebrate forty years of being co-educational.

The Development Trust's far-sighted campaign to secure Oriel's future was initiated with an ambitious target of raising £45m in donations by 2026. Through your incredible



Photo by Marco Zhang

The Provost with one of our most generous benefactors Hoi Tung (1991)

altruism, this was achieved by 2017 – almost a decade early. Without pause, and with renewed generosity and enthusiasm to give back to Oriel, alumni and friends have now taken us to a staggering campaign total of £65m. We have two years remaining to exceed £70m, one for each decade of our history.

Development Office successes are not just thanks to the enormous support of current members of College and our incredible alumni community, but also to the many people who came before us. This year, we said goodbye to Louisa Chandler, who had worked loyally at Oriel for over a decade; Sarah Davies, whose name many of you will recognise as our Regular Giving Officer, who creatively broke new ground in digital appeals; and Stuart Watson whose work meant we could efficiently respond, record and manage the huge swathe of communication that passes through our office each year.

As we get within a year of our 700th anniversary, in 2026, the question we are asked most frequently is ‘What are your plans?’. We have a busy schedule of events planned for our anniversary – spread throughout the year, culminating in a Birthday Weekend. The programme is still evolving, and details will be shared soon.

We hope every year will be better than the last, and the coming year will be no exception. Join us in the build up to 2026; engage (or re-engage) with Oriel and play your part in our wonderful community.

Marco Zhang
Director of Development

JUNIOR COMMON ROOM

The undergraduate community at Oriel continues to flourish with brilliant and creative students, and it is my honour to feature just some of them here. I must, however, start with a big thanks to the committee, who have been a delight to work with. I could go on and on about the wonderful people who have helped to represent the JCR community, but I am not known for soppy speeches, so best to move on to the highlights of this year.

The academic year began with a fantastic freshers' week, featuring an Oriel freshers' fair alongside the University-wide one, a freshers' Formal Hall, a quiz night, rugby and boat club barbeques and many other events.

Our Entz team held numerous bops this year, some notable themes being 'Barbie' and 'Historical Figures'. They also once again organised the traditional pancake relay race around First Quad on Shrove Tuesday, and the Oriel students who tried their luck at pancake glory even got a little bit Instagram-famous this year, getting 3.8 million views on the Oxford University page. Our usual summer celebrations took place at the Bartlemas sports ground, in the form of a Sports Day, three-legged race and all, and also the 'Barty Party' on the last day of term, with a barbeque and numerous inflatables that got rather slippery in the late June downpours.

Alice McKenzie and Eliza Smith have especially persevered this year in their roles as Bar reps despite a distinct lack of a bar as renovations began in the middle of Michaelmas term. Our initial use of the Harris Seminar Room (coined the HSbaR) was not as popular as previous bar nights had been, and so much work was put in to allow the JCR (or rather the JCbaR) to transform into a bar and bop space, which has been a lot more successful, and allowed for the famous 'Glennies' and the new Oriel beer, the '698', to be enjoyed in all their glory.

In terms of JCR committee successes, this year the executive and I campaigned for vacation residence to be paid for by the College if students had mandatory in-person exams. Other vacation residence grants for projects, coursework, and dissertations have also been increased to cover half of an average room charge, for which students are hugely grateful. Kitchens and temporary container kitchens introduced during the pandemic were re-opened this year much to our delight.

Welfare weeks have continued to help lessen the 'fifth week blues' each term, with our Welfare Officers, Alice Randall and Samuel Goldbloom, providing brunches, walks through the botanical gardens, movie nights and the new addition of first quad stargazing run by Sidharth Veetil.

The Women's Officer, for her second year running Eva Hogan, organised for the College to provide free period products at the close of the last year, and there are now dispensers across the College where these can be accessed. Our Women's Dinner this

year, decorated with flowers, celebrated our community of women, students, scholars and staff, and laid the groundwork for next year's celebrations of 40 years of women at Oriel.

The LGBTQ+ Officer, Anwyll Thomas, organised Oriel's first LGBTQ+ themed formal dinner, celebrating the community in Oriel, in which we even had an Oriel alumna, Dr Kate Nambiar, say a few words about her experience as a trans undergraduate student at College.

Indeed, formal dinners have triumphed since the transfer from the Hall to the Senior Library in Michaelmas term. A 1920s themed Halfway Hall was put together by Vice President Junsoo Kim, with its usual awards and revelries; the Hall was used as a venue for pre-dinner drinks. One band lit up the JCR, another entertained in the now empty Hall for Oriel's first-ever Wholeway Hall where Finalists celebrated nearing the end of their degrees. Oxmas dinners, of course, were a definite highlight of the year, being expanded to three dinners across the week to allow for as many students as possible to deck the halls with this Oxford tradition.

Our artistic endeavours were rich and many, with Oriel's very own *Poor Print* reaching its 100th issue, celebrated by a special 'Century' theme. Our garden play

Photo by Tarun Rao



Halfway hall celebrations in and outside the JCR with Kevin Beckett, night porter

returned in Trinity term, led by Dannan Kilburn, with a gothic-inspired Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* gracing the steps of First Quad, as well as the Harris Lecture Theatre for its last two showings because of unusually bad weather for June. The JCR has also pledged money to a number of student productions across the University and our very own David Akanji headed the committee of the Oxford Fashion Gala held at the Randolph Hotel in Trinity term. The Oriel Music Society has been reinvigorated by a new committee, led by Isabella Simpson, and has organised numerous concerts and recitals each term this year.

Naturally, a yearly round-up would not be complete without a rowing mention, and despite the horrid weather during Torpids this year, replaced instead by a 'Tug-of-war-pids', the Oriel men maintained their Summer Eights headship, celebrated by a 'boat' burning and celebratory dinner.

With all of that, I sign off on this fantastic year, congratulate all the Finalists on their hard work, welcome in new students, and wish the best of luck for the JCR committee for 2024–25!

Sam Hardaker
JCR President

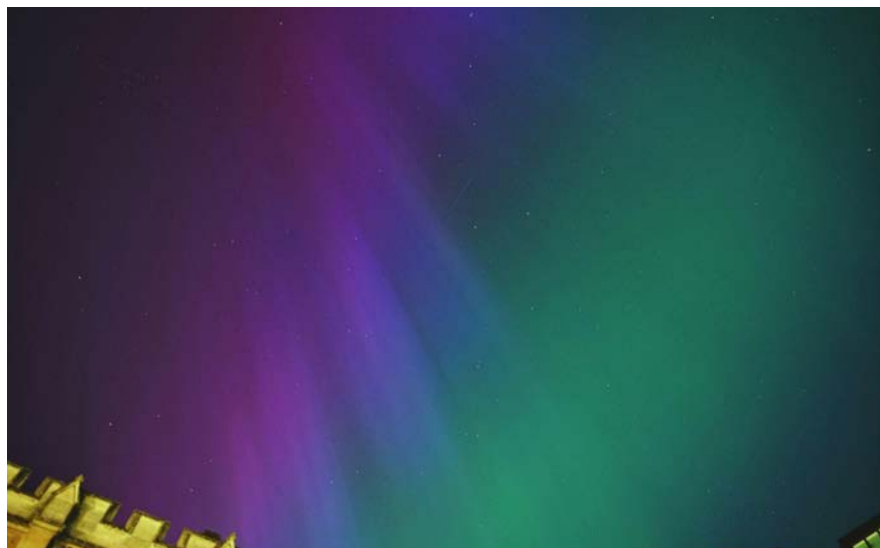


Photo by Shiyuan Li

The northern lights above Oriel!

MIDDLE COMMON ROOM

This past academic year did not fall short of new developments and exciting events for Oriel's MCR. Our new members brought much energy and flavour to bar nights, formal exchanges, and initiatives to create an environment that feels like home away from home for many of us.

The wave of renovations being carried into the upcoming academic year started with some initiatives to upgrade our bar with a new sound system, a new fridge and other essentials that made working the bar much easier. These changes gave us a better structure to host events like Whisky Tasting in Michaelmas term and our termly Women's Drinks. We made full use of the bar not only to make our Sunday formal dinners even more lively, but also to host a Live Band Night with the Green Bean Machine, an initiative that we intend to expand this coming year. Our bar also proudly launched and promoted Oriel's *698 English Extra Pale Ale*, and we look forward to our beer's newest iteration as we inch towards the College's 700th anniversary.

Hall dinners are an essential part of our MCR's social life, and our social team did a wonderful job making Grand Formal dinners and Guest Nights both refined and fun. Two of our Grand Formals were themed ('Enchanted Forest' in Michaelmas term, and 'Masquerade' in Hilary), which added a touch of glamour and curiosity to the event. Our final Guest Night was themed 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', which continued the trend and captivated Orielenses and guests alike. Our Dessert initiative got better than ever, as the MCR's chocolate fountain was brought back from the dead to enrich many Sunday Formals and big events like Grand Formals. We also acquired some tea towers to grace the eyes and stomachs of our guests, as bite size treats were beautifully displayed for optimised consumption. Other highlights were the LGBTQ+ and Women's Dinners: the first noted for its energy and vibrancy, the second for a clear celebration of women's achievements at Oriel.



Dessert in the Middle Common Room

Our interactions with other colleges took shape in exchange dinners and other exciting events. We held nine exchanges overall: New College, St. Peter's and St. John's in Michaelmas term; Lincoln, Christ Church, and Kellogg in Hilary term; and St. Hugh's, Corpus Christi, and Brasenose in Trinity term. For each of these, we lavished our guests with port and an excellent atmosphere at our bar. Apart from the exchanges, we also took part in Magdalen's Liquid Lounge as special guests, collaborated with Queen's for a Croquet Event in Trinity term, and joined hands with St. Catherine's for an International Bop and an end of year Garden Party. Additionally, we also funded the BAME (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic) conference for women in academia alongside Corpus Christi, Christ Church and University Colleges. The event had speakers Dr Anne Makena, Dr Chantelle Lewis and Dr Sugandha Srivastav sharing the challenges and experiences of their academic careers. We hope to continue these and many other collaborations with the wider University community. A bit further afield, across the water in Ireland, we met once more with students from Trinity College Dublin for our yearly Trinity exchange. Not only did we (almost) drown in quality Irish booze but were also mesmerised by grandiose dinners and some Irish warmth to break the February frost. We then welcomed our Dubliner counterparts for some 'plastering', craic, and a grand old time around Oxford in Trinity term. Many of us would say that the Trinity exchange samples the perfect way to build one's academic network.

Many MCR initiatives gave us opportunities for interaction around meaningful topics. To raise environmental awareness, we promoted a fruitful debate on the motion 'Should the blame for global warming fall on producers or consumers?' and a World Environment Day Photo Contest which highlighted the UN hashtag #GenerationRestoration. Oriel Talks was also quite vibrant with a range of topics and presenters: Maria Kyriazi on osteoarthritis and its causes; James Tufnail on nuclear fusion; Alessandro Ronca on the future and automata; Anca Marin on truth and ethics in journalism; Pranav Saxena on the myth of the 'white saviour'; Fiorella Cardenas Zavaleta on mobile connectivity in rural Africa; Lauren Spohn on four Oriel Fellows and their historical impact; and Armando Ledezma talking about art, body and time. Such a range of academic interests makes all of us nothing short of proud for being part of a community of students who are willing to share their academic aspirations as well as contributions to their individual fields.

Yet in such a rich academic environment, we also acknowledge our need to rest and recharge. Amidst the Oxford hustle, our welfare events this year were welcomed retreats. Weekly afternoon teas provided a soothing break, where we savoured snacks and good conversation. We found our zen during peaceful yoga sessions and shared laughs at cosy movie nights. A sweet highlight was our chocolate tasting event, which offered a delicious

pause from academic life. We also got creative with a Basquiat-themed arts and crafts session, glided (sometimes gracefully, sometimes not) on the ice, and fostered a warm, supportive community every step of the way.

Overall, we found ways to connect in both planned and spontaneous ways. Our mature student rep offered a barbecue at his house for mature students and an impromptu Wassailing evening in Michaelmas term which was some of our students' favourite event of the year. Although each of our term cards offered all of us the ideal structure to bring us together as a student body, most MCR members will agree that the most meaningful connections happened in chance encounters with old and new faces stopping by our common room for a cup of coffee. This willingness and openness to welcome one and all is what makes the Oriel MCR thrive and stand out. As the 2024–25 MCR committee, we are very excited to bring to the new academic year not only a refurbished common room but even more initiatives that will further strengthen the bonds we already hold dear.

Christine Rosa de Freitas
MCR Secretary

Photo by Jared Smith



NEW MEMBERS DEGREES AND EXAMINATION RESULTS

The Editor regrets that owing to changes in University GDPR policy, it would have been possible this year to publish only incomplete lists of new members and of examination results. We have therefore reluctantly taken the decision that rather than publish partial lists, we should omit the lists completely.

We apologise to the members affected by the decision which was due to circumstances beyond our control. It is hoped to have a resolution to this situation in time for the 2025 issue of the *Oriel Record*.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

UNIVERSITY AWARDS AND PRIZES

2023 Moher Prize for Undergraduate General Practice for Year 5 Students	Ryan Danvers
David Gibbs Prize <i>proxime accessit</i> for the best submitted work in a Special Subject Paper XI in Modern Languages	Lucian Shepherd
2nd De Paravicini Prize for the best performance by a Course II student in Classics Honour Moderations 2024	Kiel McHugh
Departmental Prize (awarded by MSc in Mathematical Sciences Examination Board) in recognition of dissertation	Osman Safa
Fred Hodcroft Prize [shared] for the best performance in the History of Spanish Language or Spanish dialects	Michael Lawlor
Hertford Prize for performance in the Latin papers in Classics Honour Moderations (joint winner)	James Fulcher
Faculty Preliminary Examination Prize (awarded for the best performance in the Preliminary Examination in Philosophy and Theology)	Joshua McGillivray
Junior Pusey and Ellerton Prize (awarded for the best performance in Biblical Hebrew in the Preliminary Examination in Philosophy and Theology)	Joshua McGillivray
Junior Mathematical Prize	Yutong Chen
Law Faculty Prize in Medical Law and Ethics (jointly awarded)	Kohana Ahteck
Law Faculty Prize in Private Law and Fundamental Rights	William Lewis Denegri
Law Faculty Prize in Children Family and the State: Children and the Law	Darcy Pearsall
Lidl Prize for the best performance in German for best submitted work in FHS Paper XII and XIV	Lucian Shepherd
Physical and Theoretical Part II Chemistry Prize	Alexandru Ichert (<i>proxime accessit</i>) Marcus Fforde (<i>proxime accessit</i>)

COLLEGE AWARDS AND PRIZES

Eugene Lee Hamilton Prize	Jamie Chong, Selwyn College, Cambridge
Hammick Progress in Chemistry Prize	Oscar Brown
HB Robinson Prize	Polly Brown
John Shannon Prize in History	Dowon Jung
	Flora Townsend
MacDonald Prize in Engineering (First Year)	Thomas Bisatt
MacDonald Prize in Engineering (Third Year)	Gongyi Zou

Prize for excellence in performance in the Preliminary Examination
in Physics

Christopher Ong

Commendation for Paper CP4 in the Preliminary Examination
in Physics

Christopher Ong

Sir Derek Morris Prize

Umberto Castello

Justas Petrauskas

GRADUATE SCHOLARS

The following elections have been made for the academic year 2023–2024

Rose Brugger

Jana Joha

Jan Langemeyer

Chiao-Li Ou

Tishan Wellalagodage

BURSARIES

In the year 2023–24, 58 undergraduates received bursaries from Oriel, including the following

Freeman Bursary

Macdonald Bursary

Midlands Bursary

Roe Disability Bursary

Thomson Bursary

Wilson Bursary

SPORTS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

BLUES

Charlotte Buckley	Athletics (Women's Captain 2023–24)
William Denegri	Rowing
Dylan Hughes	Karate (Men's captain)
Thomas Robertson	Rugby

HALF BLUES

Emily Alcock	Triathlon (Women's Captain)
Maximilian McGee	Mixed Lacrosse (for 2022–23 season, but awarded in 2023–24)

OTHER UNIVERSITY-LEVEL SPORT

Robert Adams	Rackets
Thomas Bedforth	Mixed Lacrosse
Edward Bence	Cricket (2nd XI)
Sofia Borrmann Gorostiza	Tennis (Women's 3rd team)
Charlotte Buckley	Cross-Country (Captain, 2nd team)
Michael Cooper	Mixed Lacrosse (Captain, 2nd team)
Victoria Kennedy	Women's Rugby
Michael Lawlor	Men's Lacrosse
Maximilian McGee	Mixed Lacrosse
Katie Osagwu Rodriguez	Women's Basketball
Jack Richardson	Kendo
Aren Sargood	Football (1st XI)
Henry Sawdy	Mixed Martial Arts (President, OUMMA club)
James Yon	Ice Hockey (Vikings B and Vikings C teams, Captain of Vikings C team for 2024–25)
Alastair Wu	Tennis (3rd team)

COLLEGE SPORT

Thomas Bisatt	Elis White Memorial Trophy for the most improved novice rower
Toby Robinson	Michael Johnson Shield for outstanding commitment to college rugby

COLLEGE LIBRARY

This academic year has been one of patience, consolidation and planning in the Library. After the high profile, very visible work in the Senior Library in early 2023 by all appearances this year has been a quiet one. In reality the Library team have continued their efforts behind the scenes continually to improve our collections, spaces and reader support offering.

After the initial, instinctive, anxiety about seeing candles in the Senior Library wore off, I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many Orienses at events held in the space. I have been thrilled to hear many wonderful stories of time spent in the Library. Repeatedly I am struck by the Library's position as a core part of people's Oriel journey. In fact, I have often discussed this year whether the Library can be considered the heart or the brain of the College. It is clear that the project has garnered much enthusiasm and support in the Oriel community for which I am extremely grateful as I am always happy to share my passion for the collections, their history and long-term preservation.

Something I always say about my career as a Librarian is that 'I don't know but I do know where to find it'. This particularly rings true this year. I find myself answering questions with 'I don't know' more often than not as we delve into the various handwritten catalogues and the archives to form a more accurate picture of the Senior Library and its contents. In doing so we are beginning to define the future of the space and open Oriel up to the opportunities these projects bring. It is a fascinating mix of dust, historical research and learning new skills in Digital Humanities and programming. My days are filled with opposites – preservation vs access; heritage vs technology; palaeography vs coding.

Balancing contrasting requirements is not new though as my job encompasses both the Senior rare books Library and the modern Junior/Pantin Library. In the Pantin this year we have been consolidating the new processes and workflows needed with our new Library Management System. I have continued my work on the Programme Management Team to ensure that the College Libraries' unique requirements are understood and factored in. We have worked alongside our academics to update our subject holdings – this year has particularly seen updates of the holdings in Italian and Classics.

Fiona, our Senior Library Assistant, Reader Services, has worked hard on updating all of our signage, displays and social media to present a more consistent, uncluttered, calm style to our unique collection of spaces. We have worked hard on updating our accessible ground floor space to provide a more welcoming, inclusive area. Students returning in Michaelmas term 2024 will now have access to adjustable desks, a variety of seating, monitors and more. This summer has also seen the installation of our new book and laptop lockers. Purchased using the last of the generous Alumni Covid funds, these lockers

allow us to ensure 24/7 contact-free book transactions. The first of their kind in Oxford, they will also allow readers to borrow laptops for use in the Library.

Felicity, Senior Library Assistant, Technical Services, has been tackling the monumental task of consolidating our journal holdings. Keeping track of our multiple titles, some active, some closed, some with regular publishing patterns and many without, has proved complicated. With increasing costs for print journals and many titles moving to online access only we have had to make some hard decisions in consultation with our academics, but I am confident our subscriptions remain the right ones for our readers, and we continue to work closely with the Bodleian to ensure our students have access to everything they need. Felicity's hard work means that our records on SOLO are now far more accurate and journal titles much more accessible.

We said goodbye to Megan, our Library Assistant, early in 2024, after she completed her PhD and accepted a prestigious placement in Japan. Her friendly demeanour has been much missed by all who visited the Library Office. Thankfully in June Louise Trevelyan joined the team as Library Assistant. Louise has settled in well and continues to provide a warm welcome to enquiring readers.

There just is not space here to list all of the many projects, both mundane and exciting, visible and behind the scenes, that have made up the Library's year and will continue into the future. As we move into a new academic year, my focus will move from the long-term planning and documentation to the more immediate demands of inductions, new book requests, requests for staplers and help with the photocopier. We look forward to the influx of new and old faces to remind us why we do all of this – for nearly 700 years' worth of Orienses and for all of the Orienses to come.

Finally, as always, I would like to extend my gratitude to those who donate material to the Library. With many thanks to Gwyn Bevan, Heuishil Chang, the Chantry Library, Robert Fox, James Gardner, Hannah Goode, David Griffiths, Robin Hirsch, John Huber, Dowon Jung, Benedikt Koehler, David Lyon, David McBride, Jim Mellon, Rob Petre, Grace Pfanstiel, Mark Philp, Damon Salesa, Somerville College Library, Richard Swinburne, Sophia Zhang and many more who wish to remain anonymous. Please do get in touch if I have missed you.

*Hannah Robertson,
Librarian*

OUTREACH REPORT

Another fulfilling year for Oriel outreach, despite sweeping changes in personnel! I took over from the Chaplain as Tutor for Admissions and Outreach and spent a year learning the ropes from Arron O'Connor, our brilliant Outreach Officer. He was running the whole operation very smoothly indeed, until leaving us in June. I am sure you will join me in wishing him all the best in his new endeavours. The good news is that our new Outreach Officer, Carys Owen, has hit the ground running! Welcome!

Before I delve into what we have accomplished in the year 2023–24 in some detail, let me first paint you a broad-brush picture of the scale of our outreach engagement in numbers. We made about a hundred interventions, ranging from school visits in our linked regions (mostly the West Midlands but also a few London boroughs) by the Outreach Officer, to organising Open Days in College and hosting virtual events. Altogether this represents over 2000 secondary school students from Year 8 all the way to Year 13 that we engaged with this year, and hopefully encouraged to apply to us (preferably) or other universities throughout the country.

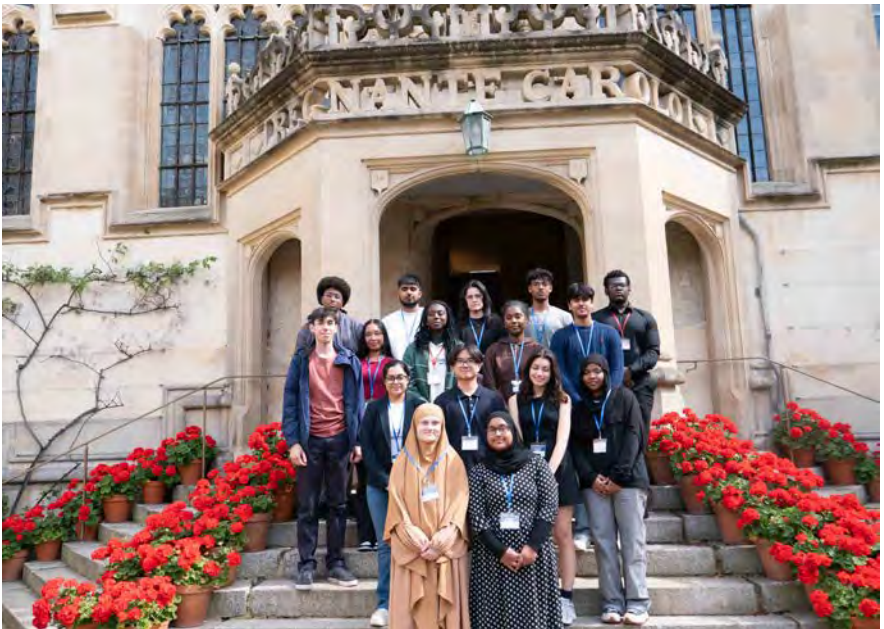


Photo by Aarti Basnyat

Easter Residentials

As I am somewhat pressed for space, I have chosen to only highlight a couple of events we organised that, at least in my mind, stood out this year. The first of these was our Easter study days (*English, History, Modern Languages and Linguistics, and Women in STEM* this year), with around thirty Year 12 students in attendance at each residential. Participants rated all the sessions very highly: 'I had a great time with a mix of education and fun and wish it had been longer', 'I just want to say thank you for this brilliant opportunity. I have thoroughly enjoyed it and feel really privileged to have been selected', 'Really motivational for future endeavour. Please run more'. Strikingly, student feedback across all four topics indicated that their likelihood of applying to Oxbridge after the residential had increased. This is as high a praise as such a programme can possibly receive, so I want to seize the opportunity to congratulate and profusely thank all the organisers, student ambassadors and educators for making it such a success, as well as our generous donors for funding it. The second was our STEM@Oxbridge collaboration with Generating Genius. Oriel has been working with the charity, which supports Black African and Caribbean students pursue STEM careers, since 2021, and this year

Photo by Aarti Basnyat



A group of Generating Genius students



Photo by Aarti Basnyat

First Quad on an Open Day

the partnership has evolved into the STEM@Oxbridge programme. This collaboration between Oriel, Generating Genius, and St John's College, Cambridge, consists of multiple events taking place between late June and October for the same cohort of Year 12 students. Programme events include a subject/university discovery session, followed by an application preparation day, two STEM masterclasses (with Engineering and Physics hosted at Oriel this year) and finally an interview/admission training session. Alongside this, Oriel organised an academic poster competition for our Generating Genius students, which has produced high-quality original pieces of work. Programmes like these are what outreach is all about. They guarantee that College continues to attract the best and brightest young minds, regardless of background.

We are about to embark on yet another busy year filled with Open Days, school tours, career fairs and webinars. Together with the outreach team, we look forward to helping a new cohort of talented young people achieve their goals and fulfil their aspirations to be the best they can be, within our academic community and beyond.

Julien Devriendt

Tutor for Admissions and Outreach

ORIEL ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I am delighted to be writing my first report for the *Oriel Record* as Chair of the Oriel Alumni Advisory Committee (OAAC). It was both daunting and an honour to take over the reins from Geoff Austin, who has ably looked after and represented the interests of Oriel alumni for many years and remains a staunch supporter of the College.

The OAAC exists to facilitate communications between all alumni and the College, increase alumni engagement and assist the Alumni Engagement Office to organise enjoyable events. We are very lucky to have an enthusiastic committee, the youngest of whom matriculated fifty-eight years after our most senior member. We have formal meetings twice a year, but are also in touch regularly with the College to discuss events and issues as they arise. Nearly eight hundred Orielenes have attended at least one event in the last year, which is a testament to the fondness we retain for Oriel and the hard work of the Alumni Engagement Office.

Many generations of Orielenes were taught by Glenn Black (English) and Richard Tur (Jurisprudence) who were both Fellows for over thirty-two years. Richard's memorial service was held in June in Hall and was a fitting tribute to a remarkable man. Glenn's was held at the University Church on 25 October 2024 and was very well attended.

There have been three Gaudies this year, only the first of which was held in Hall. The 2012–2013 cohort had their first Gaudy in September last year and kept the bar open long into the small hours with reminiscences of their time at Oriel. The work on the kitchens then commenced so that the Gaudy for 1980–1983 took place in a packed Senior Library with the Hall serving as the space for drinks. The 1996–1999 Gaudy also enjoyed the Senior Library and were entertained by a brilliant speech from Kathleen Donnelly KC.

Because of the conversion of the Senior Library to a dining space, involving the removal of all the books and the construction of a lift to transport the food from the temporary kitchens in Second Quad to the first floor, the Champagne Concert in October took place in the University Church. We were lucky enough to enjoy a performance by Yevgeny Sudbin, who has been described in the press as 'potentially one of the greatest pianists of the 21st century'.

The annual Adam de Brome lunch for those who have pledged to remember Oriel in their wills was as popular as ever. Philip Powell (1959) gave a fascinating lecture on *The Stones of Oriel*. In March the Provost and Development Director visited Hong Kong and Orielenes attended an excellent dinner hosted by Hoi Tung (1991), who has generously endowed a Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering at Oriel. In April many Orielenes accepted the invitation to attend either dinner or afternoon tea in the Senior Library and brought their families. With free seating, some children even experienced High Table

— surely a first! The London Dinner in May was held in the grand surroundings of the Institute of Directors and Jakob Pfaudler (1997), CEO of the AA, gave a fascinating talk.

After a successful *36 hours of Giving* Day on 23–24 May we celebrated with the annual Garden Party. New children's entertainment proved very popular with circus tricks in Third Quad, and afterwards the usual trip to the river ended in triumph with Oriel's men once again being crowned Head of the River. The women's crew had a tough year but no doubt they will be moving back up the First Division next year.

'Oriel in the City' continued to attract Orielenes to various London pubs, which is never a difficult task. In October the city was Manchester so levelling up continues in a different form.

As well as socialising, Orielenes still enjoy being educated. In November, Hugo Spowers MBE (1978) explained the new model of subscription payments for the next generation of zero emission vehicles at his company, Riversimple. In February, Robert Barrington (1984), Liz David-Barrett (1992) and Emeritus Fellow Mark Philp (1983) took us on a whistlestop tour of corruption. In June 2024, Julian Fisher (1989) taught us how to think like a spy.

This year the Rex Nettleford Lecture was given by Paul Gilroy, Professor of Humanities at UCL and founding director of the Sarah Parker Remond Centre for the study of racism and radicalisation. We also once again congratulated the winners of the Rex Nettleford Essay Competition, in which Year 12 students were invited to submit an essay addressing specific aspects of colonialism, with dinner at High Table.

We were delighted to welcome Lord and Lady Harris to the Oriel Environmental Group Lecture to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Harris Lecture Theatre. Dr Philipp Grünewald, Supernumerary Research Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science, spoke about Oriel's heat decarbonisation programme and the challenges in reducing the carbon emissions of heritage buildings. Presentations were also given by two current graduate students.

Talking of anniversaries, next year we will celebrate forty years since women were admitted to Oriel – please mark 6 September 2025 in your diaries. Oriel's 700th birthday in 2026 will be marked in spectacular style: more information will follow soon.

My first year as Chair of the OAAC has been both a privilege and a pleasure. I am very grateful to the members of the committee and the Alumni Engagement Office for all their hard work.

Floreat Oriel!

Claire Toogood KC (1991)

Chair, OAAC

Oriel Alumni Advisory Committee

Phil Burrows (1982)
John Cook (1965)
Astra Emir (1987)
Matthew Gilpin (1988)
Laura Hawksworth (1986)
Charlie Humphreys (1995)
Sarah Kiefer (2003)
Hamish Lal (1996)
Clive Mackintosh (1977)
Markian Mysko von Schultze (2012)
David Paterson (1963)
Vernon Sankey (1968)
Sophia Smout (2016)
Sandy Todd (1958)
Claire Toogood (1991)

Photo by Jared Smith



 Oriel Sports 

Summer Vllls

Wed-Sat
Horseship

Crew	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
W1-6:45	↓	↓	↓	↓
M1-6:45	→ (Hors)	→ (Hors)	→ (Hors)	→ (Hors)
W2-5:45	→	↑	↑	↓
M2-5:45	↑	↑	→	↓
W3-4:45	↓	↓	↓	↓
M3-3:45	↓		↓	↓
W4-12:45	→	→	↓	↓
M4-1:15	↓			↓

GLO Y.





CLUBS
SOCIETIES
AND
ACTIVITIES

CHAPEL MUSIC

Successful recruitment at the beginning of Michaelmas term set the choir up well for the year ahead. The routine through the year followed the usual pattern with only minor tweaks for circumstances. Singing the mid-term service of Michaelmas on All Saints' Day meant that solemn observances carried over from All Souls' Day were combined with the more festive tone appropriate for the saints. This was achieved musically by mixing settings from Haydn's *Missa Brevis St Joannis de Deo* (Kyrie, Agnus Dei, Gloria) with others from Victoria's *Missa pro defunctis a 4* (Gradual, Sanctus, Communion). The term's calendrically early situation meant that the Carol Service took place even before Advent had begun. Musical choices focused on anticipation, with Naylor's epic setting of words from Isaiah, *Vox dicentis*, taking a focal place. That anthem was apt also for Candlemas, when it was complemented by the same composer's Magnificat. In Trinity Term, the choir went to Keble College to join its choir for the annual combined service.

The strength of numbers and commitment of choir members meant that the music lists could be varied in their selection of repertoire. Several items were picked up once more: Handel's *And the glory of the Lord* at the Carol service; Lassus's magnificent *Omnes de Saba* for Epiphany; Bairstow's *Let all mortal flesh*; Purcell's *Canticles in G minor*; Macmillan's *A New Song*; Howells's *Gloucester Service*. There was also a large number of works new to the choir: De Cristo, *Ego sum panis*; Rutter, *What sweeter music*, Byrd, *Viderunt omnes*; Naylor, *Vox dicentis*; Allegri (attr), *Missa quarti toni*; Naylor, *Evening Canticles Magnificat*; Lotti, *Miserere*; King, *A new commandment*; Rheinberger, *Miserere*; De Rivera, *Missa a cuatro voces*; Tornar, *Beati omnes*; Rheinberger, *Missa brevis Op 83*; Whitbourn, *Beatus vir*; Cardoso, *Missa Sancta Maria*; Cardoso, *Aquam quam ego dabo*; King, *If ye love me*.

The contemporary pieces had connections with the choir. Aaron King is brother of choral scholar Anieshka and attended the performance of *If ye love me* in Trinity Term. The performance of *Beatus vir* by James Whitbourn was sung in memory of its composer, who had died earlier in the year. Whitbourn worked with the choir in 2019 when he composed a setting of Newman's poem *Solitude* for it. *Beatus vir* is based on the plainsong melody associated with its words and works an intense setting, with overlapping melodic lines drawn from the chant coalescing in powerful climaxes of richly scored chords.

There were memorable solos through the year. Anieshka King sang the Magnificat of George Dyson's *Canticles in F*; Mozart's *Laudate Dominum* was sung by Caity Farrant Shaw, sister of bass choral scholar Leonard Shaw; in Hilary Term, Mendelssohn's *Hear my prayer* was shared between Anieshka King and Katherine Mure (who sang the second part, *O for the wings of a dove*). In Trinity Term, Alexander Edwards sang the tenor solos in Stanford's *I saw another angel* and Howells's *Collegium regale* setting of the Nunc dimittis. The solo section of Stainer's *I saw the Lord* was sung by Anieshka King, Ellie Peng, Jerric

Chong and Nathaniel Best. At the leavers' service, the verse section of Parry's *I was glad* was beautifully delivered by Katherine Mure, Ellie Peng, Marcus Williamson and Szymon Kwapiszewski.

Trinity term ended with the launch of the CD of music by Henry Aldrich recorded last year. Produced by Convivium Records, the disc can be purchased, or its tracks downloaded, through their website. It is also available for purchase in-person from the College lodge and through the usual CD distribution agents.

The choir's year culminated in a highly successful tour to Portugal (27–30 June). There were concerts in the Lapa Church in Porto, Braga Cathedral and the Church of Santa Cruz in Coimbra. On the final day the choir sang Mass at the Lapa Church. Audiences were large and appreciative. The music was drawn from repertory used in Chapel services during the year: works from the golden age of sacred polyphony (Lassus, Palestrina, Lotti and Tallis); Anglican classics (Naylor, Parry, Stanford and Harris); and we paid tribute to our host nation's distinguished legacy of choral music with music by De Cristo, Cardoso

Photo by Robert Wainwright



The choir in the cloister of Santa Cruz Church in Coimbra, Portugal

and Tornar. Musical highlights of the tour were contemporary compositions by King and Whitbourn, showing the continued vitality and creativity of the British choral tradition. We are very grateful to Dr Maria João Rodrigues de Araújo, President of Portugal-UK 650, for organising the events of the tour; and to Jerric Chong, Ellie Peng and Gregoria Verity Gelabert for their leading role in making the practical arrangements.

We were sorry to see a substantial number of departures at the end of the year: Anieshka King (choral scholar), Katherine Mure (choral scholar), Isabella Simpson (choral scholar), Rhea Suribhatla from the sopranos; Gregoria Verity Gelabert, Tanie Maseko, Elliot Oppenheim, Ellie Peng (choral scholar), Cécile Varry from the altos; Jerric Chong (choral scholar), Alexander Edwards (choral clerk), Robert Kerr, Marcus Williamson (choral scholar) from the tenors; Marin Vuksic, Szymon Kwapiszewski from the basses; and organ scholar Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti. One other leaver was simultaneously the choir's newest recruit and its most senior member: Dr Michael Spivey had long wanted to participate in the choir's activities, but it was only in his final year that he found time to do so. He was not able to sing with the choir often, but his brief membership was greatly appreciated. We wish all leavers the greatest success in their next endeavours and hope that they will prosper musically too.

All the leavers contributed valuably to the choir, which always amounts to more than the sum of its parts, but which depends on each of its parts to achieve that. Two of them deserve special thanks. Jerric Chong was a paradigm of what a choir administrator should be. His contribution has been immense, and we shall miss him a great deal. He will prove a challenging act to follow. Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti, our senior organ scholar, displayed excellent musicianship combined with a winsome personality throughout his time at Oriel. At home equally in the theatre as in chapel, and skilled also at beatboxing, he carved out a large and distinctive place for himself in Oriel's music. He too will be hard to follow.

Overall, it has been a very successful year for the choir. I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate its members. The standard of performance was high, and we tackled a large amount of new music successfully. The choral tradition is an important part of our national culture, and Oriel plays an important role in nurturing and perpetuating it.

David Maw
Director of Music

CHAMPAGNE CONCERTS

The Oriel Champagne Concerts have now been held for just under twenty years. They take place twice a year in October and May and are designed to bring together alumni and current members of the College for the enjoyment of great music. The concerts have, in the past, usually been held in the Senior Library, but because of the current building work taking place in College alternative venues are being used, this year the University Church of St Mary the Virgin and the College Chapel.

The first concert last year was given (in St Mary's) by the distinguished pianist, Yevgeny Sudbin who is widely recognised as a master of both Scarlatti and Scriabin. He played a programme of music by Haydn, Liszt, Debussy and Scarlatti, ending with the Fifth Sonata of Alexander Scriabin, a work of notorious and astonishing difficulty, played with appropriately astonishing virtuosity.

The second concert was given in the Chapel by the leading Baroque ensemble, *Florilegium*, under the direction of Ashley Solomon (Professor and Head of Historical Performance at the Royal College of Music). The musicians from *Florilegium* were Ashley Solomon, baroque flute, Bojan Cicic, violin, Reiko Ichise, viola de gamba and Steven Devine, harpsichord. The programme, entitled *Father, Son and Godfather*, featured performances of masterpieces by J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach and G.P. Telemann. The performance of the Trio Sonata from J.S. Bach's *Musical Offering*, one of the pinnacles of Baroque music, was especially memorable.

Julian Armstrong
Chair of the Alumni Music Society



COLLEGE SPORTS

ALTERNATIVE ICE HOCKEY

This year was revolutionary for Oriel's presence at ALTS, having not only a regular, and surprisingly competitive group of players from the college turning up each week; but also having now three Oriel members on the ALTS committee. We have, Mark Van Eykenhof as Welfare Officer, Paul Becsi as Music Officer and myself as Equipment Officer. In addition to Oriels' committee presence, Peter Webster, Theo Morrissey and William Schwabach make up the 'Oriel Hockey Team' a rather unofficial team that nonetheless is still feared by many competing teams at ALTS.

For the annual ALTS Cuppers event, the six of us formed the team named 'William', so named after one of our members in the (unlikely) hope that other teams may be led to the false expectation that they would simply be playing one person. This team successfully made it through the group stages at this year's Cuppers (even while in a group with the team that ended up winning), however our triumph was quickly eliminated when we were beaten in a hard-fought game of the first knockout round.

Ultimately, however, I am super-proud of how the Oriel hockey players have improved this year, with Paul greatly improving over the year, and the so called 'Hockey Freshers' (Mark, Peter, Theo and William) having never played before now playing with more team chemistry than I have seen elsewhere at ALTS (or on most actual hockey teams for that matter).

I look forward to next year where we intend to introduce as many Oriel freshers as possible to the joys of ALTS and put forward an even stronger and more experienced team for Cuppers.

Jamie Yon
Captain

MEN'S FOOTBALL

The Oriel College Men's Football Club was faced with the difficult task of remaining in Division 2 following the elegant mid-table finish under Neal Kok's flawless captaincy in the 2022–23 season. After the departure of some truly special talent from that year's finalists, questions were being asked about the future of this club. Could this small, rowing-centric college even get a team out every week, let alone win a game? We were therefore ecstatic to hear, at the Freshers' Fair, that four incoming undergraduates were trialling for the Blues side. The first-year students provided a new, energetic and infinitely passionate mindset to the 2023–24 season. This, combined with the wisdom of the veterans of the squad, gave the OCFC men a solid foundation going into Michaelmas.

The first term was a slower start than we would have hoped, but this was soon met with a contentious win away against Magdalen, some heated social media altercations with Hertford, and a gripping red card saga away at Somerville, a rare sight in college football these days. Each fixture saw the team grow closer and stronger, resulting in a thrashing of University College 11-1 in the first round of Cuppers near the end of term.

Hilary term was a clean slate. In the league, Oriel hosted Somerville and earned another hard fought three points thanks to a thrilling last-minute winner in front of the home fans and Lee, our delightful groundsman. Despite a second-round exit to St Anne's in Cuppers and the impending fate of relegation, we battled in every fixture to the very end. Our annual friendly fixture against the Alumni was nothing short of a success. The Old Boys faced a sea of undergraduate blue in a game full of liquid end-to-end pass and move and screams of 'Come on you undergrads!' ringing out from our back line. Once OCFC had opened the scoring, this eventually led to a 6-0 win, with a hat-trick from the captain. Additionally, OCFC won back the Countdown Cup from St John's in an eight-goal thriller at the Oxford City training grounds. After the boys had been animated by



OCFC after the annual game against the alumni

Rachel Riley's inspirational words, and with a bit of help from our MCR Blues striker, we comfortably put six past our footballing rivals, resulting in silverware to end the season. Finally, for the first time in two years, we reintroduced inter-college socials to OCFC, which proved to be a great testament to the team's chemistry.

In Trinity term, we had a series of wins in the group stages of Futsal Cuppers, beating the likes of St John's, Exeter and Pembroke. However, despite wins against these Premier League and Division 1 sides (and St John's), we were not fortunate enough to progress to the knockouts. But this was also a term of celebration for our achievements as a club. At the JCR Sports dinner, colours were awarded to Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti for his dedication over three years, Edwin Gatward for being top scorer with twelve goals and for being a flawless vice-captain, Axel Blakey for some truly outstanding performances and Charlie Chieli for being our 'Player of the Season' and incoming captain for Michaelmas 2024.

A series of thanks are beyond overdue to everyone who played for and supported OCFC Men this season, especially my committee: Edwin, Atticus and Neal, who were great mentors to both me and the whole squad throughout this year. I am excited to see the changes and glory that Charlie's captaincy will bring to our club next season.

Archie Mount
Captain

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

This season, Oriel Women's Football formed a joint team with St Edmund Hall, but still continued our training sessions with our old teammates at Christ Church. Because of poor weather and shortage of players, we were unfortunately able to play only one match in the league this year – a 4-1 defeat against Merton, Mansfield and Wadham's joint team, Oriel's Carrie Thomas being awarded Girl of the Game. However, we enjoyed significantly more success in the Women's Plate. After a comfortable 2-1 victory in the semi-final, we had the chance to regain our dignity as we faced Merton/Mansfield/Wadham once more in the final. At full time, the score was level at 2-2 and we moved to a penalty shoot-out. After three successfully converted penalties, Oriel Captain Liv Richardson's among them, the Oriel/Teddy Hall women's football team lifted the trophy for the 23/24 Women's Plate.

Olivia Richardson
Captain



Oriel Women's Football

NETBALL

This year, Oriel Netball has competed in Division 1 of both the Girls college league and the Mixed college league which run in Michaelmas and Hilary terms. As a much smaller college than others, we have managed to compete well against much larger colleges. We remain the only college with teams in Division 1 in both the Girls and Mixed leagues- this is by no means a small feat and deserves much recognition.

One of the great strengths of Oriel netball is the club's inclusivity; choosing people for matches is not based on ability and this has meant we've been able to introduce people to netball who have never played before or have not played in many years which has been lots of fun. Despite training sessions being few and far between, we have taken a light-hearted approach to our matches and I'm proud of the effort, dedication and enthusiasm each member has put into the club over the course of this year. A special mention goes out to Alice Randall, Eliza Smith and Holly Edwards who have been so crucial to the management of this club on the committee this year.

Our start in the Girls league began well with victories over Keble, Balliol and St Hugh's in Michaelmas. Despite having no university level players in the squad and often



Oriel Netball team

playing with fewer than the required seven players, we finished fifth in the league overall.

On the other hand, the Michaelmas mixed league was a truly a highlight of the club's performance this year. Large turnouts to matches and a formidable four-week winning streak emboldened the team, bringing us agonisingly close to winning the league but unfortunately missing out on overall league victory by one point (hopefully next year we will be able to bring it home!). Most memorable of the wins in Michaelmas was a formidable 16-1 victory over Exeter College at LMH – a demonstration of the pure netball prowess that Oriel can offer, even with only a single training session that term. Once Hilary term rolled round, the team were excited to play again but sadly the rainy British weather had other plans – the flooding of the courts at Worcester gave rise to treacherous conditions. This led to multiple match cancellations (sadly) and one broken arm for the Vice-Captain, resulting in an eight-hour trip to A and E!

Hoping for much improved weather in Trinity, the team arrived at the mixed Cuppers tournament at the Magdalen College School courts raring to play some liquid netball, but with an average height of approximately 5 foot 5 inches and only six players, we had to call in the much-needed reinforcements of the Oriel footballers. Now armed with

at least a full team, we played positively in our group stage matches but unfortunately, despite some valiant defending from Milly Gibson and Sienna Jeffs, we failed to progress to the semi-final – a dream for next year is to progress further to the next rounds of the competition.

I am very proud of the commitment and dedication of everyone at OCNC this year and it has been a pleasure to captain the club; I am greatly looking forward to seeing what the 2024–25 committee can achieve next year and hopefully the club will continue to flourish.

Floreat Oriel Netball

Abi MacNay

Captain

MEN'S ROWING

OCBC began the year strongly. A record ninety-six freshers signed up to try rowing at the Oriel freshers' fair, yet this enthusiasm was soon thwarted by a historically wet Michaelmas term. Both senior and novice men resorted to many hours spent on the erg, getting faster and fitter but losing vital water time. Wallingford Head was cancelled after a particularly wet period, yet the M1 were still able to compete at Fairbairns in Cambridge at the end of the term, where they were the second fastest Oxford college crew.



Men's 1st Eight blades before boating



The Men's 1st Eight rowing over at head during Summer Eights

The squad returned in early January for our pre-term training camp, ready to hit the ground running. Unfortunately, we arrived to find Boathouse Island and much of Wallingford under water, which meant the ergs beckoned once more. The M1 were able to compete at Quintin Head in late January, where they put in a strong performance despite a rapid tide, vicious winds, and a severely damaged fin. The following few weeks saw M1 and M2 putting in the hours, with the M1 doing eight sessions a week to gain the maximum advantage before Torpids. However, it was not to be, as Torpids was unfortunately cancelled after yet another spell of poor weather. While it was clearly disappointing not to

be able to show off the work we had all put in over the previous two terms, the squad still had an enjoyable afternoon at Pembroke's replacement 'Tug of Warpids'.

In the Easter vacation we were very pleased to see extraordinary Oriel representation in the Boat Races - we had three Orielenes in the men's Blue Boat, one in the women's Blue Boat, two in Isis, and two in the Lightweight Men's Blue Boat. This is an incredible achievement and a sign that the rowing tradition at Oriel is as strong as ever.

After Easter, all crews were finally able to put in the miles at Wallingford and in Oxford. Summer Eights rolled around quickly, with OCBC qualifying four boats on the men's side and four on the women's side, which was the joint-highest number of crews fielded by any college! Our M1 was buoyed by the return of seven University rowers, and so was in a strong position to defend the headship, which they duly did after four comfortable row-overs. 2024 marks Oriel's 36th Eights headship - the most of any college by an ever-growing margin.

The first two days of Oriel M2's campaign saw rapid bumps on Exeter and Queen's M1s, while day three saw the crew coming incredibly close to catching Lincoln M1. Unfortunately, the M2 was bumped on the final day by a much bigger Worcester crew, but the overall result was still a very impressive +1. The M2 is now 21st on the river, the highest second boat by an incredible eight places!

Our M3 and M4 both gave it their all, but had challenging bumps campaigns. Both crews unfortunately received spoons, but were in good spirits nonetheless, and are looking forward to getting revenge in Torpids '25!

The club is in a strong position going into next year's campaign - M1 are third on the river in Torpids, and will be looking to regain this headship and keep the Eights headship for yet another year, while all other crews will be looking to add to the hard work they put in over the course of this year.

Theo Briscoe

Men's Captain of Boats

WOMEN'S ROWING

The Oriel Women's team had a strong season in 2023–24, even in the face of adversity throughout the year. Led by Women's Captain Beatrice Frediani, and Head Coach Jack Delaney, the squad entered the season in October raring to go. Unfortunately, much of the water training in both Michaelmas and Hilary terms was disrupted by heavy rains and widespread flooding, including Boathouse Island itself being underwater for a large part of the terms! However, the women's team coped with this admirably, replacing lost water



The Women's 1st Torpid racing Quintin Head on the Tideway

sessions with innumerable early-morning steady state ergs and travelling to Dorney Lake at weekends for training. In the lead-up to Torpids, all three of the women's boats were in a great position to attack racing, with 2km PBs achieved by all of the squad and crews coming together smoothly, despite limited water time. Sadly, the squad didn't get the chance to show their hard work by racing in Torpids, which was cancelled because of high streams and flooding.

Undeterred, the team returned for pre-season training at the start of Trinity term, ready to fight for some Summer Eights bumps! Once again, the commitment and drive shown by members throughout the squad led to many further 2km PBs, and we were excited to have fielded four women's crews that qualified to row in Summer Eights – equal to the men's squad. All crews raced hard in Summer Eights week, with a particularly stellar performance from the W2, who went up three places, narrowly missing out on blades! Following on from Summer Eights, the women's squad sent a 4+ and a 4- to



The Women's 1st Eight on the Saturday of Summer Eights

Reading Amateur Regatta, with both crews racing the semi-finals of their categories. In addition, the 4- raced at Henley Women's Regatta, and were the fastest college crew in the Aspirational Academic 4- category!

The Oriel Women's team are looking forward to getting stuck into summer training, and can't wait to see what next season has in store!

Beatrice Frediani
Women's Captain of Boats

RUGBY

The past year has been a truly successful one for rugby at Oriel. Following from last season we had high hopes for success both in the Cuppers knockout competition and Division 2. The club was delighted to welcome Wallaby Tom Robertson alongside all our new players, some of whom were new to the sport at the start of the year. With Tom's expert coaching of the team, the entire squad was ready for the season ahead.

In the first round of Cuppers we narrowly lost to Balliol/Hertford which sent us into the bowl, but we still had the league to focus on. After being promoted last year, we knew it would be a challenge, and despite this we had a strong start with significant wins against Brasenose/Queens, Pembroke/Wadham, Worcester/Lincoln and Christ Church in Michaelmas term. Our winning streak continued into Hilary term, where we remained undefeated in the league and were crowned champions. This success of the club is down to the dedication of all our players; as we were able reliably to put out a team of fifteen every week, outclassing amalgamations of many colleges with a far larger student pool. In addition to this, the development of our players this year has been outstanding, most notably from Vittorio Cuneo-Flood and Hugo Lissillour.

This year's Old Boys' game was again a success. It was a highly competitive game with plenty of tries and some spine-snapping tackles from Peter Williams. The result fell to the old boys with a 50-33 win.

Come Trinity, we were all excited, not only for our Cuppers run but also to see Tom Robertson sporting the Oriel shirt. We had a tough match up against a staggering combination of five colleges – St Catherine's, Corpus, Mansfield, Merton and Somerville. After being stood up for a friendly against them the previous term, we were determined to put them in their place. We had a slow start, conceding three tries early but we continued to fight back. By the second half we had come into our own, spending most of the last twenty-five minutes camped down in their 22. Even with bulldozing carries from Tom Robertson and some flashy plays from the likes of Max McGee and Toby Robinson we were sadly unable to break through. Our Cuppers run had come to an end with a 19-0 loss.

Colours were awarded for significant contribution to the club to Toby McConnel, Peter Lenehan, David Reid and Hugo Lissillour. I have thoroughly enjoyed captaining the side this year and I look forward to seeing the future success of the club with Toby McConnel taking over the reins. Harvey Rendall and Rob Adams will be joining him as vice-captain and social secretary respectively.

Ed Smart
Captain



After the Old Boys' rugby game

TORTOISE CLUB

The Tortoise Club's constitutional duty is to recognise and celebrate outstanding Oriel oarsmanship and support the Oriel College Boat Club (OCBC). The Tortoise Club is one of the most active alumni clubs; we celebrate through racing, winning the after party, and spreading the word; and we give support in the form of war stories, singing and donations. I ask you all to take on these duties as your own. It is thanks to alumni generosity that OCBC is one of the few college clubs which is still free to students, a principle that I will never surrender.

We have enjoyed the fruits of this principle this year. Once again OCBC had the largest number of crews of any college. Oriel's culture and atmosphere also attracted more University rowers than any other college, and even contributed in some small way to a Grand Challenge Cup winner and Olympic glory. With a particular shout out to Liam Corrigan, the 2023 Eights seven-seat, who celebrated Headship in his one-stripe Oriel Blazer because he 'didn't want to be presumptuous by going straight for three stripes.' He is now the recipient of an Olympic Gold Medal for Men's Fours.

This has been a year of celebration throughout the club, with a number of engagements, weddings, and newborns among our members all of which contribute to swelling the ranks of Oriel rowers and supporters. In this respect, I am particularly thankful to Helen Belgrano Operto for her great work as Tortoise Secretary, keeping the



The Tortoise Club Picnic at Henley Royal Regatta 2024

club in order and always moving forward. Helen has now become the Regalia Officer and it is a pleasure to welcome Eleanor Juckes as the new Tortoise Secretary; she is already making her mark and I am excited to see what she has in store.

The Tortoise Club has widened its competitive repertoire this year. There was Wyndhams Tug-of-War, Torpids Chug-of-War, a four-strong Tortoise Team at the Vitoria-Gasteiz Iron Man, as well as the now regular entries for Fairbairns, the Head of the River Race, and Henley Royal Regatta. Particular thanks go to Angus Forbes and Tom Lister for their leadership of these crews (listed below).

Other news includes Tortoises representing the Italian eight in George Clooney's film *The Boys in the Boat* and the OCBC taking delivery of a new minibus thanks to the generosity of Matthew Gilpin, David Beak, and the Tortoise Club. Plans are coming together for next year's 40th Anniversary of Oriol Women's Rowing – please contact the organising team at 1985@orielrowing.org if you would like to be involved or attend.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Tortoise Dinner at London Rowing Club this November with our afterparty at Vesta and also at the Tortoise Picnic at Henley Royal Regatta, now expanded in Butlers Field.

If you are not currently receiving invitations and newsletters then please contact development.office@oriel.ox.ac.uk or tortoise-president@orielrowing.org.

Floreat Oriel!

Robert Boswall (2016)

Tortoise President

New Tortoises: Naomi Young, Leah Wynn, Anoushka Sahota, Emma Gee Olmedilla,

Grace Romans, Joseph Rees, Thomas Bisatt, Dylan Reilly, Anton Nieboer, William Schwabach, Jackson Hardin, Isaac Throsby, Elliott Kemp, William Denegri

Fairbairns: Ellie Juckes, Hal Frigaard, Jan Ernst, Angus Forbes (Captain), Zachary Zajicek, Tom Lister, Stevan Boljevic, Will Burrow, Andy Mattimoe

Head of the River Race: Ellie Juckes, Matt Hamilton, James Halsall, Tom Lister (Captain), Phil Grunewald, Will Burrow, Anton Nieboer, George Barker, Ben Gilmore

Henley Royal Regatta Thames Cup: Ellie Juckes, Hal Frigaard, Zachary Zajicek, James Halsall, Phil Grunewald, Louis Lamont, Tom Lister, Angus Forbes (Captain), Stevan Boljevic

THE ORIEL WOMEN'S NETWORK

The Oriel Women's Network's goals are to foster a global community for the College's alumnae, students, academics and staff to:

- meet and form meaningful connections
- celebrate milestones and women's achievements
- enrich the College's community
- provide support for one another.

The Network began the year with an event to mark International Women's Day on Friday, 8 March 2024. Speaking on their varied experiences as women working in the tech industry, Amanda Storey (2001) from Google, Sian Cox-Brooker (2012) from Meta, and current DPhil student Lia Yeh (2020) were chaired by Dr Irina Voiculescu, a lecturer in Computer Science at Oriel, in a lively and interesting discussion. We are very grateful to our alumnae and students for sharing their experiences with us.



Photo by Jared Smith

Panellists Lia Yeh (2020), Sian Cox-Brooker (2012) and Amanda Storey (2001)

Our JCR Women's Officer Eva Hogan steps down this year, and we look forward to working further with incoming officer Milly Gibson. Eva has been a key part of the Oriel Women's Network for the past three years, updating our steering group on undergraduate activities, planning the annual Women's Dinner in College and championing projects such as free period products for all menstruating students. Her final Women's Dinner in the post was held in April in the Senior Library. Eva will be starting graduate study in English Literature at Oriel in Michaelmas term 2024, for which we wish her all the very best.

This year we have also been thinking ahead to 2025, when we celebrate forty years of women at Oriel. The steering group has been working with the Development Office to plan for this significant occasion. As you will see from the events calendar in this issue of the *Oriel Record*, we will not only be marking International Women's Day as usual with an event in March, but will also be hosting an anniversary celebration on Saturday, 6 September. Please save the date – more details will appear very soon!

As part of our forty years of women at Oriel celebrations, we have been working with renowned Oxford photographer John Cairns to commission a series of portraits of our 1985 cohort of women. Across two weekends in 2024, the group of twenty-two women revisited Oriel to have their portraits taken in locations across College. It was a wonderful chance for a tenacious and inspiring group of Orienses to get together, share their stories and reflect on their time here. We look forward to sharing the portraits with you in 2025.

If you would like to hear more about the network or have any questions please contact kathryn.ferguson@oriel.ox.ac.uk

Kathryn Ferguson
Alumni Relations and Events Officer





FEATURES

RESTRAINT OVER REASON IN THE JUDGMENT OF REGINALD PECOCK

Sermon preached at the Commemoration of Benefactors Service on
Sunday 22 October 2023 by Dr Jennifer Smith

‘**W**as Reginald Pecock a heretic?’ This is a question that I probably should have an answer for. I’ve been studying Pecock for a decade and a half now. But I hesitate every time anyone asks.

Pecock was an alumnus of your college. He lived during a period of great instability, during the tumultuous fifteenth century, the last century which we might properly call medieval. It was in the period following the Great Plague, when half the population of Europe was decimated, and as a result, feudal society was reconstituting itself into a form more favourable to the commoner. This was the century before the Protestant Reformation, but when lay people were already discontented with the leadership of the medieval church. A time when the Lancastrian kings seized control and ruled England only to be challenged successfully by the House of York in the second half of the century. It was a time of popular revolt, both political and religious, when common men from Kent could march on the capital and hold it hostage for almost five days. When the King could not be counted on to be in his right mind. When England was at war with the French over who was the rightful heir to the French throne.

It was a tumultuous period. And Oxford, of course, was under intense scrutiny for its role in fomenting some of this religious and political dissent.

Reginald Pecock arrived here, in Oxford that is, from Wales in about 1408. He would have been about sixteen years old. (Students started university younger back then.) And he stayed another sixteen years, during which time he earned his BA, MA and Bachelor of Theology degrees before leaving for his first benefice at St. Michael’s Church in Gloucester in 1424.

His time in university was defined in large part by conflict between parties who were either supportive of the outside oversight of Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Arundel (r. 1396–1414)—another Oriel alumnus—and those who wanted to preserve the University’s privileges and independence. Between 1407–1409, Arundel had promulgated a set of rules that allowed for regulation of the curriculum to guard against the intrusion of the ideas of John Wyclif (1330–1384). Wyclif, the morning star of the Reformation, was an Oxford academic of the prior generation whose ideas were considered a great threat to the spiritual health of the medieval church. His ideas, however, also gained widespread popularity and spread far beyond this university town to serve as the foundation for the English Reformation in the years to come. Church authorities were interested in preventing this spread.

Most dons then, like now I imagine, did not want to be told what they could and could not debate, what they could and could not teach. And Oriel happened to be at the centre of this power struggle between the University and the Church, since the leaders of the anti-censorship policies were Oriel men. Pecock, however, was not among them.

Indeed, there is a certain irony in that Pecock would be convicted of heresy in the last days of his life, for he spent most of it supporting ecclesiastical and royal prerogative. He liked hierarchy and he argued for the importance of obedience to Church authority as the most reasonable and spiritually safe path for lay people. His commitment to Church authority may account for his unusual professional success in the absence of a clear patron. And Pecock was very successful, eventually becoming Bishop of St. Asaph's (1445) and then Chichester (1450).

Throughout his clerical career, Pecock devoted his time to writing and advancing the production and dissemination of religious books to lay people—this at a time before the printing press had come to England, when all writing was still done by hand, usually on parchment and at great expense. He wrote more than thirty books, both in Latin and in English in formal syllogistic style. In this lifetime, he argued, we do not have full access to certain faith. Rather, what we possess is the probable faith that we receive through the exercise of our natural reason. And he believed that this faith was strengthened when all Christians could read about theology, as opposed to just hearing about it in church. Written texts, he argued, were stable and allowed a person to ponder and absorb complex material in a way that aural delivery did not. Writing about theological matters in English, however, was not, generally speaking, considered appropriate for laymen, since such an approach was closely affiliated with the Lollards, that is, the lay people who continued to sympathise with Wyclif's criticisms of the Church.

Around the time that Pecock was in his mid to late sixties, because of his unorthodox methods as well as his unusual catechesis and perhaps for political reasons as well, the Bishop was accused of sowing heretical and seditious ideas among the people. Complaints were made to the King, Henry VI, who passed them on to the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Bourchier, for investigation. (The King would have been concerned about any potential for sedition since his own position was so tenuous and religious non-conformity often went hand-in-hand with political revolt.)

And although Pecock was initially cleared of the charges and then restored to good fame—he confessed to minor errors—his enemies persisted in their persecution of him. He was eventually forced to recant several articles, which the surviving evidence shows was due to a patent misreading of his ideas. On the second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 1457, in the courtyard of St. Paul's Cathedral among a crowd of some 20,000

or more witnesses, at a time when London itself had a population of no more than 40,000 people—Pecock knelt at the foot of St. Paul's cross and confessed to 'presumeng ...[his] owne natural witte and preferring the natural iugement of raison before th'Olde Testament and the Newe and th'auctorite and determinacion of oure modre Holy Chirche.' And then he handed over fourteen books to be burnt.

Thirteen days later, at Carfax, the Chancellor of Oxford oversaw the burning of every Pecock work that could be found. No doubt, Oriel was searched thoroughly at that time.

This punishment, however, did not satisfy those who thought Pecock a threat to the realm. In the next year and a half, his accusers pointed out that, if he had been a heretic when he was consecrated to the see of Chichester, the appointment would have been invalid. And when it was discovered that he had also hidden some of his books, Pecock was declared a relapsed heretic.

As an act of mercy, since the usual punishment for relapse was execution, Pecock was sent to live his final days in isolation in a small anchoritic cell in Thorney Abbey in the fens of Cambridgeshire. (The marshes were not drained and reclaimed for agricultural use until the seventeenth century, so it was still quite horrid then.) He disappears from the historical record thereafter.

So, why do I continue to wonder if Pecock was a heretic? I suppose it is because I have great sympathy for the man who meant so well in bringing theological learning to the average person. I can get defensive of him, can mount a great defence of each of the ways that the articles which he was forced to recant were a misreading of his works. I can make arguments about how he was a martyr of the Church.

But I also know that this defensiveness overlooks the context of the confession. Pecock admitted to spiritual presumptuousness, to preferring his own reason to the authority of Scripture and the Church. And whatever technical defence one can mount, it is true that he overestimated his own abilities and came to conclusions that were outside the pale in an attempt to reshape Scripture's narrative into one big syllogism.

In today's Gospel reading (Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43), we hear that, 'The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one.' Tares are a kind of weed, whose seed, the darnel seed, is indistinguishable from wheat seeds. Flour made from these bad plants is bitter and poisonous. No doubt, we would like to think of ourselves as the wheat, the children of God, and not the tares, the children of the wicked one. We would like to think of ourselves as the righteous and not the heretic, as Pecock did.

And yet, imagine that you are yourself a stalk in that field of wheat and weeds. How easy would it be to look out at the other stalks in the field and declaim which is bitter and which beneficial and to forget that you are yourself unknown.

Jesus tells us that the tares will not be separated from the wheat until the time of harvest, that is, the 'end of the world', doomsday. To do so before then would risk unrooting the good with the bad. And that seems to be our lesson: to remember that we are not the reaper but merely a plant in the field, ignorant of the end of our days. That we are called not to judge but to live with restraint, tolerance, humility, and the hope of a good harvest made possible by God's grace more than man's reason.

Dr Smith is Associate Provost and Associate Professor of English at Pepperdine University, Malibu

Photo by Roger Tooth



THE 300TH BIRTHDAY OF THE REGIUS CHAIR IN HISTORY

How should one celebrate a three hundredth birthday? This year, the Regius Chair of History, which was founded in 1724 by George II alongside one at Cambridge, became three hundred years old. I thought we might have a day of workshops and a small dinner which I could fund out of Faculty savings, and asked the Provost whether we might hold the dinner at Oriel. 'But that's fantastic!' he responded. 'How often do you have a 300th birthday? Let's celebrate Oriel's involvement with this prestigious Chair in style, with a big dinner in the Old Library'.

He was right, and we decided to celebrate properly. We established a working party of twelve historians drawn from all sections of the Faculty to plan a half day of lectures and papers alongside an evening event. Instead of looking back, we decided to look to the future, and to ask how history had changed and where it was going. Pretty soon, the event involved several hundred people.

We began with an afternoon session devoted to *What is History Now?* Faisal Devji, historian of intellectual history and political thought in South Asia, began by teasingly suggesting that history can be a burden for movements of change; Ian McBride, historian of modern Ireland, spoke about the complex legacies of history on all sides in Ireland. Hannah Skoda talked movingly about laundry as a way of thinking about women's lives in the past, while John-Paul Ghobrial surveyed how global history and microhistory have in the last generation become central to what historians now do. Patricia Clavin took this further, exploring the global dimension of European history and how this has transformed the subject. All of these areas of inquiry have developed in the last decade or so and show how rich and varied our Faculty now is.

The most exciting session was perhaps the next, *History Showcase*. This grew out of the idea of one member of the working party, who said that people never engage when they are sitting still and being talked at – they need to MOVE! So we decided to create a walk-through experience. Using the beautiful space in Trinity College next to their new state-of-the-art lecture theatre, we were able to allow about twenty groups to present their research in whatever way they chose. Each group had 45 minutes, and the idea was that visitors could walk through the room and talk to people about their work – and after 45 minutes, another set of groups took over.

We sent out a call for stalls to the Faculty and we were astonished by the response. We had stalls on everything you could think of – history of war, queer history with banners and wonderful historical memorabilia, intellectual history (which had a fantastic book display), early modern history with tasters of early modern food, history of the environment, the 'Republic of Letters' digital research project and many, many more. We even had a 'chair' in the room and sticky notes for people to post their ideas of what history should be doing.

Shortly before 5pm, the Chancellor Lord Patten and the Vice-Chancellor Irene Tracey arrived and walked around the room of stalls, talking to the researchers. Lord Patten made a speech in which he spoke movingly of his own experience of being an undergraduate in History at Balliol College, and the tutors who had taught him – Christopher Hill, Maurice Keen and Richard Cobb, who could hardly have been more different politically and in intellectual style, but from each of whom he had learnt so much. The Vice-Chancellor and I cut the birthday cake, decorated of course with a Chair.

Then came the final session, *Changing History*. It was devoted to critical discussion of the Faculty, its direction, history and public role, and was chaired by the Chair of Faculty Board Rob Iliffe. First John Robertson outlined the history of the Oxford Regius Chair and its original peculiar status as not fully part of the Faculty, somewhat isolated. Chris Wickham, former Chair of the Faculty and Chichele Professor of Medieval History, reflected on how the Faculty had changed since the Away Day he had organised about a decade ago, when the Faculty had collectively decided to ‘go global’. Indeed, the Faculty

Photo by Jared Smith



Outgoing Chancellor Lord Patten and Regius Professor of History Lyndal Roper

is pretty much unrecognisable since then – in particular, many of our medievalists alongside modernists and early modernists have completely changed the way they now conceptualise history and turned to new fields of research; we have also made many new appointments. I gave a personal reflection on how the Faculty had changed in relation to women – when I first came to Oxford, I was the only woman in the Common Room of my college. I am still the only female Regius Professor of History there has ever been (though my counterpart Sarah Foote is Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History), and on appointment I was the *only* woman statutory professor. Now nearly half our named professors are women, as are about forty per cent of our permanent staff. We still however have a long way to go on ethnic diversity. And we also need to think about how to make the job of being a tutor more manageable. Finally John Watts, another former History Board Chair, reflected on what the History Faculty could do if it really changed, in a context of diminishing money from government and where some subjects may be preserved only through study at Oxford.

We then moved to Oriel for a drinks celebration outside in sunny weather, and Henrike Lähnemann, Professor of Medieval German, welcomed a hundred guests into dinner with a fabulous trumpet call. The Old Library was beautifully arranged, with the College silver, and atmospheric candles, and our guests included the Regius Professor of History at Cambridge Sir Chris Clark and his predecessor Sir Richard Evans, the former Regius Professor at Oxford Robert Evans, Sir Keith Thomas, and the sister of the late Sir John Elliott, Regius Professor before Robert Evans, along with many Orielenes and generous donors to the History Faculty. A special choir sang Byrd's *Gloria Tibi*, and later performed an arrangement of *Blackbird* by the Beatles. The staff at Oriel produced a fantastic dinner for us. The History Faculty is very grateful to Oriel indeed for enabling us to celebrate the 300th Birthday of the Chair in a way that included all sections of the Faculty and that allowed us to reflect together not only on the past, but also on our role as historians in the future.

Lyndal Roper
Regius Professor of History

THREE YEARS TO GLORY

This is the story of how, from 1964 to 1966, three relatively undistinguished Oriel crews, with not one University star among them, rose from ninth on the river to regain the Headship for Oriel for the first time in thirty years, setting the stage for Oriel's rowing dominance over the *next* fifty years. Only our late Stroke and skipper, Jonathan Close-Brooks, cox Peter Hawkins and I competed in all three crews.

Ours were the last years of the wooden boat with its prominent stern rudder – the latter a prime target for a bump (impossible now with a fin rudder), which was truly a bump, requiring physical contact with boat, oars, or any crew member. Gone, too, are the blank-firing pistols fired from the towpath to indicate an imminent bump – one gun for 'less than half a length', two guns for 'no clear water', three guns for 'overlapping'.

I decided to give rowing a try when I came up to Oriel in Michaelmas term 1963. My first memory is of Len Andrews, our waterman, coach and driver of most of our rowing successes of these years. It is so good to see that we have a boat named after Len, one of the most faithful and indefatigable servants Oriel has ever known. He coached us through our basic novice training, first in tub-pairs, preparing us novices for the 'Wyndham Races' in clinker fours – Long Bridges to the Finish.

The pleasure of winning a Wyndham Tankard was eclipsed only by that of joining the nine 'gentlemen invited to represent the College in the 1964 Torpids Races'. ONE Torpid was all we could scrape together that year, two of us novices. Jonathan Close-Brooks, winner of the Silver Skulls in that term's City regatta, was the obvious choice for Stroke.

TORPIDS 1964

We raced in a new light clinker named 'George' after its ever-generous donor, George Moody. We did all right on the first two nights, rowing over and accustoming ourselves to the vagaries of the side-by-side rules, but disaster struck on the Friday. When the start gun went, cox Andrew dropped the bung over the rudder-line. With us going all-out in our racing start, it should have pulled the rudder clean off. What it actually did was to pull the stake of the bung-line out of the bank, leaving us starting the race towing ten feet of light rope and a four foot iron stake. Thankfully the latter fell off just past Donnington Bridge. Given these extremely trying circumstances we didn't do badly only to go down two places!

1964 Torpid

Dave Paterson, Richard Humble, Dave Hanley, Chris Coppin, Julian Armstrong, Peter Cluer, Steve Dickinson, Jonathan Close-Brooks, Cox: Andrew McClintock.

EIGHTS WEEK 1964

Wednesday - starting 9th

Our first target was St John's, and we had a wild, rock-and-roll, splashing row. Thanks to Len's advice to hug the towpath above Donnington Bridge, we came up on them fast and nailed them as they turned in front of us to enter the Gut.

Thursday – starting 8th

In total contrast to the day before, I will always remember this as one of the most perfect, effortless rows I've ever known. We just FLEW – perfectly together, feeling the boat lift *high* with every stroke, hardly breaking sweat before New College fell to us just below the Gut.

Friday – starting 7th

We had been nervous about Queen's, as we knew that Len had coached them too. We got three guns on them as we came through the Gut, but by frantic exertions they pulled clear. We had a despondent row up the Green Bank until we were re-galvanised by our first gun at the New Cut, finally nailing them right bang in front of the Oriel Boathouse.

Saturday – starting 6th

About Balliol we'd not been sure; our Secretary, Mark Taylor, was a drinking buddy of their skipper, Colin Senior. Colin had told Mark that they had been shaken by our rise over the past three days; he was going to send his boys to bed after an evening on Black Velvet cocktails. Whether or not he did, we got them at the White Mark, just above the Gut – their cox frantically conceding with our bow underneath his left armpit.

1964 First Eight

Dave Paterson, Ken Williamson, Julian Armstrong, Richard Humble, Steve Dickinson, Mark Taylor, Rodney Nicolson, Jonathan Close-Brooks, Cox: Peter Hawkins.

Bumped: St John's, New College, Queen's, Balliol.

This was not the crew we took to Henley in 1964; there had been three changes before we were eliminated in our first and only race, with First and Third Trinity, Cambridge. Highlight of Henley '64 was the Harvard eight which had won the Grand in 1914, fit enough fifty years later, after two World Wars, to boat again and escort the Queen Mother in the Royal Barge up the course.

1964–1965

Michaelmas term 1964 came in with an intense recruiting drive; its success may be judged by the fact that the 1965 First Torpid was manned by five of the 1966 Head of the River crew.

With Jonathan insisting that he did not want to row in Torpids, I was press-ganged into shaking down the crew as Stroke. But as Torpids approached I knew that we must have Jonathan as Stroke. Elegantly coxed by Colin Sanderson, who avoided any repeat encounters 'twixt bung and rudder-line, we recovered the two places lost in '64, bumping Lincoln and Magdalen.

1965 First Torpid

Geoff Wilde, Nick Wolfers, Clive Whitcroft, David Stokes, Dave Hanley, Richard Humble, Chris Chant, Jonathan Close-Brooks, Cox: Colin Sanderson.

EIGHTS WEEK 1965

Wednesday – starting 5th

Captain of the OUBC for 1965 was Lincoln's Miles Morland, but luckily for us Lincoln had only been able to muster a decidedly sub-standard crew. They gave us the quickest bump ever scored by Oriel in 1964–66, with us catching them just above Donnington Bridge.

Thursday – starting 4th

Christ Church were stroked by American Blue Duncan Spencer, who'd also stroked the Oxford crew which won the first year of the Prince Philip coxed fours at Henley. But we were too fast for them, catching them in our familiar 'killing ground' of the Gut.

Friday – starting 3rd

This was the day when Oriel's unbroken sequence of fourteen bumps in Eights since 1962 finally ended. Keble kept two lengths of clear water in front of us, while we were never in danger from Christ Church.

Saturday – starting 3rd

A repeat of the Friday row, with Keble never less than two lengths ahead of us and Christ Church safely astern. So there it was – from ninth to third in two years, proudly crowned by our election to Leander Club.

1965 First Eight

Geoff Wilde, David Stokes, Chris Chant, Richard Humble, Dave Cooke, Mark Taylor. Steve Dickinson. Jonathan Close-Brooks, Cox Peter Hawkins

Bumped: Lincoln, Christ Church.

We took another mixed-bag crew to Henley in '65 and were glad to be drawn against Clare, our closest Tab 'oppo'. Edging ahead by the Quarter-Mile, we were two lengths clear by Fawley. But as Clare started to come back on us, to my undying shame, I tensed up and caught a boat-stopping crab which enabled them to pass us and win.

1965–1966

To give us more experience in side-by-side racing, Len entered a composite Oriel crew in the 1965 Michaelmas Oxford City Regatta, with which we won the Junior Eights event. We repeated our 1964 recruiting drive which yielded another strong crew for the 1966 Torpids, rising to Second on the River behind St John's.

1966 First Torpid

Philip Thornton, Tony Butler, Geoff Wilde, Richard Humble, Ron Bancroft, Tony Hall, Chris Chant, Jonathan Close-Brooks Cox: Colin Sanderson.

We sensed that 1966 was going to be our year for the Headship in Eights, or maybe never. St Edmund Hall at Head was a shadow of its 1965 crew, although they still had three Ladies Plate winners aboard. But we had the most powerful 'engine room' ever, with Tony Butler at 4 and Ron Bancroft at 5. Len had coached a formidable 2nd Eight with which we trained in tandem, with intense bumping practice destined to pay off for both crews.

EIGHTS WEEK 1966

Wednesday – starting 3rd

Grey and *cold*, with most of us wearing our new Leander scarves down to the Start. Returning to our familiar racing formula, we made a classic bump on Keble in our familiar 'killing ground' of the Gut, leaving Christ Church labouring in our wake.

Thursday – starting 2nd

Fine and sunny for the Big One, but with a stiff headwind. This we coped with by pulling much deeper than usual. St Edmund Hall were less than half a length ahead as they came out of the Gut, but they fell to us just below the Pink Post.

Friday – starting Head

Grey and gloomy again for our first row over as Head, starting with near-disaster at the start, with Jonathan afterwards confessing to have 'forgotten' to do our normal 'mad start'. The resultant shambles brought the Hall to within half a length of us, but once we had sorted ourselves out we rowed clean away from them, finishing three lengths clear.

Saturday – starting Head

A day of near perfection, starting with beautiful weather, calm and sunny. Both on the boathouses and the towpath the crowds were massive and the cheers were deafening – nearly all for us as the underdogs who'd made it, overturning the six-year monopoly of Keble, Christ Church and St Edmund Hall at the Head.

We had a flawless row and were nearly four lengths ahead as we crossed to the towpath at the O.U.B.C. At this point Christ Church closed in and bumped the Hall, leaving



The Oriel Head Crew of 1966 with the imposing Head of the River trophy.
Rear, left to right: Chris Chant (1964), Tony Butler (1963), Ron Bancroft (1965),
Jonathan Close-Brooks (1963), Richard Humble (1963), David Stokes (1964).
Front: Geoff Wilde (1964), Tony Hall (1965)

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us with nothing to do but sit up and make it look good during the last exhilarating one and a half minutes to the Finish.

1966 Head of the River crew

Geoff Wilde, David Stokes, Tony Hall, Tony Butler, Ron Bancroft, Richard Humble, Chris Chant, Jonathan Close-Brooks Cox: Peter Hawkins.

The postscript of Henley '66 saw us take another make-and mend-crew which turned out surprisingly fast. Although beaten by Trinity, Cambridge, it was by the honourable margin of one and a half lengths, not the humiliating 'easily'. When we hauled out after an exhilarating row, we all agreed that we couldn't possibly have made that boat go any faster. In the words of Francis Drake, 'God send us to sea in such a company together again, when need is'.

Richard Humble (1963)

EUGENE LEE-HAMILTON PRIZE 2024

The prize was founded by the late Mrs Eliza Ann Lee-Hamilton by bequest in 1943, in memory of Eugene James Lee-Hamilton (1864) who died in 1907, in order to encourage the composition of the Petrarchan sonnet in Oxford and Cambridge. The winning entry for 2024 is printed below:

THE OYSTER

life is water: a grain of grit comes in —
 through the unfaltering current — to me
 and, in each breath i exchange with the sea,
 fathoms a pearl of language in its spin.
 the iridescence changes in lighting:
yu, yu, yu — fish, word, rain's cacophony
 thunders through my coral sanctuary,
 dislodging me into the current's din.
 the foreign turbulence carries me south
 through wild, whirling words straight into the rout
 where divers shuck me off from where i'd clung.
 the pearly vowel spinning in my mouth
 cracks into charcoal. no words can come out:
 i clam shut, concealing my bitten tongue.

Jamie Chong
Selwyn College, Cambridge.







NEWS AND EVENTS

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Donald Cameron (1996) (Lord Cameron of Lochiel) has been created a Life Peer and appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Scotland Office.

Professor Tim Dalgleish (1984) Programme Leader, Medical Research Council Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, University of Cambridge has been elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

Professor Pedro Ferreira (Emeritus Fellow) has been awarded the Eddington Medal by the Royal Astronomical Society for his investigations 'of outstanding merit' in the Lambda Cold Dark Matter model of the universe.

Patrick Macdonald (1981) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

FELLOWS' AND LECTURERS' NEWS

Marta Bielinska was the joint winner of the 2023 Du Châtelet Prize in Philosophy of Physics with the paper *A Philosophical Introduction to Hidden Symmetries in Physics*, co-authored with Dr Caspar Jacobs of Merton College.

Chris Bowdler has continued to work on a number of projects investigating the link between US monetary policy and the supply of dollar denominated funding to global capital markets. The results highlight new channels through which US monetary policy decisions may propagate to other regions of the world.

In college he continues to teach PPE and History and Economics students in three years for courses in Macroeconomics and Money and Banking. He has also developed a course titled 'Monetary Policy and Central Banks' for the Oriel College Summer Institute. This course was delivered over ten days in July 2024 for a class of thirty-two summer school students visiting Oriel from universities in China. In the Department of Economics he continues to serve as the Director of Undergraduate Studies and sits on a wide range of university committees in that role.

During the year he has contributed to a wide range of outreach events such as the Target Oxbridge residential, intended to increase the chances of Black African and Caribbean students and students of mixed race with Black African and Caribbean heritage getting into the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, and the annual Economics and Management UNIQ Summer School and PPE UNIQ Summer School for high performing year 12 students from schools with low rates of student progression to elite universities.

Lynne Cox writes: I am on secondment from Oriel to act as Programme Director for the new Wellcome Leap healthy ageing research programme, *Dynamic Resilience* (DR) (<https://wellcomeleap.org/dr/>), a global research effort funded at \$60m over three years by Wellcome Leap jointly with Temasek Trust. Wellcome Leap was set up by the Wellcome Trust as a global health breakthrough network, pursuing high risk science in order to address urgent global health problems at scale and at speed. It is modelled on DARPA, the US-based Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency, and is headed up by Regina Duggan, who led DARPA for many years. Rather than simply studying how health deteriorates with age, we want to understand the biological underpinnings that explain how some people remain fit and well into their 90s or even 100s, and how they bounce back after suffering major health crises – they are resilient. The programme is crafted around three interconnected research areas. Firstly, we are looking to identify markers of resilience that can be used to predict in advance whether an older person is at risk of doing badly following an accident, illness or surgery, so that they can receive the most appropriate medical and other support. We are also developing new models to identify biological mechanisms of resilience

which will inform discovery of therapies to support resilience in everyone. In parallel, we are conducting clinical studies of drugs that may help to reduce progression to frailty after older adults suffer major health events. It is exciting to have the opportunity to bring together scientific excellence from around the world; on the DR programme we coordinate fourteen international research teams spanning five continents and comprising hundreds of researchers. The programme has been live since September 2023 and I have been incredibly impressed by the speed, agility and scientific excellence of our researchers, and their willingness to work together as a global team.

Julian Devriendt was awarded the title of full Professor in the University's Recognition of Distinction awards 2023.

Tristan Franklinos has been awarded a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship for the academic year 2024–25. He will remain in Oxford for the duration and will be continuing to work on the first English-language commentary on the *Catalepton* and *Priapea* transmitted as part of the *Appendix Vergiliana*. These poems have been associated with Vergil in various ways since antiquity, though are in all likelihood not by him, and provide important witnesses to ancient perspectives on the literary milieu of the mid-first century BC.

Lina Hacker has received an Award of Excellence from the Department of Oncology and was also selected as a Delegate of UN Women UK to participate in the United Nation's Annual Conference on the Commission on the Status of Women in New York in March 2024.

Ian Horrocks is one of the founders of an Oxford University spin-off company, Oxford Semantic Technologies, which supports accurate artificial intelligence applications using knowledge graph and reasoning technology and which has been bought by Samsung Electronics.

Sean Power (Emeritus Fellow) was ordained a Deacon for the Diocese of Westminster at Westminster Cathedral in June 2023.

Sumana Sanyal was awarded the title of full Professor in the University's Recognition of Distinction awards 2023.

Mungo Wilson was awarded the title of full Professor in the University's Recognition of Distinction awards 2024.

William Wood was awarded the title of full Professor in the University's Recognition of Distinction awards 2024.

ORIELENSES' NEWS

The Rt Hon Edward Argar (1997) was elected as Conservative Member of Parliament for Melton and Syston, in the 2024 General Election. He has been an MP continually since May 2015 and currently holds the post of Shadow Secretary of State for Justice.

Sarah Bool (2006) was elected as Conservative Member of Parliament for the South Northamptonshire constituency in the 2024 General Election.

Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti (2021) was the winner of the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra's Senior Concerto Competition with his work *Voice-Leading*, scored for Solo Beatboxer and Orchestra which was presented in the orchestra's 2024 Composers' Workshop. The concerto had its world premiere as part of a concert on 17th October 2024 with him performing as the beatboxer.

Frederic F. Manget (1973) is a contributor to the *Oxford Handbook of National Security Intelligence* (ed. Loch Johnson, Oxford University Press), which has a revised edition coming this year. Mr Manget is a former Deputy General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency where he spent sixteen years as a member of the CIA senior executive ranks and served as the legal adviser to the Directorate of Intelligence and the Counterintelligence, Counterterrorist, and Terrorist Threat Integration Centers, among other components. A former Rhodes Scholar, he is a graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Law and is a retired colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, United States Army.

John Morgan (1967 and former Chaplain) retired as Warden of St. John's College, University of Queensland in 2013 after 31 years, where he was also an honorary professor. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of the University in 2007. On Australia Day 2021 he was named as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to the Anglican Church and to Education. In 2021, he received an Oakleaf Award for services to education from Trinity College, University of Melbourne – his original college.

Simon Walker (1995) recently married Olga Chabouk (née Kondratyeva) in a two-part ceremony split between a frosty March service in Weybridge, Surrey and a very much warmer Bled in Slovenia (in August).

PUBLICATIONS

Professor Robert Barrington (1984), **Professor Liz David-Barrett** (1992) and Emeritus Fellow **Mark Philp** have edited *Dictionary of Corruption*, published by Columbia University Press. The book establishes a common interpretation of the language and terminology in the field of corruption and anti-corruption studies.

Gwyn Bevan (1965) has published, with LSE Press, *How Did Britain Come to This?* The book examines a century of varieties of systemic failures in the British state.

Bruno Bower (2005) has published, with Routledge, *Genre Beyond Borders: Reassessing Operetta* which offers an innovative approach to understanding operetta, drawing attention to its malleability and resistance to boundaries.

Andrew Brown (1998) has edited *Eccentric Lives: The Daily Telegraph Book of 21st Century Obituaries*, published by Unicorn Press.

Heuishilja Chang (2010) has been honoured with two prestigious British Book Design and Publication Awards for her journal, titled *My Adventure with Alice — A Travel Journal in Wonderland*, distinguishing it as both the best educational book and the finest children's trade publication: 'Explore Wonderland with Alice, meet the curious characters and enjoy fun drawing, puzzles, craft activities and much more.' Furthermore, SENSING SPACE, a small enterprise she founded in Oxford, has been acknowledged by Innovate UK's Creative Catalyst programme, securing a competitive grant and highlighting its innovative approach to education.

Julian Fisher (1989) has published, with Hackett UK, *Think Like a Spy*. 'Discover the secret skills of influence and persuasion taught to intelligence officers and how to adapt them to win over personal and professional allies to your cause.'

Dr Kate Herrity (2014) has published, with Bristol University Press, *Sound, Order and Survival in Prison: The Rhythms and Routines of HMP Midtown*. She tells the story of a year spent with a UK prison community, bringing its social world vividly to life for the first time through aural ethnography.

Paul Kusserow (1985) has published, with McGraw Hill, *The Anatomy of a Turnaround*, a case study of a home healthcare business turnaround that delivers actionable strategies for driving profit and growth in an organisation by prioritising people, performance and purpose.

Dr Maximilian Lau (2010) has published *Emperor John II Komnenos: Rebuilding New Rome 1118–1143* with Oxford University Press. This is the English language study on John and his era: it re-evaluates an emperor traditionally overlooked in favour of his father and of his son Manuel, acclaimed for reigning at the height of Komnenian power.

Richard Lonsdale (1977) has published *The Italians creating our Italy*. His quest in the book is to understand Italians who run the restaurants, shops and hotels enjoyed by tourists and to learn how Italy works, and how it doesn't.

Sheela Mahadevan (2014) has had published by Columbia University Press her translation from the French of *Lakshmi's Secret Diary* by Ari Gautier. In this remarkable novel, a temple elephant named Lakshmi debates free will with a three-legged dog named Tripod Dog Baba and a flying fish called Alphonse. Seeking to escape captivity, Lakshmi sets out on a stirring journey toward freedom. From the point of view of animals, the novel explores concepts of destiny, freedom, and identity. It illuminates the paradoxes of animal-human relations in India, where animals are both abused and worshipped, and provides an imaginative critique of the caste system.

Chris Merritt (2000) has published, with Hackett UK, *Committed*, which is fast-paced thriller, full of unexpected twist and turns, with impeccable research and insights.

Stefan Stern (1986) has published '*Fair or Foul: The Lady Macbeth Guide to Ambition*'. *Fair or Foul* considers different aspects of ambition and its place in our lives. It asks: what does success mean? When is enough enough? And is Lady Macbeth right to suggest that only those with the 'illness' of ambition achieve the highest goals? Stefan draws on the major themes of Macbeth and discusses how they can be applied to modern life.

OBITUARIES

(LAUCHLAN) GLENN BLACK



Dr Lauchlan Glenn Black, known universally as Glenn, who died on 12 January 2024, was Oriel's first, and from 1978–2010 only, Fellow in English Literature: the foundation of the subject for the college, a stalwart and spirited presence in Oriel into his retirement, an abiding influence on generations of Oriel's English students, and a colleague whose wit, wisdom, and patience is and will be much missed.

Some students may remember a story which Glenn used to tell of his days as a young lecturer in University College. One night, in the early 1970s, he was hosted by an emeritus Merton Professor of English Literature in the Professor's rooms in Merton College. After a long evening of drinking and conversation, Glenn got up to leave. The Professor –

then in his seventies – got up too, and said he would escort Glenn back to Univ, since this was, as he said, 'the Anglo-Saxon way', of knights squiring one another home against the dangers of the darkness. So they got to Univ, at which point Glenn insisted that, since this was the Anglo-Saxon way, there was nothing for it but for him to repay the favour, and escort the emeritus Professor back round the corner to Merton. But on reaching Merton lodge, the Professor took Glenn's arm once again, irresistibly, and walked him back to Univ. This could have gone on all night – and so, to spare the elderly professor an endless pendulum along the cobbles, Glenn graciously acceded to his escort, and went into the college. But after waiting a moment, he sneaked out again, hid round the corner, and watched until J.R.R. Tolkien – for it was he – had safely achieved Merton lodge and been welcomed by the Porters.

The story predates Glenn's years in Oriel, but it captures something essential of what Glenn meant to his college, his students, and to his colleagues in the university: a stock of great stories; a living connection with the luminous past of the Oxford English Faculty and of English literature more generally; a feeling for the centrality of sociability, fellowship, and companionship to the literary and academic life; and exquisite care and tact.

Glenn was born in 1943 in what was then Southern Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, where his father had inherited two farms, one arable and one for cattle-grazing. It was a childhood surrounded by animals – domestic cats and dogs, fierce geese, and cattle on the farm; quantities of birds; and, from the surrounding land, pythons, cobras, monkeys,

the occasional leopard. Glenn and his sister Virginia explored, leaping from the granite kopjes on the cattle farm, Glenlussa, and caught fish in the Musururu river. His schooling and family also exposed him to the pleasures in literature, drama, and good food which were so remarkable a feature of his later life: already at the age of 12, his aunt and uncle would take him out to a smart restaurant every holiday, on which occasions it was his task to order the food and wine, a training for the practices of conviviality which his students and colleagues will recognise.

Glenn was schooled in Grahamstown in South Africa, and took his first degree in Cape Town – both a two- or three-day journey from home. In 1966, he made the even longer passage to England, arriving at Trinity College on a Rhodes Scholarship in 1966, with, apparently, twenty boxes of books, to the considerable alarm of the lodge at Trinity. (In latter years, it was the gardening equipment sent to Oriel which raised porters' eyebrows.) He came to read for a B.Litt. in English Literature, and was the first graduate pupil of the brilliant Elizabethan scholar Katherine Duncan-Jones, who swiftly recognised his gifts, so that he was transferred to doctoral study. He submitted a D.Phil. thesis in Michaelmas of 1970 under the unassuming title 'Studies in some related manuscript poetic miscellanies of the 1580s'. Glenn had chosen to devote his attention to what C.S. Lewis, in his *Poetry and Prose of the Sixteenth Century* (1954), had influentially called 'the drab age' of English literature: writing of the 1570s and 1580s which was thought dull and workmanlike, lacking the works of the golden 1590s. Glenn's thesis redirected attention away from the thin gruel of the period's printed material, to manuscript miscellanies of poetry, in order to recuperate that drab age.

Miscellanies are, appropriately for Glenn, a sociable form: poems gathered within circles of acquaintance, often written for particular eyes and occasions, gaining their meaningfulness from their milieux and expressions of sociability, and their formal and often playful embodiment of the relationships and conversations that gave rise to them. Making sense of them requires the mastery of an arsenal of rare and rarefied technical skills, like stemmatics and palaeography, but also the personal qualities which were Glenn's: tact, patience, social awareness. He published a wonderful article based on the thesis about the poems written by children for their relatives in the late sixteenth century, an entirely novel topic. During his research, he also made the kind of discovery which scholars dream of: while still a student, in 1968, he published an article in the *Times Literary Supplement* announcing the discovery of a lost poem by Elizabeth I, written as an answer to verse by Oriel alumnus Sir Walter Raleigh, beginning, rather wonderfully, 'Ah silly puggle wert thou so sore afraid'. The thesis was required reading for the next generation of editors and students of Elizabethan manuscript verse; the copyright declarations inside the front cover run to eleven pages of the names of the

most important scholars in the field. It is an appropriate irony that the first argument which Glenn made in his thesis was that it is an error to look for the success, reach, or influence of a sixteenth-century work by checking to see whether or not it had been published in print.

Glenn was elected to a Junior Research Fellowship at University College in 1969, before he had finished his thesis; he remained there, laterally as a lecturer, until Oriel belatedly decided to appoint its first Fellow in English Literature in 1978 (having already been admitting undergraduate and graduate students, some of whom Glenn taught or advised). He held the position as the sole Fellow in the subject until 2010, when he retired after 32 years. His range and erudition meant that he could, and did, teach everything from the sixteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. This capacity allowed him to let students develop their own enthusiasms with gentle guidance, though he latterly declared that he would not take tutorials on the Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, on the grounds that he was 'unreadable'.

Students writing to the college in response to the news of Glenn's death almost universally used the words 'kind', 'generous', 'patient'. He admitted students of all kinds of background and from all over the world, and put them at their ease within the initially, and perhaps even ongoingly, mysterious rituals of Oxford. Students were welcomed for tutorials to his study on the ground floor of staircase 8, surrounded by spider-plants and teetering piles of books which would sometimes be surmounted by a precarious cup of tea, coffee, or sherry, adding a frisson of jeopardy to the tutorial. He had a gift for letting students make their own discoveries. One former student, visiting Glenn twenty years after he had taken in his degree, recalled asking him, with the benefit of hindsight, how Glenn had put up with what the student called 'undergraduate floundering', jejune attempts to get the gist of something: Glenn, apparently, replied 'We just try to nudge you in the right direction'. This characteristically effaces the skill, patience, and attentiveness which this ideal form of tutorial teaching requires: allowing students their idiosyncratic way, and enabling them to become the readers, and the people, that they already latently are.

This nudging, and teaching, went beyond reading suggestions, essays, and tutorial conversations, in the extraordinary hospitality which Glenn and his wife Alicia, whom he married in 1971, showed. Students and colleagues all knew how much Glenn loved his family and family life, and were lucky to be welcomed to some of it. They were invited to their wonderful home and garden, where they met cats and tortoises, and, laterally, admired Glenn's treehouse study, to which, when the garden flooded, he was known to canoe. There were also reading parties for final-year students to Sennen Cove in Cornwall, a place beloved of the whole Black family, and which Glenn and Alicia's

children Crofton and Imogen sometimes joined. There, Glenn, aided and abetted by Alicia and James Methven, cooked up three-course feasts, and taught important life-skills, like the use of a butter-knife and how to body-board in the cold Atlantic sea, alongside revision for Finals. This taught students – by example – that literature was not a hermetic academic subject, a static corpus to be mastered in order to pass one's exams; but part of sociable living, like the manuscript miscellanies he had studied, embedded in the relationships and activities which animate it, and component of a larger practice of appreciation in and of life.

Glenn was also, as his students may not have known, but all of his colleagues did, extraordinarily committed to the administration of the institutions of which he was a part. Glenn, at one time or another, held all the college offices, including, for a time, Acting Provost. He was similarly active in the English Faculty: among many other things, he was one of the architects of the Classics and English degree, and made sure that Oriel welcomed many students to read for it; and he designed the English Literature Admissions Test, which enshrined close-reading as a prerequisite for the degree. With Alicia, and colleagues such as Eric Stanley, he edited the Oxford University Press journal *Notes and Queries* for the astonishing duration of 1983–2021. After a stint as Junior Proctor in 1985–1986, he also entered university administration, eventually becoming the last Chairman of the General Board of the Faculties from 1996–99, before it was dissolved in the reorganisation of the university's governance; and then the university's first Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic). Academics sometimes talk as if administration and committee-work is the opposite of the real work – reading, thinking, teaching, writing. But Glenn understood the administrative structures and functions of institutions as enabling those other activities, and as an expression of the human relationships they harbour, part of the necessary work of receiving and preserving the traditions of intellectual fellowship which a college and a university ideally ought to represent. Glenn's administrative life coincided with contentious periods of change – the admission of women at Oriel; the wholesale restructuring of the governance of the university. It was certainly possible to disagree with him, and to be disagreed with in turn. But even colleagues who found themselves on the opposite side of any given issue found him gracious, level-headed, full of integrity. Glenn could have used his experience in the central university as the stepping stone to a position as head of house, or a vice-chancellorship of another institution. But his attitude to the work was not instrumental, but about the ongoing sustenance of the institutions to which he was so deeply committed. He preferred, in 2002, to go back to the life of a Tutorial Fellow, inculcating students in the arts of appreciation, and accompanying his colleagues in academic fellowship.

Glenn retired from his tutorial fellowship in 2010, and, after two more years as Senior Tutor, from the college. But he was still, until the end of 2023, a frequent presence at lunch and at dinners, often to be seen in the lodge with a yoga-mat under his arm, there to pick up seeds which had been delivered to his pigeonhole, and full of news of Crofton and Imogen, and of the plays in Stratford and London that he and Alicia had recently seen. He is and will be very much missed in Oriel.

Kathryn Murphy

(Based on the address given at the Memorial Service for Dr Black)

MICHAEL BLAKSTAD (1958)



Michael Blakstad will perhaps be best remembered for the popular science programme *Tomorrow's World*, which he edited for a number of years. Yet his career was characterised by change and innovation, reflecting a restless temperament and a passion for the new. He was, in his time, documentary maker, entrepreneur and, in later life, a passionate campaigner for the needs of people with dementia.

Born in Penang in 1940, his early years were shaped by expat life in the dying years of British colonial rule. He was too young to remember his own evacuation during the war, or his father's capture and torture. Post-war, a comfortable childhood in Malaya ended when he had to make his own way to school from the age of nine – first in Australia and then in England. The family later moved to Ampleforth, North Yorkshire, where he studied and his father taught mathematics.

He won a Scholarship to Oriel College, Oxford, where he studied Greats and was President of the Art Club. As part of the university boxing squad, he sparred with future actor and singer Kris Kristoffersen.

He joined the BBC in 1963 as a General Trainee. While working his way from radio production to TV, he met and married Tricia Wotherspoon. Thanks to their first children being twin daughters, who were quickly followed by a son, their family grew from two to five in just 18 months.

In 1969 he joined Yorkshire Television where his credits included the globe-trotting series *Whicker's World*. Other young producer-directors might have been cautious about putting debonair presenter Alan Whicker in front of unpredictable interviewees like

Haitian dictator Papa Doc, but Blakstad proved fearless, and his bold choices made for striking television.

He maintained this single-mindedness throughout his career. Back at the BBC his 1974 Prix de Jeunesse-winning documentary *Children in Crossfire* explored the effects of the Troubles on the youth of Northern Ireland. After its airing, the BBC received a death threat purporting to be from the IRA, but Blakstad refused to alter his routines. He continued to cycle to work each day from his west London home – followed closely, as he would later claim, by a Special Branch tail.

He went on to become series producer and editor of several ground-breaking shows: *The Risk Business*, a series on industry that won the Shell International Prize, *The Burke Special*, and *Tomorrow's World*. As a writer, he authored books to accompany *The Risk Business* and *Tomorrow's World*, and contributed regularly to *Design* and *Ideal Home* magazines.

On leaving the BBC, he took advantage of the opening up of the TV industry to commercial competition in the 1980s and 90s. He was part of the consortium that won the southern ITV franchise, and in 1981 became programme controller of the newly-formed Television South (TVS). He also founded two independent production companies: first *Blackrod*, with former *Tomorrow's World* presenter Michael Rodd, and later the Winchester-based *Workhouse Limited*.

His increasing focus on corporate video and on the digital communications channels that were then emerging led to his co-authoring a book, *The Communicating Organisation*, with business partner Aldwyn Cooper. Formats he pioneered included interactive TV and the ill-fated video disc. In the latter stages of his career he became an advisor on the transition to digital television.

Retirement did not slow his momentum. When he co-founded TVS, he and his family had moved to the Hampshire village of East Meon, and a number of his pursuits reflected his growing passion for both the village and the surrounding region. These included work with the East Meon historical society, for which he edited a number of publications, and a history of Liphook Golf Club. Life-long lovers of theatre and film, he and Tricia were supporters of the Theatre Royal Winchester and the Chichester Festival Theatre, and helped establish the Moviola roving cinema in the village.

It was not through choice that the two of them left East Meon in 2019. Her Alzheimer's and his Parkinson's were still in their early stages, but it was already clear that they were going to need the additional security offered by a specialist retirement accommodation. They moved to an independent living community in Bishopstoke Park, near Southampton. Here, they hoped, they would be able to live together for many years, whatever changes their medical conditions brought.

Things did not go according to plan. In early 2020, a fall and a broken hip exacerbated Michael's mobility problems. This, combined with Tricia's worsening dementia, was already making it harder for them to live independently, even before the Covid pandemic hit. Before long, Tricia was in full-time residential care, isolated in her room for weeks at a time because of quarantine rules. Michael did his best to spend time with her in the home when rules permitted, but she was spending increasing amounts of time entirely alone, and her condition began to deteriorate rapidly.

Infuriated by the policy choices that he believed had led to her plight, Michael began to make regular appearances on the BBC's flagship radio news show, *Today*. His wife's situation had mobilised him into his final role: that of campaigner. In spite of his own increasing disability, which soon forced him, too, into residential care, he began to marshal a network of technology companies, broadcasters and care homes to deliver a concept that he called *Media versus Dementia*. The goal was to provide 'reminiscence media' that would stimulate the brains of those in the early stages of the condition. Much remains to be done to make this vision a reality, but he was striving away on the project up to the very last.

He died in his care home room in Winchester on 21 November 2023.

Written by his son, Matthew

HUGH BREDIN (1955)

Hugh Bredin, who has died aged 89, was a croquet player, jazz fan, author, illustrator, pen-and-ink cartoonist, contributor to *Punch* and *Private Eye* – and, for more than 30 years, a senior copywriter at some of Britain's largest advertising agencies, including the American-owned J Walter Thompson.

In 1980 he published *The Jeeves Cocktail Book: A Guide to Mixed Drinking*. By then his art had already been used to launch the popular new 'international intrigue' board game *Diplomacy* which still flourishes today; the design of the game somehow echoed Bredin's own flamboyance – especially the loud kipper ties made for him by the celebrated Mayfair boutique owner Mr Fish.

Hugh's early childhood was spent in the hands of his forthright mother, Dorothy Wall Ellison, who enjoyed golf, bridge and horse racing and once played tennis in Monaco with Charlie Chaplin.

He began his formal education at Mostyn House, Cheshire. Unusually, his nanny, Miss Mowle, went with him to the prep school – she was given the role of under-matron – and was soon called 'Nanny' by the entire school. In 1948 he moved to Winchester College, where he would make lifelong friends including the future theatre director

Anthony Page, and Julian Mitchell, writer of the hit Winchester-inspired play, *Another Country*.

Despite failing his mathematics examinations several times, Hugh was eventually able, in 1955, to take a place at Oriel College, Oxford, to read English. He studied Trollope and Dickens and made friends of Willie Donaldson, author of the *Henry Root Letters*, and Jilly Cooper. On an early visit to London, he also went gambling with Lucian Freud and Francis Bacon.

In the early 1960s Hugh was wrenched away from 19th-century literature and began working as an advertising copywriter at J Walter Thompson, then occupying a grand building in Berkeley Square, where his colleagues would include Fay Maschler and Fay Weldon and where he worked on promoting Lucozade and After Eight mints.

Hugh had married Gabrielle Drew, a student at the Oxford Theatre School. That did not last, and in 1967 he married Nina, daughter of Professor David Talbot Rice and Tamara Talbot Rice the art historian and friend of Evelyn Waugh. Nina died in 2004 and he is survived by two daughters and three sons.

Edited, with permission, from the obituary in The Daily Telegraph on 2 May 2024

I never got to know Hugh when we were undergraduates at Oriel. But in the last twenty years we have seen one another often. He was a man of many talents with a wonderful memory. He was very fond of the theatre and if he saw the same play thirty years later he could remember the original cast. He was a talented artist and with his great friend Paul Winby he raised monies for the Oriel cause by selling their paintings from trips abroad. He helped the Oriel Golf Society as readers will know from his pieces in the *Oriel Record*. Jazz was his great love and so it was that jazz had to be played at his funeral.

I and many others have lost a talented friend.

Written by Peter Collett (1952)

GERARD FRANCIS EDWIN CODD (1962)

Gary's family lived in Torbay where he was at preparatory school at Montpelier School, Paignton, in the 1950s. From there he was awarded a scholarship to Blundell's School in Tiverton. He was at Oriel from 1962 to 1966, where he studied Greats.

On going down from university, he headed for London where he first took lodgings in the Lancaster Gate area. A few years after that he moved to Cornwall Gardens, South Kensington, where he rented a flat on the top floor of a Victorian terraced house in the days when rents in this area were still affordable. When visitors called on him, rather than

come down several floors from his flat, he would throw the keys out of his window onto the pavement.

He remained wedded to the Gloucester Road area, and Cornwall Gardens in particular, calling it *rus in urbe*, and when he had to leave his first flat for redevelopment, he found another rented flat only a few doors down the road, where he lived until he was placed in sheltered accommodation just off the Portobello Road, so he was in Cornwall Gardens for fifty years.

He had toyed with the idea of becoming a clergyman, but took articles with a City law firm and studied at the College of Law at Lancaster Gate. However, perhaps because he was always ambivalent about the law as a career, he never succeeded in passing all his final exams, despite retaking some of them several times. Instead he went into teaching as a private tutor and at a tutorial college which became his career. Occasional sidelines were writing articles for overseas magazines.

He was a committed churchgoer and regularly attended St. Stephens Church in Gloucester Road as well as other West London Anglican churches over the years. He was an admirer of poetry and appreciated hymns for their literary and poetic qualities.

He enjoyed fiction, both literary and popular, and was a member of many cultural and amenity groups and societies including reading and poetry groups, the Jane Austen London Group, the Barbara Pym Society, the Georgian Group and the Victorian Society. He was very sociable and had numerous long-standing friends and acquaintances, and though he was always unfailingly polite, he held strong views on their merits or demerits as well as on those in public life such as the royal family and politicians. He was a member of the Kensington Liberal Democrats.

He was an avid collector of English watercolours, particularly late eighteenth/early nineteenth century, his favourites including Francis Towne and John White Abbott because of their connection with Devon. He also liked the Victorians, such as the Pre-Raphaelites and Edward Lear, and he later also began collecting the twentieth century modernists, admiring Ivon Hitchens and John Nash. He was regularly invited to private viewings at art and antiques fairs, commercial galleries and the major London auction houses, where he was often to be seen hovering round the trays of canapés and drinks. He hardly ever bought from dealers.

Upon retirement he was at first still quite active with his collection, but more recently he added to it much more slowly. He was also a keen stamp collector, specialising in Victorian stamps and particularly the Maldive Islands, having given up collecting coins in their favour.

Written by Anthony Jennings

DR GEOFFREY ALAN DOUGLAS (1964)



Geoff was born in London in 1945, just after the end of World War II. When he was six, his parents and two sisters emigrated to Kitwe in the British Protectorate, Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia). Geoff and his family settled quickly into their new home, sparking a lifelong love for Africa.

At St. Georges, a Jesuit school in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe). Geoff excelled academically and at the young age of 16, he was accepted to study medicine at Oriel College. While at Oriel, Geoff fell deeply in love with Penny,

a newly qualified physiotherapist at the Radcliffe Infirmary. He proposed after just two weeks, and they were married soon after at St. Giles Church, Oxford, in 1969. Their daughter, Emma, was born later that year.

After qualifying in 1970, Geoff was eager to return to now independent Zambia. He completed his internship at the emerging Lusaka Teaching Hospital, where his first son Giles was born. Seeking better working conditions for his growing family, Geoff became a medical officer at Nkana Copper Mines in Mufulira, Zambia, where their second son, Ashley, was born in 1973.

Passionate about improving healthcare in Africa, Geoff started to explore ways to provide affordable, high-quality healthcare in developing countries. He knew private practice was not the solution and governments at the time could afford only primary care. These years were crucial for his personal and professional growth as he sought to excel in clinical practice and healthcare systems.

In 1974 following a critical report in *The Guardian* in May 1973, Geoff was interviewed by Lord Frank Kearton regarding the treatment of African workers by British companies in Southern Africa. Geoff's valuable insights led to his recruitment by the Courtaulds Pulp Paper Mill in Swaziland (now Eswatini) where the company general manager supported a review of occupational health. At the time the Swaziland Employers Federation recruited a British health administrator to survey the medical departments of Swazi companies. Geoff aided in the survey revealing poor healthcare of workers and no support for medical personnel. The report requested the Swaziland government to establish a National Occupational Health Service. This was rejected.

Geoff subsequently used the survey and other material he had gathered to successfully apply for an MSc in Occupational Medicine at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1977. He, Penny, and their three children moved to London. They

were sad to uproot the family and leave beautiful Swaziland where they had been able to enjoy the outdoor life and indulge their passion for amateur theatre, both acting and producing plays.

Despite being born in London, Geoff was considered an overseas student so self-funded his MSc while Penny supported the family working at Finchley Memorial Hospital in geriatric care. Although only a year in London, Geoff accomplished his goal of becoming a Member of the Royal College of Physicians and gaining an MSc. He also achieved a Diploma in Industrial Health. His MSc work evaluated how large industrial medical departments addressed health issues in developing countries. He advocated the establishment of occupational health services based on the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) pre-payment model, developed by Kaiser Permanente in the USA.

In 1978, Geoff returned to Swaziland with renewed energy and academic credentials. Supported by the Matsapa Industrial Board, he developed a purpose-built clinic on their industrial estate, pioneering occupational medical care in the region. The Ministry of Health were supportive. Penny joined as a physiotherapist, and together with a small team, they launched Occupational Health Services (OHS).

As he pioneered occupational healthcare in Swaziland other gaps in healthcare became apparent. There was no ambulance service or first aid training in industrial settings; this included the Swaziland army, police, railways and heavy-duty drivers. He successfully persuaded St John Ambulance to start first aid training in Swaziland and his ground-breaking work there led to him being knighted by the Order of St John (KStJ).

Penny, meanwhile was focussing on rehabilitating industrial injuries. She established Cheshire Homes in Swaziland for stroke victims, spinal injuries, and children with birth defects such as cerebral palsy. The OHS Clinic also motivated the development of crèche facilities for the children of young mothers working in the light industrial factories. They collaborated with Family Life, an NGO, to teach breastfeeding, nutrition, family planning, and immunisation, all vital for the health of these women.

Swaziland had achieved independence from Britain in 1969 and was a peaceful haven largely free from the issues of apartheid plaguing neighbouring South Africa. However, the 1980s were marked by violence as the African National Congress resisted the apartheid government, Swaziland became a refuge for political activists and guns were easy to obtain. In 1983, at just 36, Geoff was shot in a car-jacking attempt. Despite his injuries being life-threatening, he was saved by the speedy response of missionary surgeons at the local Nazarene Mission Hospital, Manzini. The clinic had to operate without Geoff for almost a year, however, his resilience saw him return to work, continuing to develop the clinic and its services.

In 1986, Geoff diagnosed the first HIV case in Swaziland and recognised the urgent need to educate the Swazi people about the looming pandemic. Swazi culture, which accepted polygamy and multiple sexual partners, posed a significant challenge. With funding from the Marie Stopes Charity, Geoff launched a national AIDS education program targeting men, called 'Man Talk'. The programme used social marketing to raise awareness about preventing sexually transmitted diseases, particularly HIV. Both his daughter Emma and his son Giles were recruited in the campaign. Although the programme was successful, funding was unfortunately discontinued after two years.

In 1982 Geoff was honoured by becoming a Member of the Chartered Institute of Transport and again in 1986 when he became a Member of the Royal College of Physicians London Faculty of Occupational Medicine (MFOM).

In 1991, tragedy struck when Geoff and Penny's youngest son, Ashley, died in a car accident at the age of 17. They were devastated, and while Geoff continued to immerse himself in developing healthcare systems, now utilising emerging internet technologies, the loss weighed heavily on them. This sad period was lightened when they both enjoyed a magnificent dinner in London in 1995 after he was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP).

In 2000 with an empty nest, Geoff and Penny decided to return to England and began working for the NHS and the Benefit Assessment units in Great Malvern and Worcester. They were now able fully to indulge their love of both opera and theatre. Geoff's main hobby became renovating and DIY; their work together on an 1860 Victorian terrace house bears evidence of their skills.

Having spent much time treating HIV patients, Geoff noticed a correlation between good nutrition and good health. On arriving in England, Geoff founded Health Empowerment Through Nutrition (HETN), to raise awareness about the importance of good nutrition and the challenges posed by modern food processing. He gave lectures in Europe and South Africa, created educational films, and engaged with professional bodies about the healing power of food.

Missing the African sunshine, Geoff and Penny retired to South West France. In his final years, Geoff's energy waned due to ill health and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, his inquisitive mind, shaped by his seven years at Oxford, continued to inspire his commitment to healthcare in Africa.

Geoff lived a rich and fulfilling life, marked by triumph and tragedy. He is survived by his wife Penny, his daughter, Emma, his son Giles and five grandchildren.

Written by his family: Penny, Emma and Giles Douglas

BRIAN ROBERT ESCOTT COX KC



Brian Escott Cox came up to Oriel in October 1950, straight from Rugby School and only a few days after his eighteenth birthday. Although the College was still in the grip of post-war austerity with black crumbling buildings and miserable rationed food in hall, Brian adored Oriel and Oxford and took to them with the greatest of ease and pleasure. In his first winter he played rugby football for the College team and was awarded his colours, a fact of which he was very proud. He also started his own successful jazz band 'The Black Cats' which he led on trumpet, and later joined the Oxford University Jazz Club led by fellow Old Rugbeian Andy Robinson from Trinity.

Brian read Law but Oriel's Law tutor, Zelman Cowen, left at the end of his first term and was not replaced, so he was 'farmed out' for tutorials in groups of two, three or four to an ever-changing variety of tutors at Wadham and BNC. With this strange regime, his passion for jazz and other pleasurable activities, on his own admission Brian was not the most industrious of students! He always maintained that his 'good' second in Schools was due to the excellent one-to-one tutorials he had during his last year with Raymond Kidwell, a former Vinerian Law Scholar and practising barrister who only tutored at weekends. Once Brian had recovered from the shock of having a tutorial at 9.00pm on Saturday, he and Raymond got on very well, often when the tutorial was over chatting long into the night.

After Oxford, Brian took the Bar Examination and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in July 1954. He joined the Midland Circuit and found a place in a successful set of barristers' Chambers in Birmingham, where he soon established himself as a strong practitioner. It was a surprise to no-one when he became Queen's Counsel in 1974. Brian flourished in Silk and over the next thirty-odd years he was briefed in practically every major criminal case on the Midland Circuit.

His greatest moment of fame came in 1988 when he was briefed for the prosecution in the case of *R. v. Colin Pitchfork*. Pitchfork, a serial murderer and rapist, was the very first criminal in world history to be detected, brought to justice and convicted by DNA testing, and the case and Brian himself received enormous world-wide publicity. Ironically, although strong in the humanities (he spoke fluent French and good Spanish) Brian was no scientist and he found the technical side of the case a hard slog! He described his part in this case in an article in the 2013 *Oriel Record*.

Brian was appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court in 1972 and a Deputy High Court Judge in 1981. He enjoyed these part-time judicial duties and found them, for a week or two at a time, a refreshing change from his daily round at the Bar. However, they also gave him enough insight into the life on the Bench to cause him to decline the offer of a High Court Judgeship which Lord Chancellor MacKay made him in 1986, a decision he never regretted. He had earlier that year been made a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn and had received every honour that his profession has open to it.

He retired in 2009, and at a ceremony to mark the occasion, Lord Justice Treacy said of him, "He has a marvellous command of the English language and was a devastating cross-examiner. But he brought to Chambers and to Court much more than his skill. He was and is simply great fun to be with and he enlivened every robing room on the Circuit with his wit and humour."

Also on that occasion the Midland Circuit, as a mark of their esteem and affection, conferred on him the unique honour of making him a life member.

In retirement Brian renewed his association with Oriel becoming a regular visitor to the College and especially to the College Archives where he researched and wrote several learned articles about the history of the College which were published in the *Oriel Record* between 2010 and 2016. He had also taken up his trumpet again in 1990 and well into his eighties led a very successful small jazz group as well as playing in two big bands in the Warwickshire area. He always felt that he had had a full life!

He leaves his wife Noelle and their two children and three children from a former marriage.

*Contributed and compiled through family archives
and material from friends and colleagues*

JONATHAN GRACE (1983)



Born in Liverpool in 1965, Jonathan was educated at St Edward's College, Liverpool, before coming to Oriel. He read English Literature, and graduated with a congratulatory first in 1986. After Oxford, Jonathan spent two years in London, completing a law conversion course and then studying for his Bar finals at the Inns of Court School of Law.

Upon qualifying as a barrister, Jonathan moved back to the North West to take up the offer of pupillage at Deans Court Chambers in Manchester,

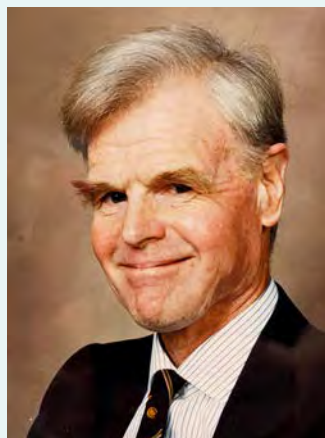
where he remained as a tenant for thirty-five years. Paying tribute, his Chambers described him as a kind and modest man, an exceptional practitioner and very good company. He had a hugely successful practice and was universally liked and respected. He led his Chambers' personal injury team for over ten years.

In 1992, Jonathan married Deborah. They settled in Didsbury and had two children, Anna and Leah, in 1995. Both daughters read Languages at Cambridge University. More recently, Jonathan's nephew followed him to Oriel, reading Engineering Science.

Away from work, Jonathan maintained his lifelong passion for literature, and was an enthusiastic supporter of the arts generally. He and Deborah had an active role in organising the Didsbury Arts Festival. Jonathan was also a keen runner, and completed many events alongside Anna and Leah. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his wife and daughters. As a family, they spent many holidays in Trevone, Cornwall, a place that he loved. It was here that Jonathan passed away on 24 March 2024.

Written by his nephew, Sam Grace (2022)

SIMON HARDWICK (1953)



Simon was born in York in May 1933, the second son of Joan and Thomas Hardwick. He grew up in Yorkshire, close to the surrounding Yorkshire Dales, which became part of his psyche and would influence his love of nature and of the great outdoors all his life. Much of his time was spent hiking and camping in that beautiful environment.

He was educated in Ripon, Yorkshire and later at Gresham's in Norfolk. He won a place at Oriel College, Oxford to read History and often spoke of the wonderful experiences and opportunities that were presented to him there.

After graduation in 1953 and National Service, Simon entered possibly the most defining period of his life in Tanganyika (now part of Tanzania), East Africa. They say Africa gets under your skin and I think this left a major impression with Simon.

Before this life-changing adventure and during his National Service aged just 20, he contracted polio. It was just two years before the vaccination became available and the disease left him with permanent damage to the left side of his body. However, this did not deter him from full independence for the rest of his life.

Simon moved to Dar-es-Salaam in 1955 and begun work as a Field Officer as part of a programme with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. This project was designed to support developing Commonwealth countries around the world to build autonomy through the implementation of a modern democratic government and civil service. He would later return to this part of the world in 1980 where he played a small part in supporting the Zimbabwe elections as an official observer.

In Tanganyika, Simon had landed the 'dream job' and embraced it with great energy and enthusiasm. It allowed him freedom to build relationships with local communities and support the FCO project through until its eventual disbandment in 1969. He was fluent in Swahili, even teaching local leaders and future talent in this melodic language. He has kept extensive diaries of his experiences which are well worth reading.

Simon met Jocelyn in Tanzania and they married in the UK in 1966. Their three sons were born soon after their marriage and in 1972 the family moved to Somerset, UK in a beautiful rural setting for many years, seeing the family through university and into independent life. This provided an idyllic childhood and the family are all very lucky to have experienced it. Simon loved gardening and transformed some of their land into an apple orchard that is still held by the family today, together with the map of the different varieties.

Re-inventing his career after the FCO, Simon qualified as a solicitor and later went on to work for many years for the Leonard Cheshire Foundation in London. This enabled him to continue his lifelong interest in humanitarian work, closely aligning his values and actions with Leonard Cheshire himself who was a personal friend.

Simon retired in 1993, aged 60. He went on to volunteer in local projects and continued to support his beloved Tanzania via the BTS (British Tanzania Society).

He passed away in Somerset, UK on 24 January 2024 aged 90, after a few short years of frailty. He was comfortable and in very good hands.

Simon is survived by his wife Jocelyn, their three boys and six grandchildren.

Written by his son, Andrew

CHRIS KIDMAN (1968)



Chris Kidman died on 11 August 2023, aged 55.

He was a teacher of English for thirty-two years, twenty-five of those at St. Aidan's Church of England High School in Harrogate. As well as sharing his love of Dickens, Chaucer and Shakespeare, he was a key member of the senior leadership team. As Director of Sixth Form in the largest school sixth form in the country, he had a lasting impact on many students, particularly in his care and dedication to ensuring that they were well prepared and supported in their university applications. Chris was a man of great compassion, integrity and wisdom. He always had time for his students and colleagues and cared deeply for his family. He loved cricket, playing for a local

village team for many years. His priceless smile will never be forgotten. He is survived by his wife, Angela, and children Miranda and Noah.

Written by his wife, Angela

WILLIAM (BILL) KIRKMAN MBE (1952)

Bill Kirkman was born in India in 1932, moving back to the UK when he was six months old. He attended Churcher's College, Petersfield and then, after national service, went to Oriel College to read Modern Languages, graduating in 1955. He cut his journalistic teeth on the student newspaper, *Cherwell*. It was at Oxford that he met his wife Anne, to whom he was married for over 60 years.

Bill began his career as a graduate editorial trainee on the *Wolverhampton Express & Star*, moving in 1957 to *The Times*. From 1960 until 1964 he was Commonwealth Staff Correspondent and Africa Correspondent, covering the period of rapid decolonisation.

Bill and Anne's first two children, George and Eddie were born while he was with *The Times* and was often away travelling during their early childhood, but in 1964 he returned to Oxford as a careers adviser, and it was here that their daughter Eleanor was born. In his first year back at Oxford he wrote *Unscrambling an Empire* (Chatto & Windus), a critique of British colonial policy.

In 1968 Bill moved to Cambridge to head the University Careers Service, in which post he remained until 1992. At the time of his transfer to Cambridge he was elected to a Fellowship of Wolfson College; he became an Emeritus Fellow in 2000.

As head of the Careers Service, Bill transformed the way in which it operated, quickly establishing an information room, setting up a weekly system of telling students about vacancies and organising a programme of careers evenings and seminars. He was also active on the national scene, serving for a period as chairman of the National Association of Careers Services, and later as chairman of several of its major committees. In 2005 the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services (AGCAS) gave him a lifetime achievement award.

It was his journalistic background that led him to propose the launching of a programme at Wolfson College for visiting journalists, leading to the highly successful Wolfson Press Fellowship. From 1982 Bill was Director of the Press Fellowship Programme for its first fourteen years and he took great pleasure from the fact that it quickly acquired an international reputation. He was awarded an MBE in 1993 for services to journalism.

In 1992, at the age of 60, Bill retired from the Careers Service. He became secretary of the Cambridge Society and editor of its magazine *Cambridge*, retiring from this role in 2003. He also spent four years as Advisor on Public Relations to the University.

In 1994 he started writing a fortnightly column for *The Hindu*, the national daily newspaper published in Chennai, which he continued for twenty years.

Bill was a member of the panel of non-service members of selection boards for the police, fire and prison services, and he also served for many years as a Trustee of the Sir Halley Stewart Trust. In retirement, he became chairman of *CAMREAD*, a Cambridge charity for blind people.

Bill also took a great interest in the life of the village in which he lived, at various times serving as a school governor for both the primary school and the village college, chairing the local scout group, serving on the Parish Council, acting as a Churchwarden and working as one of the team of editors of *Willingham News*, to name but a few. Bill was also an enthusiastic amateur organist and played regularly for services in the village church.

Bill is survived by his wife Anne, their three children and seven grandchildren.

Written by his son, Eddie

REV'D CANON RALPH EDWARD MALLINSON

Ralph Mallinson, who came up to Oriel in 1959 to read for the short-lived four-year Theology degree, valued his time at Oriel enormously. For many years, a print of the Front Quad in autumn hung on his sitting room wall. He had many happy memories of his time at Oriel, the friends he made there, and the activities, particularly centred around the chapel, that he was involved in.

His theological studies, including Greek and Hebrew, and the interest that he developed in liturgy were frequently drawn on during his career in parishes in Manchester diocese, where he spent all his ministry. He was for some time chair of the then Diocesan Worship Committee, an Area Dean for ten years and, during the last ten years of his ministry, half-time Vice-Principal of the Manchester Ordained Local Ministry training scheme. This combined his long parish experience and his ability to provide pastoral care and support to benefit his students. He was made an honorary Canon of Manchester Cathedral in 1992.

The opportunities Oxford gave him to get to know Christians of other denominations became valuable in his involvement with the twinning organisation linking the basilica of St Sernin in Toulouse with Manchester Cathedral, the civic twinning between Bury and Angoulême and later the diocesan link with Tampere in Finland. His fluent French resulted in many French friends, and he learnt much from his visits to Tampere.

In retirement he continued to provide cover in parishes around the area and undertake the spirituality work he had trained for and begun some years earlier. He also started to learn Italian, as well as enjoying hill walking and photography. However, his activities were increasingly curtailed by declining health in his last few years.

He will be remembered as a faithful priest, a wise, gentle and kind man who strove to emulate earlier clergy linked with Oriel, especially his great hero John Henry Newman.

He died on 24 August 2023 and leaves a widow Helen (Ross) (St Anne's 1961) and two daughters.

Written by his wife, Helen Mallinson

MARTIN WEDMORE MONCRIEFF (1951)

Martin came up to Oriel from Marlborough College and threw himself enthusiastically into student life, enjoying friendships which lasted his lifetime. Alongside his studies he played squash for the college and for the Squirrels university team, and he was a member of the mountaineering club. He took his BA in 1955 and then continued his medical studies at Middlesex Hospital. On qualifying he was obliged to do two and half years of military service, joining the very last intake. Although he regretted the fact that this held up his career, his time in the army working with military families furthered his interest in paediatrics, to which he devoted the rest of his career.

After working as a junior doctor around London and in Birmingham he was appointed as a consultant paediatrician to Derbyshire Hospital for Sick Children where he worked, very happily, for five years. He returned with his family to Oxford in 1975 to work



first at the Old Radcliffe and the Churchill hospitals and then at the newly built John Radcliffe.

He was primarily a general paediatrician but for many years he looked after the young cancer patients. This was an emotional challenge at a time when paediatric oncology services had not yet developed, but Martin dedicated himself to providing a patient and family-centred service with the most up to date treatment available. Testimony to his success and sensitivity were evident from the many letters of gratitude he received when he retired. Martin enjoyed teaching both undergraduate students and postgraduates and he published numerous papers on various aspects of paediatrics during his career. He had an interest in paediatric kidney disease and was one of the founding members of the British Association of Paediatric Nephrology. His research

challenged the prevalent, over-invasive investigation of urinary infections in children, and his recommendations are now accepted practice. Among other areas he also contributed to the understanding and management of rickets, the complications of premature birth, and leukaemia in children.

On retirement he took on a long-term desire to improve his French and signed up to do a degree at Brookes University. Memorably he graduated with a higher grade degree than he did from Oriel! His love of sport and for the mountains never left him. He played squash until his seventies, completed long distance walks in the Alps, and ran three marathons at which he raised money for Oxford Children's Hospital.

Martin was delighted to live near Oriel and always enjoyed attending alumni occasions at the College.

He is greatly missed by his wife Ann, their four children and ten grandchildren.

Written by Joanna and Ann Moncrieff

SIR STEPHEN JOHN LINDSAY OLIVER, KC (1959)

Stephen went up to Oriel in October 1959. He had chosen Law and Oriel on the advice of his housemaster (and headmaster), Sir Arthur fford, who told him that a Law lectureship at Oriel had just been endowed and they might be looking for students to read the subject. After his A levels, he had spent a year travelling round Africa on a scholarship awarded



to him by his school, Rugby. Then he completed two years of National Service in submarines.

At Oriel, Stephen met and made good friends for life, not only with younger contemporaries who had not done National Service, including David Hughes, but also with Rhodes scholars, notably Bob Edge, Hill Brown and Frank Griswold (see *Oriel College Record*, 2023, pp.113–4). The only legal subject he really enjoyed was Roman law, the special subject of his tutor, Alan Watson. He found time to go to lectures on Anthropology to follow up on his travels in Africa, and those by W.H. Auden, Robert Graves and Isaiah Berlin. Hungarians had arrived in Oxford in the aftermath of the 1956 Hungarian rising; a keen cellist, Stephen joined a small orchestra which played mainly works by Bartók and Kodály.

After graduating from Oxford in 1962 Stephen joined the Middle Temple and read for the Bar. He was called in 1963 and became pupil for six months to a company law specialist (whose previous pupil had been Margaret Thatcher) and then six months with Michael Nolan in tax chambers at 4 Pump Court. He found he enjoyed tax law. He accepted an offer of a tenancy there in 1964. and developed a busy all-round practice as a junior. He took silk in 1980, and was instructed in many important, well-known cases, including *Furniss v Dawson* and *Pepper v Hart*. His clients also included pop groups, novelists, horse-breeders, and stately home owners.

He moved from the Bar to the Bench in 1991. He was appointed Presiding Special Commissioner and President of the VAT and Duties Tribunal. He also took on jurisdictions in the Financial Services and Markets Tribunal, and the Pensions Regulatory Tribunal. From 1997 he was involved in navigating progress towards implementation of reforms to the tribunal system, resulting in the establishment of the First-tier and the Upper Tribunals in 2008. He was knighted for this work in 2007.

Music was an important part of Stephen's life, and over time he became involved in a number of music-related projects. He chaired Blackheath Halls from 1986 to 1993 as it was rescued from demolition by developers and restored to use for concerts and recording purposes. It is now a wonderfully well-equipped outstanding musical venue in Blackheath. From 1992 to 2017 he was closely involved with the London Sinfonietta, one of the world's great contemporary music ensembles. A part-time resident of Aldeburgh, he was trustee of the Britten-Pears Foundation from 2001 to 2009.

He retired from the Bench in 2011 and returned to his old Chambers to conduct occasional mediations. He became a trustee of the charity Taxaid and took part in fund-raising campaigns for its fellow charity Tax Help for Older People. I can remember him at his desk, fountain pen in hand, writing personal thank you letters to donors.

In his later years he was a trustee of the Michael Cuddigan Trust, commissioning the composition and performance of new music. He was also director, then chair for a time, of the Aldeburgh cinema.

He and Dawn married in 1967 and shared their time between Blackheath and Aldeburgh. Their three children and five grandchildren live close by in London and spend much of the holidays in Aldeburgh.

Written by his wife Dawn Oliver

GUY PRICHARD (1971)



Guy was educated at the Dragon School and Marlborough College. He was destined to be fourth generation Brasenose but accepted an Exhibition at Oriel to read Classics which, after Moderations, he changed to Philosophy and Religion. But all the time his deep love was music; American country and folk.

After Oriel he remained in Oxford, as a gigging musician, sometimes touring abroad, once as a support act to Julie Felix, sometimes working as a milkman or a laundry delivery man. He wrote original songs, had an encyclopaedic memory, sang solos and harmonies and could play just about any song on demand. A collection of guitars, banjos and harmonicas followed him throughout his life.

His music took him to London where he played as a professional act in pubs and clubs. No longer a milkman but now a housemate and live-in builder he helped his brother renovate a house. He was supremely skilled and careful, but gloriously unqualified. As an electrician he got work. He was a page ahead in the manual when doing a major rewiring job. The client, Helena, was very pleased with it. They married.

Whilst he never lost his passion for music, he needed to pay the bills. He completed a law conversion course in London and was called to the Bar in 1986, moving to Bristol. He was a member of a Chambers specialising in commercial, employment and discrimination, and published three books on technical aspects of

the law, with two still in circulation. At the same time, he was a founding member of a very successful band, *The Shrinks*, still going strong and on Spotify. Appointed the legal member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal, he became a part time Chair of Employment Tribunals before becoming a salaried employment judge in 2002 working first in Cardiff and Shrewsbury, then London. He was revered for his ability to dictate judgements without delay after hearings, save for a roll-up outside, with little need to check the chronology or page numbers of documents, using only plain English, and producing something so precise, complete and fluent. That took real ability. He cared about people and justice. He would then ditch the suit and tie, don the shorts, or perhaps his hand-dyed orange and red Zimbabwealoo trousers, Birkenstocks, beret (black or yellow) and cycle home.

When the pandemic came, the start of which coincided for Guy with recovering from a serious heart operation, the move of his profession online was a door closing for him. Without the face to face and the social aspect of the job, he did not want to return to work reincarnated as a virtual judge and retired in 2020. He enjoyed a busy retirement of travel, museums, galleries, theatre, walking and cycling across London, and plenty of live music, big acts and small. He adored the London life of Highbury with the views across the City from his balcony. Musicians like a drink, a cigarette and meals late into the night. Never quick food for Guy, only proper meals cooked with culinary flair and pride, whatever the hour.

Guy died unexpectedly on 17 June, a week shy of his 71st birthday. He was knocked off his bicycle and, after returning from the hospital casualty department to his flat, collapsed. He was divorced but remained close to Helena, with whom he had two daughters, Jo and Laura.

Just a fortnight before he had been in Paddock Wood, Kent, and spoke for the family in celebrating the 80th Anniversary of D Day at the birthplace of his maternal grandfather, Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Morgan, the architect of Operation Overlord. On parade as such, he gave a masterful and moving tribute without notes, and yes, in his shorts and Birkenstocks!

Written by his brother, Rupert Prichard

PROFESSOR EMERITUS WILLIAM FRANCIS RYAN (1958)

William Ryan was educated at Bromley Grammar School for Boys. After national service in the Royal Navy (in the joint services programme for linguists) he went up to Oriel College in 1958 to study Russian and French and went on to complete a DPhil in 1970 on *Astronomical and Astrological Terminology in Old Russian Literature*. In the year



1962–63 he was a British Council exchange student in Leningrad. The greatest influences on him at Oxford were Professor Boris Unbegaun and John Simmons; they instilled in him a love of the Russian language and the need for a meticulous approach to sources which remained with him throughout his career. His first posts were in Oxford, first at the Clarendon Press, where he worked on the Oxford Russian-English Dictionary, and then as Assistant Curator at the Museum of the History of Science. He then spent eight years at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London, as Lecturer in Russian, before moving to the Warburg Institute, University of London, where he spent twenty-six years (1976–2002) as Academic Librarian.

He published books, edited books, and over fifty articles and chapters on Russian history, culture and language. He became the leading specialist on Russian magic, internationally recognised after the publication of his magisterial *The Bathhouse at Midnight: An Historical Survey of Magic and Divination* in Russia (1999, translated into Russian in 2006). Other notable publications include: *Jerusalem Pilgrimage 1099–1185* (with John Wilkinson and Joyce Hill), 1988; *Penguin Russian Dictionary* (with Peter Norman), 1995; *Russian Magic at the British Library* (The Panizzi Lectures, 2005), 2006; *The Secret of Secrets: The East Slavic Version* (with Moshe Taube), 2019. He was active until the end and both a book entitled *Enigma in Rus and Medieval Slavic Cultures* (in collaboration with the editor Ágnes Kriza) and an article on *The Russian Secret of Secrets and Patriarch Nikon's Book Curse* (for the journal *Incantatio*) will be published posthumously. He was a formidable editor and edited many volumes for the Hakluyt Society and the Warburg publication series.

He was always willing to share his knowledge and to encourage young scholars, especially the new generation of scholars from Russia and Eastern Europe after the collapse of Communism. He was an active member of several academic societies and also served as the President of both the Hakluyt Society and the Folklore Society. A festschrift in his honour, *Magic, Texts and Travel: Homage to a Scholar, Will Ryan*, was published in 2021 (edited by Janet Hartley and Denis Shaw). His scholarship was recognised by the award of a professorship by the University of London in 2002, and an honorary doctorate by the Russian Academy of Sciences in 2007. He was elected Fellow of the British Academy in 2000.

He is an immense loss to scholarship, as well as to his family and his many friends. He is survived by his wife, Janet, his four children, Masha, Liza, Ben and Izzy, and his grandson Malek.

Written by his wife, Professor Emeritus Janet Hartley

JEREMY SALE (1968)



Jeremy Gordon Sale was born on 29 August 1949, the third of five children born to Richard and Therese Sale. His father was a first-class cricketer who taught at Repton School and subsequently became Headmaster at Oswestry School and then Brentwood School. So, Jeremy's upbringing was strongly focused on sport and the school environment.

Jeremy attended Shrewsbury School where he thrived and he was particularly proud that his name was carved on the school wall. In order to obtain this distinction, a pupil had to be awarded his colours in two major school sports (cricket and football in Jeremy's case), be appointed a Praeposter (Prefect) and obtain a place at Oxbridge. Jeremy followed his father's footsteps to Oriel and read History in the days when Robert Beddard, Jeremy Catto and Billy Pantin were History tutors. He continued to enjoy football, playing goalkeeper for Oriel and for the Oxford Centaurs (the University's second XI) and for many years he continued to find frequent opportunities to play cricket both in the UK and abroad.

After leaving Oriel, Jeremy joined Shell on their graduate programme based in Manchester and in Wales and subsequently moved to Chubb, travelling extensively in the Middle East. In 1982, he joined the Montgomery Exhibition Group and was appointed Operations Manager for the Liverpool Garden Festival, which ran for the summer of 1984 and was the largest event held in the UK since the 1951 Festival of Britain. Jeremy provided the essential day-to-day leadership, energy, improvisation and good humour that was crucial to the success of the project. The Festival redeveloped a large area of the old docklands, drawing over 3 million visitors over six months, and laid the foundation for Liverpool becoming a tourist destination. Jeremy's career continued in the management of festivals and events including advising on garden festivals, running music festivals and staging a series of city regeneration conferences. Tragically Jeremy's life and career were devastated when he suffered serious injury falling off a ladder. For many weeks he hovered between life and death and the drugs he needed to

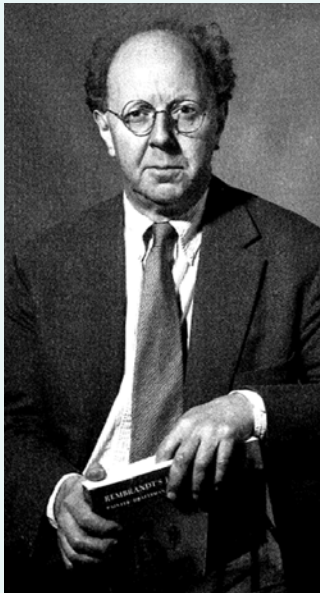
take as a consequence of that fall profoundly affected how he was able to manage the rest of his life.

As a person, Jeremy was exceptional – he was always positive, a witty man who brought laughter and smiles wherever he went. Whether at work or play, to meet him was to fall under his charismatic spell – he was charming and fun and accumulated an enormous number of devoted friends, not to mention countless godchildren. He never forgot a birthday or anniversary. He married twice but unfortunately the relationships did not last although he remained on good terms with both his former wives. He loved public speaking and was always the person to call upon to give a speech whatever the occasion.

By the end of his life he had become virtually immobile but he never complained and to visit him was always uplifting, just to witness his ability to remain optimistic and cheerful no matter how awful or incapacitated he felt. He passed away peacefully on 25 January 2024.

*Written by his contemporary Peter Forrester with contributions
from his many friends and relations*

NICHOLAS GERALD STOGDON (1967)



Nicholas Gerald Stogdon was born on 29 May 1948 and died on 23 March 2024 as a result of a fall in a real tennis court.

He came up to Oriel, after secondary education at Harrow, in the Michaelmas term of 1967, ostensibly to read History. But he was not one who followed naturally a settled curriculum and his studies therefore reflected his interest rather than his course's requirements, although he managed to maintain a working relationship with his tutors. His growing attraction to printed art caused him to spend more time in the Ashmolean than in the Bodleian, while his pleasure in baroque and classical architecture was nurtured by Howard Colvin and his surroundings at Oxford. It was no surprise when he went down in 1971 that, encouraged by a fellow Oriensis, Patrick Morrissey, he began, in the words of a later Christie's colleague James Roundell 'to dabble rather aimlessly at collecting and dealing in the odd print'. Eventually

Antony Browne, a drawing specialist at Christie's, suggested he took up the soon to be vacant position of print expert there.

Eccentric and unconventional, he cut an unmistakeable figure in the auction house, whose vagaries, especially with regard to time-keeping, low tolerance for those of lesser intelligence and understanding and bizarre sartorial habits were a constant source of entertainment to his fellow workers. Nevertheless, his expertise in this field was steadily accruing and, when he was given the opportunity to open a print department at Christie's in New York, he jumped at the chance. Starting from scratch, with no basis to build on, Nick very successfully set up a valuable business and eventually a brilliant team, in the face of the traditional dominance by Sotheby's in this field. None of this diminished in any way the character he had already established in London, which if anything left an even stronger imprimatur stateside, with a host of amusing stories to testify to this.

By 1984, he had achieved any goals that he had set in this domain and the arrival in his orbit of a very great American old master print collection allowed him to leave Christie's and become a private dealer. This was very much his metier, as it offered him the space to pursue his investigative programme, while providing the wherewithal for his private life with his new wife Carol Bundy, whom he married in 1986 and with whom he moved to a house in Connecticut. She is the daughter of William Bundy, foreign affairs advisor to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and the granddaughter of Dean Acheson. Three years later he returned to England with Carol, to Middle Chinnock in Somerset, where both his sons, Percy and Sammy were born.

Nick was unusual amongst his generation of dealers, because, although adroit in the marketplace, he was far more interested in establishing the pedigree of any print which he acquired, the printmaker's history, the print's paper, watermark, iconography and provenance. He was possibly the most thorough researcher of his time, touching every aspect of the object in question and reluctant to leave it until the last scintilla of knowledge had been squeezed out. Unfortunately, this great mass of learning remained largely in his head, although erudite articles for the *Print Quarterly*, various catalogues aligned with his dealing, some of his work on watermarks and above all his great catalogue of Samuel Josefowitz's Rembrandt collection did see the light of day and parts thereof found their way to the British Museum database. His own rich collection not only included incunabula and old masters, but also the printed works of the seventeenth and eighteenth century English satirists, and is to be found in his house in a village nearer to his *alma mater*, where he lived in later years, entertaining regularly, honing his expertise in English cooking and playing real tennis.

Nicholas, almost *malgré lui*, gathered a very large circle of friends from all the various worlds he inhabited, school, university, his professional life, his sporting side, of

whom he was, true to character, generally critical, but to whom he was also very loyal. They, in turn, valued him, recognising that the curmudgeonly crust concealed a big and kind heart and a very good brain. By them and by his family, he will be sorely missed.

Written by Jeremy Amos (1966)

RICHARD TUR



There cannot be many people who went from driving a lorry at the age of 23 to becoming an Oxford don at 33, but then not many people had the tenacity, spirit and intelligence of Richard Henry Stefan Tur.

Born in 1945 in Edinburgh, he moved as a young child to rural Glen Esk. His mother was Scottish but his father was a Polish air force officer who became a honey farmer. He was brought up in a home with almost no books, apart from a Bible, his father's *Encyclopaedia of Bees* and a Parnassus of poetry that his mother had won as a schoolgirl. It was poetry, which Richard called a keyhole to the soul, that was a stalwart throughout his life, and in tutorials that he would often refer to lines from various poems, usually his beloved Robert Burns.

He ran away from home when he was 16, with the equivalent of a couple of O levels, and worked as a warehouseman and a van driver for Fyffes Bananas. Having been rejected by the Royal Navy because they claimed he did not comply with the nationality requirements, he went to night school and at the age of 23 finally went to Dundee University, paying his way through by working a night shift as a security guard.

There he studied law and philosophy and, after teaching at the University of Glasgow, was about to go to head a law faculty in Papua New Guinea when he was unexpectedly appointed by Oriel. Having clawed his way up from his unconventional start he arrived in 1979 and stayed in post for thirty-three years.

At Oriel he was far ahead of his time when it came to non-discriminatory admissions, taking no account of ethnicity, gender or background of candidates a long time before this became official policy. He taught criminal law, contract and his speciality, jurisprudence, the philosophy of law, in which he developed his 'Theory of Defeasibilism', the post-modern notion of using the law to change the law. He was still sending reading

lists to at least one of his students in the last year of his life, discussing the merits of defeasibilism and Victorian literature, always with a line from a poem included.

One of Richard's abiding passions was football, particularly Liverpool FC, and he became the Oxford University representative for the Football Association council. In his last few weeks, he was proud to receive a telephone call from former Scotland and Liverpool captain, Graeme Souness, who had heard that Richard was ill, and even prouder to recall that when he sat on the Football Regulatory Authority he had fined Souness twice for his bad language. Appropriately, Richard's final trip in August 2023, although he was in pain, was to drive from Scotland to Wembley to see the FA Community Shield.

Retirement came in 2012, and he spent it reading, cycling, travelling in his motor home, 'collecting bridges' and watching football, sometimes on two or three screens. He once described a tutor's life as a 'scramble', comparing it to retirement which was 'a joy to have time to read and watch and listen'.

In 2018 he returned to his beloved Scotland, moving to a house in the Borders with beautiful views of the hills and kind neighbours who gave him both help and friendship in his final days. He died there on 6 December 2023.

Written by his former student and friend Astra Emir (1987)

CHRISTOPHER WALKER (1964)

Never without his trademark battered typewriter and a Gitane cigarette, Christopher Walker was an old-school foreign correspondent, often under fire during wars, always quick with his copy and a vivid witness to two turbulent decades in the Middle East, the Balkans and Russia.

As a long-time correspondent for *The Times*, he reported from Belfast at the height of the Troubles — the paper's first resident correspondent in the Europa hotel — and then for many years from Jerusalem and Cairo. He covered the fall of the Shah of Iran, the assassination of President Sadat of Egypt, the massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, the break-up of Yugoslavia and the first Gulf War. As Moscow correspondent during the tumultuous Gorbachev years, he reported from Afghanistan during the Soviet occupation, the Reykjavik summit between Reagan and Gorbachev and the momentous fallout from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Walker was an intrepid correspondent, sent to trouble spots at short notice, a passport and currency always to hand. He lived undercover for a month as war engulfed Bosnia in 1992 — finding the Serb shelling the most frightening time of his life, he later recalled. And soon after arriving in Cairo as Middle East correspondent, he was sent in

1989 to cover the violent fall and execution of Ceausescu in Romania, where he stayed for several months, reporting also on the horrors of the malnourished and ill-treated children in Romanian orphanages.

Born in London in 1946 to John Walker and Cecily — née Thomas, a niece of the poet Edward Thomas — Christopher went to school at Bryanston and then read PPE at Oriel College, Oxford (after a year at Grenoble university). At Oxford he was editor of *Cherwell*, the student newspaper, and founded the *John Evelyn* column, which continues as the University's gossip column to this day. He got an early start in journalism, taken on after graduation by the *Financial Times*, where he worked on the gossip column, then moving for a brief stint to *The Observer* before joining *The Times*, where as a general reporter he followed Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal leader, during the 1974 election.

He cut his teeth as a war correspondent in Northern Ireland. During the printers' strike and the year-long closure of *The Times*, which Walker hated, he was chosen as the one pool journalist to be allowed into the Maze prison, where those IRA suspects interned were engaged in a 'dirty' protest. Unable to file to his own paper, Walker's report was used by all Fleet Street, and was splashed, to his delight, on the front page of the *Sun*.

The first *Times* journalist to resign from the National Union of Journalists in protest at the continuing strike, Walker was sent to reopen the paper's Jerusalem bureau in 1978 — the start of several long stints in Israel, where he became a respected and well-informed fixture. Married by then to Patricia (Trish) Mackenzie, whom he had met on a blind date in Belfast in 1975, their two sons, Marcus and Julian, were both born in Jerusalem and were known as the 'Sabra boys'. Marcus (1999) is now Rector of St Bartholomew the Great Church in London, and Julian works in Dubai.

Edited, with permission, from the obituary in The Times on 22 January 2024

FATHER JOHN WARNABY (1979)

If it be thy will, that I speak no more and my voice be still as it was before...

Last night, we sang the recessional hymn, *Abide with me* I have vivid memories of singing that hymn, next to John, at an Oriel College Evensong, in 1979. He was not Father John, then, but our 'Wallaby', whose tenor voice soared above the choir. The words of the last verse, last night had a special poignancy:

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

Bishop Paul, in his homily, focused our attention on the designation of Fr. John as ‘servant and priest’. In my words, I want to briefly focus attention on the voices of John as our friend, our singing friend, our acting friend, our friend whose God-given gifts, through the working of the Holy Spirit, were transfigured so that our John, our Wallaby, became Father John Warnaby – ‘a servant and beloved priest.’

I suspect that in all our hearts and minds, today, we are dealing with conflicting voices: the voice of anger at his untimely passing; the voice of laughter as we recall so many wonderful moments with him; the voice of religious doubt... quickly tempered by the voice of Father John calling us, even in the midst of our grief, to share and celebrate his unshakeable faith.

My grief has been, slowly but surely, redeemed through cherishing memories of his voice and the voices of those he admired, in particular, St John Henry Newman’s, whose words on this day seem providentially apposite. John and I met at Newman’s Oriel; we read theology together there, there we sang; there we studied Newman.

On 7 March 1848, Newman wrote:

‘I am created to do something or to be something for which no one else is created; I have a place ... in God’s world, which no one else has; whether I be rich or poor, despised or esteemed by man, God knows me and calls me by my name.

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission—I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. ... I am a link in a chain, a bond of connexion between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; {I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling.}’

John was a unique link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. And, what a bond! With John, whether you were ‘rich or poor, despised or esteemed by man’, he wanted to know you and ‘call you by your name’! Whether a cleaning lady or cardinal, professor or plumber, member of the Garrick, or garage mechanic, Wallaby treated you with equal respect, equal love and, when he deemed necessary, with his inimitable equal gentle disdain!

I close with two quotations: the first Father John sang at my wedding, and at my son’s baptism: George Herbert’s words set to music in Vaughan Williams’ Five Mystical Songs.

*‘Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a joy as none can move,
Such a love as none can part,
Such a heart as joys in love.’*

And, finally, the closing verse from a hymn we both loved. 'My Song is Love Unknown.'

*'Here might I stay and sing:
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like Thine!
This is my Friend,
in Whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.'*

So, Farewell:

*Our Friend John;
Our Father John;
Our Holy Falstaff;
Our unforgettable King Lear;
Our Man for All Seasons.*

...Servant and Priest-who reflected Christ's love to all those he met and whose heart joyed in love.

Cor ad cor loquitur

Eulogy delivered at Fr John's funeral by Paul Keyte (1979)

John's and my grandfathers were brothers, Jerry and Jack Buckley. Irishmen, men of Cork, caught up in the turbulence of the early years of the twentieth century, as the then IRA fought for independence. They both spent time on the run from the British; Jerry spent time in a British jail, if I'm not mistaken. We're second cousins therefore – Nora, John's mother, is my late mother's cousin. Many second cousins don't know each other well. John and I did not see a lot of each other growing up, perhaps unsurprisingly as my parents largely lived overseas – just at the odd family do. I think I remember John, using his rather fine voice, singing at grandfather Jack's funeral in 1980. But that's the thing about memory...it leaves you doubting your recall and it gets worse with age. Jack used to say, with a twinkle in his eye at the cleverness of his word play, that his memory was a thing of the past.

John could have delivered that line, couldn't he? He inherited that Irish wit, the love of words, of language, of story-telling. Was there anyone who could tell a better story? Some of them were probably even true; all of them were well-told.

My first proper experience of John came in Oxford. When I arrived as a freshman, he was already in his final year at Oriel. He was so kind to his newbie cousin. I remember him swooping down on me at Worcester in my first week or so and taking me off to a curry house in Turl Street. He was determined to settle me in right. Sage advice and offers of introduction – it wouldn't be John if he didn't mention a few people he knew...

John's acting made him a very glamorous cousin, both at Oxford and after he came down. We were all a bit starstruck. I remember Maggie, myself and the kids going to see him in 2009 in *Plague over England* by Nicholas de Jongh where John played a marvellously censorious Home Secretary. And there was always that moment of pride in our house when someone spotted John in *Midsomer Murders* or *The Bill* or some such series (a gift that poignantly will keep on giving as the repeats roll on through coming years). He was as dodgy in his screen personas as he was honest and true in real life. Playing bent solicitors seemed to be a particular trademark although real street cred in our family came with his appearance as a distinctly dodgy MP in *Ali G Indahouse* in 2002.

John loved companionship. He found it everywhere because he befriended all he came across. And he found comrades in perhaps unlikely places...he was briefly, but proudly, a Parachute Regiment Territorial. Katie found a splendidly warrior-like photo of John posing by some tanks while clearing out his flat. He liked to remind me that he'd signed the Official Secrets Act too and knew a thing or two about intelligence!

He found companionship in his cricket too. Camaraderie, chat and banter were his major contributions on the field as well as off it. As I remember, he used to skipper a theatrical cricket side, composed mostly of backstage types; both my son Jack and I have turned out for them at John's urging.

Firmly established as No 11 batsman, he bowled off a shortish shuffle, launching a slow lobbing delivery at the batsman which rarely bagged a wicket unless the said batter made the mistake of playing for spin. He was installed regularly as an honorary brother in the Moore brother's annual pilgrimage with our father to Lord's, that of Thomas Lord, not of St Bernadette.

John, the cricketing amateur, dropped a few slip catches in his time. But names, names, he dropped names like a professional. His anecdotes were littered with them. From fellow thespians to cardinals, from distinguished surgeons to four-star generals, and from TV stars to famous authors, they all dropped from his lips.

A lean forward, an inclination of the head, a voice lowered in deference to the confidence about to be imparted. And then the drop, aptly, charmingly and with a strong note of pride in the acquaintance revealed. Because that was the thing. He knew all these darn people and they knew and loved him, as we all do.

One snapshot. The Brothers Moore at said temple of cricket, sitting with cuz Warnaby, champagne glass in hand, idle chat, slow scoring. Then a quarry spotted, conversation with the Moores broken off, a pivot to the left and a hail from John to a gentleman making his way up the stand at the end of over, 'Jeremy, how are you?' (heavy emphasis on the 'are'). 'How are you?'. 'Very well, John, thank you,' replied Paxman.

I'm imagining him now...rolling the pitch for those of us further down the batting order. On arriving at the heavenly wicket... 'Hello cuz, how nice to see you. Did you email? Text? May have missed it. Never mind, lovely surprise...you must meet some of my friends. You'll already have said hello to Peter on the way in; solid as a rock but a bit unimaginative. Bit slow off the mark to spot Judas's disaffection, the sudden unexplained wealth. I told God last week that I had a cousin in MI6 who might be able to help. Let me introduce you to some of my writer friends, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John...'

John was the complete conversationalist. There was an intense seriousness beneath the playfulness and fun. This was a highly intelligent man who thought deeply about the biggest issues. Part of the reason why John was such stimulating company was that one could go from arcane philosophical debate to mischievous gossip in the arch of an eyebrow and the dawning of a wry smile. There is no one with whom I would rather have spent an evening.

John, you've left us too young. Your 63 was a good knock, full of life and colour, but you should have got closer to your century. We would have loved to have been present in your anecdotage. What fun we would have had together.

We'll miss your love, your affection, your kindness, your sense of fun, the example of your faith and your belief in the goodness in all of us. You produced a lovely man, you Warnabys.

Bless you, John, and rest in peace.

Eulogy delivered at Fr John's funeral by Sir Richard Moore

OTHER DEATHS NOTIFIED SINCE AUGUST 2023

ASHMORE, Mr Roger (1962)	15 April 2024
BARTON, The Revd Geoffrey (1945)	20 December 2023
CAMPBELL, Dr John (1970)	19 March 2024
CHANT, Mr Christopher (1964)	29 January 2024
DENTON, Mr Barry (1967)	17 April 2024
GORDON, Mr Stephen (1952)	15 January 2024
HOPKINS, Dr Henry (1956)	16 July 2015
PENDOCK, Mr Julian (1991)	13 November 2023
PENNOCK-PURVIS, Mr Alan (1957)	12 December 2023
PERKINS, The Revd Douglas (1953)	7 May 2020
RICE, Mr Jack (1978)	27 July 2021
ROBINSON, Mr Jim (1960)	20 October 2023
ROGERS, The Revd John (1955)	16 February 2023
RUSSELL, Professor Peter (1955)	10 January 2024
SENIOR, Mr George (1968)	07 March 2024
TONJES, Professor Marian Jeanette (Visiting Professor)	17 September 2023
THUNDER, Mr David (1960)	10 January 2024
WEIDNER, Dr Halbert (1980)	3 February 2018
WOODWARD, Professor James (1956)	20 May 2024







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Dr P Grünewald ^{1326 5+}	Mr K Sharer	Microsoft Matching Gifts ⁵⁺
Ms A Gutwillinger	Mr O Sladen	Orbis Pictus Trust
Lord and Lady Harris of Peckham~	Mr J T Smith	Prism the Gift Fund
Mr O R Jaeggi	Mrs A Stainsby ^{1326 5+}	Rothschild Foundation
Mrs M L Jones	Mr K Tanenbaum	Sepia Labs Ltd
Mrs J Kerkhecker ⁵⁺	Mr T Throsby	Stainer And Bell ⁵⁺
Dr S M Kingston ^{1326 5+}	Professor M Topf	The A.B. Charitable Trust
Dr G M Klufft	Mrs D M Whittington	Thomson Reuters - Head
Mr C Knapp ⁵⁺	Professor E Winstanley ^{1326 5+}	Office
Mr F J R McDonald	Dr S L Yamshon ¹³²⁶	UBS - New York Head Office
	Mr H C Yates ^{1326 5+}	
	Mr M X Y Zhang ¹³²⁶	

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

Mr R W Reiss	1946
Mr P E Hustwitt	1950
Mr S Hardwick	1953
Mr M N Gent	1954
Professor P J Stoward	1954
Dr J W Rutter	1955
Mr K A McKinlay	1956
Mr G B Tanner	1956
Mr J H Robinson	1960
Mr B H Colman	1965

DIARY

DATES OF FULL TERM

Michaelmas 2024	Sunday 13 October – Saturday 7 December
Hilary 2025	Sunday 19 January – Saturday 15 March
Trinity 2025	Sunday 27 April – Saturday 21 June

GAUDIES

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

2025

1987–1990
2000–2002

2026

No Gaudies due to 700th
anniversary celebrations

2027

1973–1976
2004–2005
2009–2012

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For full details of all Oriel College events for Orielenes, please visit www.alumni.oriel.ox.ac.uk/events.

2025

FRIDAY 14 MARCH

Oriel Women's Network – Lecture and Dinner

Talk and dinner to celebrate International Women's Day

FRIDAY 21 MARCH

1987–1990 Gaudy

Reunion dinner for those who matriculated in the years 1987–1990

SATURDAY 22 MARCH

Adam de Brome Lunch

Annual lunch in College for members of the Adam de Brome Society and guests.

SATURDAY 26 APRIL**MA Ceremony**

Annual ceremony held at the University Church for those obtaining their Oxford MA

THURSDAY 1 MAY**Oriel London Dinner**

Annual dinner in London for Orielenes, this year held at the House of Commons

FRIDAY 9 MAY**Champagne Concert**

Biannual concert with sparkling wine interlude

SATURDAY 31 MAY**Oriel Garden Party**

Annual Garden Party held in College for alumni and their families

FRIDAY 27 JUNE**Provost's Lunch**

Lunch for those who matriculated up to 1960 and their guests

SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER**40 Years of Women at Oriel**

Full day of celebration events and dinner to mark forty years since the admittance of women to Oriel

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER**Alumni Weekend Dinner**

Annual dinner in College open to all alumni

SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER**2000–2002 Gaudy**

Reunion dinner for those who matriculated in the years 2000–2002

FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER**Champagne Concert**

Biannual concert with sparkling wine interlude

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER**Raleigh Society Dinner**

Biennial dinner in College for members of the Raleigh Society

NOTES

ORIEL RECORD

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

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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

PRIVACY NOTICE

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

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

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