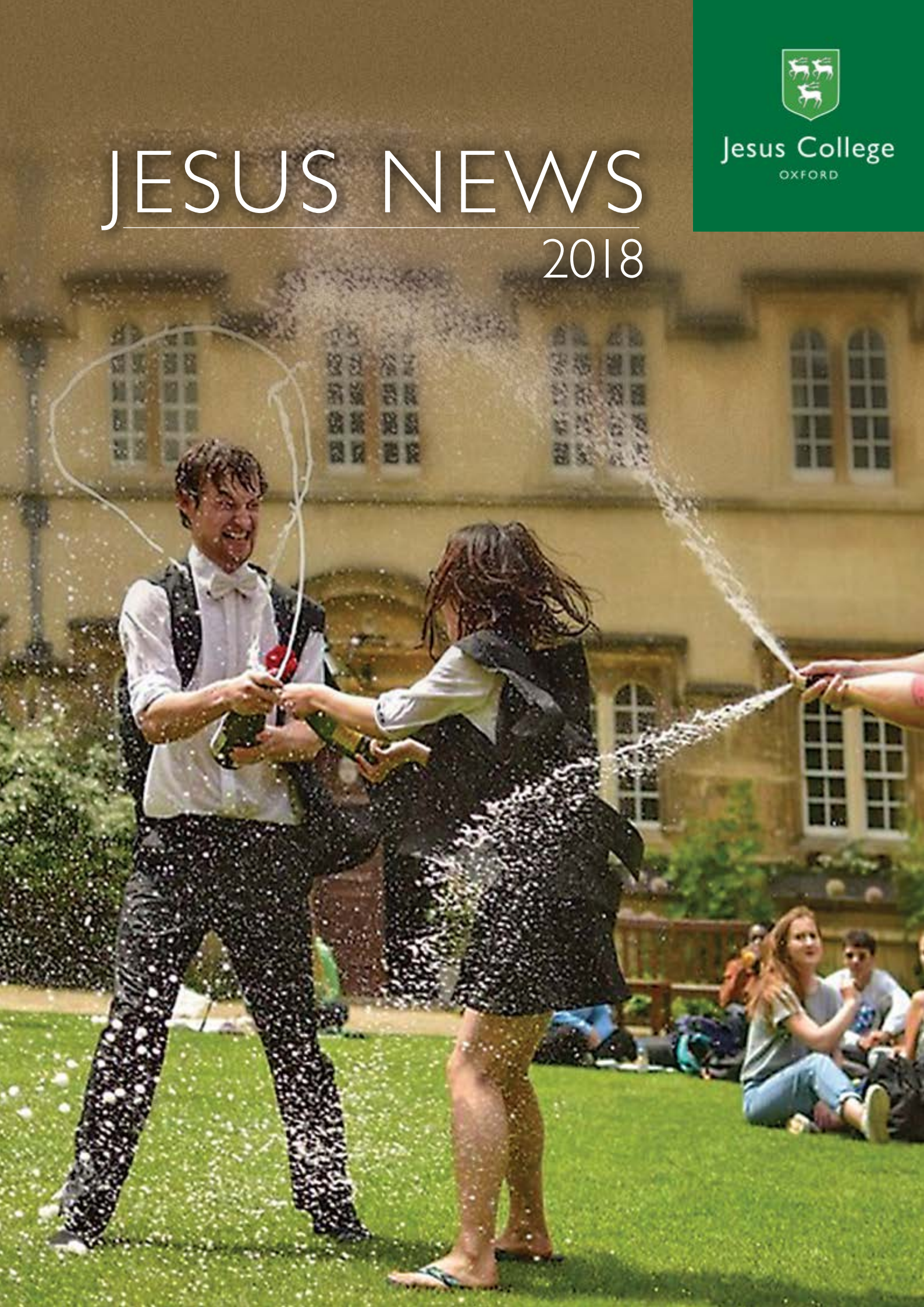




Jesus College
OXFORD

JESUS NEWS

2018



CONTENTS

Greeting from the Principal	2
Building for the Future: MICA architects discuss the Northgate site	4
A Day in the Life... James Goldston, ABC News	10
On Tour with the Jesus College Choir	12
From the Archives: World War I experienced by a College rowing crew	16
Sports News	22
Donor trip to Rome with Professor Richard Bosworth	28
Thanks to the Development Fund: <i>Isolde</i> at the Sheldonian	32
Hidden College: exploring the wine cellars with Professor Philip Burrows	34
Go Wild: behind the scenes of an alumnus' flourishing enterprise	36
Arctic Dreams and the Geography Fellowship Appeal	40
The Welsh Connection: Alumni explore Cowbridge	42
Seren Network Summer School	47
Private Passions	48
Student & Alumni Activism: The Aldabra Clean Up Project	52
Greater Change	54
Alumni News A College Wedding	56
Why I give to Jesus College	56
Alumni Benefits	57
Campaign News & Development Update	61
Welcome Home	62
In Print: The Digital Ape	64
From the Mill to Monte Carlo	65

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Jesus College Oxford

GREETING

It is a great pleasure to write this introduction to the first issue of *Jesus News*. To be published annually in the summer, *Jesus News* will celebrate the achievements of the College and its members as each academic year draws to a close. The *Jesus Record* will continue to be published in the winter, as the College's official report on the year just passed.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As I write, our graduands are assembling in First Quad, ready to process to the Sheldonian and receive their degrees. Graduation is always a joyful occasion, and this year our finalists celebrate a spectacular set of results, with no less than 44% of them gaining Firsts.

These outstanding academic performances have not prevented Jesus students from excelling in their extra-curricular activities. We have enjoyed brilliant sporting successes recently, from rowing to volleyball, cricket to football. I am particularly pleased to see the amount and variety of participation – there is a sport and a level of participation available to the great majority of our students, and at Jesus even to the Head of House! It has also been a pleasure to hear our wonderful student musicians and other artistic performers in the course of the year: the production of *Isolde* organised at the Sheldonian by Junior Research Fellow Anna Stoll-Knecht was a particular highlight.

While delighting in our members' present achievements, Jesus College continues to make exciting plans for the future. Detailed plans for the transformative Northgate site project on Cornmarket have now been submitted for planning approval. This landmark development will ensure Jesus College remains a leader among Oxford colleges in the 21st century. Within the site is proposed a dynamic learning space designed to facilitate and showcase world-leading teaching and research. This space, to be called the Digital Hub, will offer an unmatched opportunity for the College to bring together – physically and virtually – generations of students and researchers, across disciplines and national boundaries. Later in this issue, our architects for the project, MICA, introduce their designs, while Fellows share their thoughts on the planned Digital Hub. We're entering a new era for the College and we can't think of a better way to mark our 450th

anniversary in 2021 than with the unveiling of a world class academic building at the heart of our historic site.

Access to the benefits conferred by an Oxford degree is always a top priority for us. We are determined to maintain our proud tradition of admissions from the widest range of economic and social backgrounds. This August we had a record number of students from Wales attend a one-week summer school here in College, part of our ongoing work with the Seren initiative. The summer schools aim to demystify Oxford for students who might not have considered applying, so as to whet their appetite for a university education and give them an appreciation of how to be a successful Oxford applicant.

All of these plans rely on the generosity of our alumni community and we cannot thank you enough for your support. As you will note, in addition to our regular schedule of alumni events this year, we have a new series of dedicated campaign events to celebrate the public launch of our anniversary campaign. This year's theme celebrates the Elizabethan College and the College in the Information Age. We hope you'll join us for what promises to be a very special programme of alumni events; there are opportunities for everyone to take part.

I hope you enjoy *Jesus News* and do stay in touch with us.

Best wishes,



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

MICA ARCHITECTS DISCUSS THE NORTHGATE SITE

As the College continues with its plans for Northgate site – the most significant enhancement the city centre site has seen in three decades – we talked with Director Stuart Cade and Senior Associate Mandy Franz, who will be leading the project at MICA Architects, the firm commissioned to take on the development.





The Northgate site from Cornmarket Street

MICA Architects, formerly Rick Mather Associates, has a long history of designing high-quality academic and collegiate buildings in Oxford. Their projects include the new Ashmolean Museum building and an award-winning new library extension for The Queen's College, as well as numerous projects with Keble College.

This heritage, along with the firm's experience with large, mixed-use developments, made them the ideal choice for the Northgate project. The project will begin with the demolition of the existing Northgate building down to ground level to make way for a new development, the College's Fourth Quad, which will incorporate retail space, academic facilities and accommodation.

For MICA Architects, the challenge of creating one building which could meet so many different needs was one they relished. Not only will the new site continue to incorporate retail spaces targeted at independent retailers and intended to help regenerate Cornmarket Street, it will also include 68 graduate rooms and four Fellows' sets, outdoor space and a flexible area for gatherings, exhibitions and performances.

OPENING NEW DOORS

Stuart Cade, one of MICA's two directors, explains that reframing the Northgate site as another entrance for the College on Market Street was key to their proposal. Where the building is currently perceived as the back of College, MICA 'wanted to give Jesus College a presence and a frontage, turning the back of the College into an



"It will be a public gateway for the College, opening it up both physically and virtually."

Stuart Cade, Director of MICA

entrance to be proud of'. This chimes with our vision for the site as a public gateway for the College, opening it up and making it more accessible, both physically and virtually.

Central to this will be the impressive Gatehouse, a tall structure incorporating a street-level entrance to the new Fourth Quad with a function room at the top. The entrance will give much-needed disabled access to parts of the College which were not previously accessible as well as leading to flexible spaces which will be used for access and outreach. The Tower Room is set to be

a modern reinterpretation of a Tudor gatehouse room, with wood panelling, a carefully designed ceiling and large windows. Not only will the vast windows make the most of spectacular views across Jesus College's existing buildings, the Radcliffe Camera and Christ Church Meadow, they will also give a sense of openness and transparency when seen from the street below.

BUILDING ON TRADITION

The thought of looking out over this quintessential Oxford view from such a thoroughly modern building only serves to reinforce how carefully MICA Architects have

had to balance the historic and the modern in the conception of the new development. Stuart Cade points out that their aim has always been to create 'a twenty-first century addition to a sixteenth-century college [...] building sensitively but without pastiche'.

Mandy Franz, Senior Associate on the project, describes how elements of the existing college architecture will be carried through into the new site to create a modern building which feels very much part of Jesus College. "The recesses and string coursing above the new windows and the bronze metal edging will all echo



The Digital Hub



the distinctive windows of the older College buildings. We're also building in Clipsham stone, matching the materials used in the new building with those used in the rest of the College."

This sensitive approach has met with wholehearted approval from

Historic England, which considers the proposed building to be 'a well-designed and careful contemporary response to its context'. The organisation, which exists to protect England's historical buildings and monuments, is supporting the planning application for the Northgate site.

HONOURING THE PAST AND EMBRACING THE FUTURE

Careful historical research and sensitive design which allows existing structures, like the Fellows' Library, to shine are central to MICA Architects' proposed design. But, with the Northgate development, Jesus College is also planning and building for the future. Desirable new graduate accommodation will form a significant part of the development, in line with the College's aim to increase graduate student numbers. Future students will enjoy new teaching rooms, spaces for

academic study and collaboration, a café, and a second-floor roof garden which will form the centre of Fourth Quad.

The innovative new Digital Hub will be used to promote interdisciplinary learning and research, bringing students and academics together. This flexible

Hub will be the largest single space in the College: a place for the whole College to gather. Designed to incorporate digital media displays and projection, the Digital Hub will be used for performances, films, talks and exhibitions, as well as welcoming school groups as part of the College's ongoing access and outreach programme.

The Northgate site will provide the location for which the College's undergraduate, graduate and Fellowship communities will convene, bringing together the best ideas in intersecting research areas from various elements of the College and of the University. Recent years have witnessed the emergence of a number of very



Market Street entrance

successful models for such spaces, where the best researchers are given time, space and the structure to share, exchange and evaluate their work. To support this concept, some of the College's academics were asked to describe the purpose of the Digital Hub, and explain what it will mean for their teaching and research (see below).

This exciting development has an important role to play in the future of the College, helping us to achieve our ambition of providing 'an outstanding and transformative educational experience for students and supporting excellence in research and scholarship'. There are many opportunities for alumni to be involved with this landmark project,

including opportunities to support academics in sharing their research as described above. The College hopes to make a substantial start on the redevelopment works in early 2019. ■



In my own research field – the history of conflict and co-operation in modern history – archives are increasingly digitised, which is transforming teaching and learning in ways that pose new opportunities and challenges for researchers and teachers. The Hub will provide a space to explore and connect important collections, such as those of the Imperial War Museum in London and the League of Nations in Geneva, in relation to pressing and evolving questions in the study and research of war and peace.

I'm hugely excited about the way the Digital Hub will reflect the very best of Jesus College – open, questioning, multi-disciplinary – and give us new tools for teaching and research.

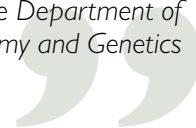
Professor Patricia Clavin FBA
Zeitlyn Fellow and Tutor in History,
Professor of International History

In pursuit of my research into reconstructing ancient Greek music, I have made constant use of digital resources (e.g. to compile images of ancient instruments, ascertain tunings, and present findings). With Jesus JRF Tosca Lynch I have also arranged numerous talks, conferences, and musical performances, including in the Ashmolean and Pitt Rivers museums: a film made of the path-breaking Ashmolean concert has topped 100,000 views on the Internet. The capacity to undertake such activities and to disseminate their impact will be greatly enhanced for researchers at all levels by the creation of the Digital Hub.

Professor Armand D'Angour
Fellow and Tutor in Classics,
Associate Professor in Classics

Our work focuses on how embryonic form is moulded during development, so is very visual in nature. We use specific advanced types of microscopy to capture in a digital medium the shape of an embryo, the position of individual cells within the embryo, and the distribution of specific important proteins within the constituent cells. We have developed a virtual reality based platform to visualise and explore such multi-dimensional image data in a virtual 3D arena. I see the Digital Hub broadly as a space where we can share our enthusiasm for embryonic development with colleagues and visitors using enabling technologies that promote engagement and dialogue.

Professor Shankar Srinivas
Zeitlyn Fellow and Tutor in Medicine,
Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator,
and Professor of Developmental
Biology in the Department of
Physiology Anatomy and Genetics



For more information about the architects, please visit: micaarchitects.com

For more information about the project please contact the Director of Development, Brittany Wellner James
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JAMES GOLDSTON

PRESIDENT OF ABC NEWS

James Goldston studied PPE at Jesus College from 1986 to 1989. After completing his studies, he worked for three years as a reporter at the *Surrey Herald* and then began his career as a producer, working on BBC's *Newsnight* and *Panorama* before moving to ITV as executive producer of its current affairs programme, 'Tonight with Trevor McDonald'. James joined ABC News in 2004, producing shows such as 'Nightline' and 'Good Morning America' and was appointed president of the network in April 2014. During James' tenure at ABC News, it has held exclusive interviews with Malala Yousafzai, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and President Donald Trump, among many others, and hosted landmark town hall meetings with President Barack Obama and Pope Francis. ABC News has also won three consecutive Murrow Awards for Overall Excellence in Television and Radio, an historic first for any network.

What does a typical day mean for you at ABC?

It's hard to describe a 'typical' day – we're living in exciting times with a massive amount of news broadcast at all hours of the day from across the world, so Sundays can be as busy as Thursdays. Having said that, there is some routine to my day. I typically wake up at around 5am and check in with our morning show *Good Morning*



America, sometimes sitting in the studio to watch it. I'll go around ABC's various teams and look at the website and apps to get up to speed. We have a meeting with the whole news division at 9am to discuss how we are going to approach the day – and then we're off! It's a 24/7, 365-days-a-year job: making bookings, tracing stories, following what is going on in the White House and monitoring teams around the world. At 6:30pm I normally grab one of New York's citibikes and cycle home to spend time with my family and put my three boys to bed. I re-engage again with the evening's news before heading to bed myself.

What is the most exciting part of your day?

I love our 9am meetings – I get to work with fantastic teams and really intelligent colleagues so I love seeing what ideas they come up with. The whole job is incredibly exciting and I often have to pinch myself that a boy from Heston near Heathrow whose parents didn't go to university has the opportunity to run such a large news powerhouse.

At Jesus I studied PPE and fell in love with American politics so I love that I get to spend every day in the middle of it all!

And the hardest?

I think what really keeps me up at night is knowing that there are members of our team working in some incredibly dangerous situations around the world – I feel responsible for making sure they are safe.

What do you do on days away from work or at times when you're not working?

There aren't many days when I'm not working for at least part of the time. My wife is also a journalist working out here in New York for the BBC so it's a very chaotic and busy life! But I love spending time with my sons, Isaac, Toby and Ben, shepherding them around and just generally hanging out with them. We're all big football fans – I play football once a week and on Saturday mornings we normally head round the corner to an English-style chip shop run by a local Liverpoolian to watch games (supporting Chelsea of course!).

Do you have a most memorable day in your job so far?

There are lots to choose from. Holding the first interview with President Trump and spending several hours in the White House after his inauguration was very memorable. I also vividly recall hosting the first town hall meeting with Pope Francis and spending the day at the Vatican – that was hard to beat. And George Stephanopoulos holding the first television interview with James Comey also stands out. Everyone always says that journalism is the first draft of history and I suppose what I find thrilling is that people will be talking about these moments and these interviews as forming part of history in the future.

Is it hard to be a Brit leading an American news powerhouse? Have you noticed any differences between the UK and US' ways of reporting news?

I've never found it hard. I came over to ABC because they were already running a lot of the documentaries made at ITV, where I worked beforehand, so there was never a massive leap. I've found that the sensibilities in the two countries aren't that different. A good story, and good storytelling, are universal so once you get that bit right everything else is easy! Journalism is also increasingly a global enterprise so a big story plays everywhere in the world. But what is noticeable is the ferocious interest in America at the moment and the global fascination with its news which I've become increasingly aware of.

What's it like working in broadcasting during this period of 'fake news'?

Well I always think that the best answer to fake news is real news. Journalists today have to really focus and to knuckle down on the core values of journalism. They need to make sure that what they say is right and truth comes at a higher premium – if they are wrong then they have to be open about it. I'm an optimist. Ultimately I believe that real news will prevail and it's incumbent on us to make sure this happens.

...everyone says that journalism is the first draft of history...

If you could go back in time to cover any news event in history, what would it be?

I would love to go back to the time of the American Revolution since it is such a fascinating era of American history and has such striking characters. It would be an extremely interesting job to interview the likes of Hamilton, Jefferson and Washington. But if not that then I would cover D-Day and interview Churchill!

How do you think people will read and watch the news in the future?

I find it extremely difficult to predict the way things will turn out because the news has already changed in so many ways over recent years in ways that I wouldn't have predicted. But the joy of being a journalist is being able to experiment. ABC have launched virtual reality coverage in some parts of the world, taking viewers

to the streets of Pyongyang and the horrors of the Syrian Civil War. I think in the future we will be able to broadcast any event in the world live to anywhere in the world and at any time. This would have a profound and meaningful effect on politics and democracy which I'd like to witness.

If you could invent a new show for ABC to take on, what would it be?

This is something I do every day – we are inventing new shows all the time so that people can experience the news in different ways. We recently launched a news show on Facebook and a 24-hour streaming

service showing events all around the world. This was a great success in the reporting of the Thai cave rescue when James Longman broadcast live while events unfolded and the rescue mission was carried out. I think this proves that new productions can't just involve radio or TV anymore – they have to get people involved on every platform possible.

What would you do if you were Principal of Jesus College for a day?

I wouldn't dare to presume! Sir Nigel does such an admirable job.

Oxford or New York?

You can't beat the dreaming spires. New York has bigger towers certainly but they're not as pretty as Oxford's. ■

*Are you interested in being interviewed for our Day in the Life series? Please contact Nicki Choules-Rowe in the Development Office
E: nicola.choules-rowe@jesus.ox.ac.uk. We are always delighted to hear from alumni.*

ON TOUR WITH THE JESUS COLLEGE CHOIR



The prospect of a choir tour to Georgia had long been on the cards, courtesy of Professor Michael Vickers, Fellow Emeritus in Archaeology at Jesus College. In fact, one of my early recollections of our wonderful Chaplain, Megan, is on the choir's trip to St David's, Wales in September 2016, when she told me, "...and as for choir tours, 2018 will be Georgia". To which I predictably responded, "country or state?". I am sure that I speak for the whole choir when I say that Georgia (the country) made for a first-rate tour destination.

Our trip started in Kutaisi, the legislative capital since the Georgian Parliament relocated here from the capital, Tbilisi, in 2012. It is a city full of character, recognised by the Tourist Information Centre who label it the "City of Smile" (curious lack of plural, I know), and we began our exploration of it with a visit to the State Historical Museum, complete with canine companions whose number grew with each street and square we traversed. This was followed by a visit to a museum devoted to the celebrated Georgian composer, Zakaria Paliashvili, whose music serves as the basis for the country's national anthem. Here in his very lodgings we were treated to some gorgeous Mendelssohn by Josh, on the first of what was an abundant supply of pianos on our travels (even if

not all of them were in tune). That evening's rehearsal left us needing to acquaint ourselves with creative substitutes for a music stand, singing as we were on the hotel's terrace overlooking the city below. Fortunately, when it came to note giving, the presence of not one, but two, perfect pitchers (read: human tuning forks), James and Josh, meant we were covered.

Our first dinner together, accompanied by Michael, was a hearty affair comprising an astounding array of the hallowed khachapuri ('cheesy bread' for the less linguistically inclined among us), as well as an overwhelming quantity of meat dumplings (khinkali), complete with a lesson on how to eat them correctly: cutlery not required.

Georgia (Kutaisi, Batumi, Tbilisi): 24 June - 3 July
ED BUXTON (2016, MODERN LANGUAGES & LINGUISTICS)



The next morning our first stop was the grandiose Bagrati cathedral, built in the eleventh century, followed by the Gelati monastery, high up in the hills overlooking the city and recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1994. There, we were treated to something none of us had witnessed hitherto; a concert of traditional Georgian dancing. We were truly in awe of the slick choreography and combined finesse and stamina of the dancers, not forgetting the power and cohesiveness of the traditional all-male choir that performed between the two dance acts.

That evening was our inaugural concert of the tour, to be held in the city's Opera House, a building of immense proportions which

offered an exciting, if daunting, performance opportunity for a choir like ours. It was here that we discovered the country's general laxness when it comes to timings: we stood behind the stage's velvet curtain raring to go well before the advertised start time of six o'clock, only for ten past six to arrive without any sign of progress, then quarter past, twenty past, half past. When the time did come to sing, we gave it our all and the conclusion of our lengthy and varied programme was greeted with a standing ovation from over 200 people who filled the auditorium. What a way to end the first leg of our tour!

The following morning we boarded the bus for Batumi, a lively coastal resort described by Michael as "Las

Vegas-on-Sea". We spent our first evening here in a joint concert 'on the boulevard' with the wonderful Revaz Lagidze Girls' Choir, whose impeccable standards both technically and interpretatively left us mesmerised if slightly daunted: one minute they were basking in the wrenching harmonies of a modern setting of the Agnus Dei, the next they had us clapping along to an upbeat rendition of The Lion Sleeps Tonight, and we were all impressed by how their exacting conductor did away with the generic boundaries of classical conductorship to make it truly into a work of art. Add to this the cameras, which seemingly came out of nowhere, along with the request for a recording of us for national television, and we were again driven to sing our hearts out. The highlight

of the evening for me was Rachmaninoff's Bogoritsye Dyevo (the Old Slavonic inspired by the Latin Ave Maria) whose extended, immense crescendo really benefited from the extra voices we had present.

Our exploration of the city the following morning had a distinctly archaeological thrust (no surprises there, given that Michael was our tour guide). First we visited the imposing Gonio Fortress, which dates back to Roman times and is believed to be the resting place of St Matthew, one of the twelve apostles. Our next stop was Batumi's Archaeological Museum, whose inception in 1994 was down to the perseverance of Michael and his team of local excavators and archaeologists; walking round, we were amused to hear remarks from him along the lines of, "I remember digging this one up..." and "We had trouble dating that one.", and we were enchanted by his open invitation to us to work on future archaeological digs.

We were on the road again early the next morning, this time headed for the nation's faraway capital, Tbilisi. After an unplanned stop at a remote eatery - taken for the sake of our bus and its overheating engine - we came to Stalin's birthplace, Gori. Here we were taken aback at the grand temple, complete with Soviet Union insignias, which had been constructed around the humble cottage where he had spent his earliest days. Next we stopped at the Tserovani settlement, which houses residents from the disputed South Ossetia region, and here we sang a shorter programme of music to a grateful audience of local residents. Our concert

that evening was at Tbilisi State University, another auditorium of vast proportions which we did well to fill with our singing. Though we might have held it together in the performance itself, the journey back was another matter, with the combination of astronomical temperatures, crammed buses, reckless driving, failed attempts to make the decrepit on-board ticket machines work (Michael's admonition, "They're very strict round here" only adding to the stress), and, to top it all off, doubts about where we were in fact going, making for a rather bizarre experience. "What next?" we all thought (and I exclaimed).

Well, as it happened, a delicious lunch kindly hosted by Michael and his wife Manana at their immaculate villa on the hills of the capital. Here, to our surprise, we met the British Ambassador to Georgia, Justin McKenzie, whom we spontaneously serenaded with a hearty verse of the College hymn, Guide me, O thou great Redeemer (without descant, I needn't add), in promise of a fuller programme of music at the British Embassy the next day. That afternoon we sang for a traditional Catholic Mass, followed by a short concert afterwards in the beautiful church of St. Peter and Paul, where we were blessed with a warm welcome and wonderful acoustic.

Our last full day in Georgia captured the essence of the whole tour; full of adventure, surprise, and of course singing. We started out at the British Embassy to Georgia, where we were invited to an interesting talk by the Ambassador, who addressed topics such as the promotion of higher-level education, the ongoing struggle

against corruption, and even Georgia's prospects about joining the EU. In return we sang our best to an appreciative audience of Embassy employees, and, after a lunch kindly laid on for us, we boarded the bus for the ancient town of Mtskheta, where we visited the remote Jvari monastery dating from the sixth century, followed by Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our final excursion was, fittingly, to an excavation site, Grakliani Gora; discovered in 2007 and of great interest to archaeologists worldwide, but in particular researchers at the State University. The nonchalance with which our host handed round various artefacts, some dating as far back as 4000 BC, emphasised that this certainly was first-hand archaeology - British Museum eat your heart out!

That evening was spent outside in the beautiful rustic surroundings of Grakliani, as we feasted on a wonderful array of Georgian specialities washed down with local wine and the national spirit cha cha, which, a forgiving reviewer might say, buoyed us in our final performance as we sang our last. As for the remainder of the evening: 'What happens on tour, stays on tour' is the maxim I shall here invoke.

I would like to thank everyone for their excellent company and wonderful singing, and to express my gratitude to those whose organisational input made this trip possible; Michael and Manana Vickers, our wonderful Chaplain, Megan, and my steadfast colleagues, Lucy, Jack and Tom. ■

St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Tbilisi



WORLD WAR ONE

EXPERIENCED BY A COLLEGE ROWING CREW

DR ROBIN DARWALL-SMITH FSA, FRHISTS, JESUS COLLEGE ARCHIVIST



2018 marks the centenary of the Armistice and the end of fighting in the First World War. Jesus suffered its share of loss, just like all the other Oxbridge Colleges: 63 members of the College, including young men who had been offered places to study here after the war, were killed.

The 1914 Torpid



Mere numbers of dead can appear rather abstract: the number is noted, sorrow expressed, and the reader moves on. So for now I have focussed on a particular pair of photographs which I hope will bring home what the war meant within a College like ours.

The starting point is a photo of the 1914 Torpid (above). The March 1914 issue of the *Jesus College Magazine* (the forerunner of today's *Record*) hailed the crew as "one of the most powerful Torpids that this College has turned out in recent years." They even lived up to the hype, bumping Lincoln, Hertford, and Balliol II, to finish 22nd on the river, which the *Magazine* thought was the highest that the College had reached in Torpids for years. "There were", the article ended, "the customary rejoicings that night."

At an unknown date the archives were presented with this fine pair of photos of the 1914 Torpid. As was the convention for many years (perhaps some readers possess such photos), two photos were taken of the crew posed respectively in a quad, and in their boat, and then placed on one mount.

As seen on the photo (left) in the quad, here are the members of that "powerful Torpid" of 1914:

In the back row, starting from the left, perched on a sofa sits Walter Hankinson (bow), who came up in 1913 with an Open Exhibition in Mathematics. Hankinson, the son of a chemist, had attended Manchester Grammar School. Next stands Wilfred Davis (rowing at no. 3), who came up in 1913 from Wimbledon College. A secretary's son, Davis was another

mathematician, but was a Scholar. Next to him sits Lionel Collier, our stroke, who came up in 1911. Collier was a local lad: his father was a cycle agent who lived on the Woodstock Road, and he himself went to the Oxford Boys' High School which T. E. Lawrence had attended. He was another Mathematician, but was only a Commoner (he'd managed a Third in Mods the previous year). The right-hand man on the top row is Robert Norwood (no. 2), another alumnus of the Oxford Boys' High School, and the son of a caterer. He had come up in 1912, and appears to have been reading Chemistry.

Sitting at the left-hand end of the middle row is Angus Buchanan (no. 4). Buchanan, a doctor's son, had attended Monmouth Grammar School. He came up in 1913 on a Welsh Classical Scholarship



(although he lived in Coleford in Gloucestershire). He was also a member of the College's Rugby team that term. Next to Buchanan sits James Herbertson (no. 7). The son of a shipping agent from St. Albans, Herbertson was much older than the rest of the crew, having been born in 1883. He'd actually matriculated in 1911 as a non-collegiate student, and only migrated to Jesus in 1913, just in time to join the crew. He was reading Modern Languages. To his right is Reginald Champion (no. 6), the son of a private secretary from Woking. He came up in 1913 with an Open Natural Science Scholarship. The last man on this row is Noel Morris (no. 5), our only

Welshman. The son of a brewer in Barry, Morris was educated at the local school, and came up in 1913 with a Welsh Scholarship in Modern History.

Finally, sitting in the front is the cox, Geoffrey Reeves, the son of a civil engineer. Reeves had been educated at Victoria College in Jersey and came up in 1913 with a Charles I Classical Scholarship.

Our Torpid of 1914 were a solidly middle and lower-middle class crew, most of them the sons of fathers in trades rather than professions, and none of them from a major public school. This was very typical of the social composition of Jesus at this time. Over half the crew

had exhibitions or scholarships, but then Jesus at that time was unusually lucky in having a great many scholarships and exhibitions to bestow. It is notable that there was only one Welshman in the crew (whereas half the College's rugby team of 1914 came from Wales). Four members of the 1914 Torpid (Herbertson, Collier, Davis, and Champion) rowed in Eights Week that summer, and then everyone went their separate ways for the Long Vacation. During that Long Vacation, of course, the First World War broke out, and our crew were duly eager for the fray: Davis and Reeves joined up in August 1914; Collier, Hankinson, Morris and Norwood followed in

The 1919 First Eight



September; Champion in October; and Buchanan in November. Herbertson alone came back to Oxford in October 1914 to complete his studies in 1915, and then joined up in September that year.

Herbertson also had a somewhat unusual war. He became a captain in the so-called “special lists”, which implies that he may have been doing some specialised behind-the-scenes work (he was reading Modern Languages, so his war work may have exploited that). He was clearly good at it, though: he was three times mentioned in despatches, and awarded an OBE.

Walter Hankinson had a more

“traditional” war: he joined the Royal Fusiliers, becoming a captain, and served in Egypt and France. He was awarded the MC in November 1918. On the other hand, Lionel Collier, having first joined the Royal Sussex Regiment, then moved to the RFC (later the RAF), serving in Salonika and Egypt. He was mentioned in despatches, and awarded the DFC in January 1919.

These three men all emerged from the war, at least physically unscathed. However, what makes this photograph of the 1914 Torpid especially poignant is what happened to no fewer than five of its members:

Wilfred Davis, a second lieutenant

with the East Surrey Regiment was killed in action in France on Hill 60 on 21 April 1915.

Geoffrey Reeves, a second lieutenant with the Hampshire Regiment, was killed in action in the Gallipoli campaign on 5 June 1915.

Noel Morris, a lieutenant in the 8th South Lancashire Regiment, died of wounds received in action on Vimy Ridge on 12 May 1916.

Robert Norwood, a second lieutenant with the Oxon and Bucks Light infantry, was declared missing, presumed killed, in September 1916.

Reginald Champion, a lieutenant in the Scots Greys, was killed in action at Ypres on 18 July 1917.

The last member of the crew, Angus Buchanan, had become a captain with the South Wales Borderers, and served in Gallipoli and Mesopotamia. He had the most remarkable war of any of our crew, because he was awarded the VC in 1916, for carrying two wounded men to safety when under fire. Sadly, though, Buchanan was then blinded at Kut in March 1917. Some film footage survives of Buchanan receiving his VC, showing him having to be led to and from the dais.

But what became of our four survivors after the war? Herbertson immediately disappears from the picture: nothing is known of his later life. However, Hankinson, Collier and Buchanan all came back to Oxford. This was rather unusual: most of the undergraduates up at Oxford in 1914 who survived the war chose to restart their lives elsewhere.

All three men changed subject: Collier moved from Maths to Physics, getting a Second in his Finals in 1921. Hankinson went further, changing from Maths to Modern History, while Buchanan switched from Classics to Law. We do not know what kind of help the now blinded Buchanan had in his studies. However the current Vice-Principal, Ernest Hardy, who became Principal in 1921, had been blind for many years. In Hardy, Buchanan could find a perfect role model.

Hankinson and Buchanan both took up rowing once more, and were members of the First Eight of 1919, rowing at nos. 7 and 6 respectively. We are lucky to have a double photo. In the photo of the crew in their boat (see page 19), Buchanan

is wearing a sun hat. In the photo in the quadrangle (see page 18), Hankinson is sitting in the front row, on the left hand side, and Buchanan sits also in the front row, two places to his right. Readers may compare the images of both men there with the 1914 photo and draw their own conclusions.

We should not forget, however, the rest of that 1919 crew, for all of them had seen active service before coming up, except for the cox, John Richards, who had been too young to fight. Once again, we might spot a contrast between young Richards, sitting in the front row, and the crew he coxed.

As an undergraduate VC, Angus Buchanan became a figure of note. He chaired the first post-war meeting of the Junior Common Room on 3 May 1919, and in January 1921, it was Buchanan who unveiled a War Memorial in the old Junior Common Room (now the War Memorial Room).

Buchanan also acquired an interesting new friend. One of my correspondents, a Mr. Ian Lawrence, once met Buchanan's niece, who told him that another Jesus man, T. E. Lawrence (by now a Fellow of All Souls), became friends with Buchanan. Buchanan told his niece that they regularly dined together, but sometimes neither said anything for the whole evening. At the end of the night, Lawrence would remark "Well, thank you again for a wonderful evening, Angus. As ever, you were great company". This might suggest Lawrence's dry sense of humour coming to the fore, but there is a more serious point. Both Lawrence and Buchanan were heroes to the outside world, as

'Lawrence of Arabia' and 'Buchanan the undergraduate VC'. But when they were alone together, the two men could lay aside their heroic personas: they were each with perhaps the only man in Oxford who really understood them.

After Oxford, we know nothing of Collier's later life. Walter Hankinson, on the other hand, went on to have a distinguished career in the Foreign Office. He served in Australia and Canada, before becoming High Commissioner in Ceylon in 1948-51, and Ambassador to the Republic of Ireland in 1951-5. He was knighted in 1948.

That leaves Angus Buchanan. He qualified as a solicitor and returned to his native Coleford, where he died in March 1944. The *Jesus College Magazine* for June 1944 contains an obituary by his contemporary and friend J. N. L. Baker, who had also come up to Jesus in 1913, and who later was for many years our Geography Fellow and Estates Bursar. Baker remembered him for his "unassumed modesty, great courage and open friendliness". The College flag flew at half mast, and Baker wrote "to the present generation the death of Buchanan meant little more than the passing of a College worthy. To some of us just what it meant cannot be put into words for we knew the man." ■

The archives of Jesus College, although not extensive, stretch back to medieval times before the foundation of the College, and contain material about many aspects of College life. They are regularly open, by appointment, to bona fide researchers.

**BLEED
GREEN**

**Jesus College
Boatclub**





Jesus College sport has gone from strength to strength this year, achieving some amazing feats: the women's football team made it through to the Cuppers plate final, the mixed lacrosse finished runners-up in Cuppers and the volleyball team won their Trinity Term tournament. Most remarkable, however, have been the College's successes in rowing and cricket where the Jesus crews and teams have worked hard to produce some impressive results.

Week 5 of Trinity Term saw the rowers of Jesus College compete in the flagship event of the Oxford college rowing calendar: Summer Eights. Impressively, a total of 7 crews (4 men's and 3 women's) represented College over the 4 days. The oarsmen, oarswomen and coxswains were all particularly keen to triumph, given how severe

weather had blighted the majority of racing during Torpids earlier in the year.

The men's First boat went +3 over the week, securing their place in the First Division for the first time since 2004, continuing their meteoric rise up the bumps charts. The Second boat also performed outstandingly – 2 bumps, a row over, and a

klaxoned race placed them 11th in Division which is the highest Jesus M2 have ever been in the history of the event.

W1 were a force to be reckoned with this Summer Eights, with the crew getting blades without needing to row past the gut. Obtaining a bump within 1min 40s every day was an incredible achievement for

ROWING



a crew placed towards the top of Division 2 facing fierce opposition. The women's boat then headed to Henley Women's Regatta on the last weekend of Trinity Term, hoping to advertise some quality blade-work at one of the most prestigious rowing events. Despite the gruelling heat, the team put on a great performance, almost catching the crew from University College London over the 1,500m course, and demonstrating bags of perseverance and sportsmanship.

For the first time in a number of years, Jesus was able to put out a Fellows and Staff boat for Summer Eights, which were labelled as the M3 crew. The Principal, Sir Nigel Shadbolt, was able to row with the boat on the Friday and Saturday



making him (we believe) the first Head of House to ever compete in the competition. Sadly, despite Sir Nigel's presence in the boat, the staff couldn't avoid being bumped on four days consecutively.

Jesus Women's Eight winning blades

All in all, it was another successful year for the men and women of JCBC, with equal amounts of pain and enjoyment experienced by all. The boat club would like to thank College and the Cadwallader Club for their continued support; without it, JCBC would simply not be able to function. The Cadwallader Club Dinner will be held on the 21st September 2018. Anyone who has rowed or is interested in Jesus rowing is invited. Please contact the Cadwallader Club Secretary, Anna Caffyn

E: anna.caffyn@gmail.com.

Follow the Jesus College Boat Club on Facebook and on Twitter @jesusboatclub ■

CRICKET



Bannister vs the mile in 1954, England football in 1966, Botham's Ashes in 1981 – next to be added to this list of timeless triumphs was Jesus College's victory over Teddy Hall 2018 in the Cricket Cuppers Final. The nail-biting game ended in a seldom-seen 'super over' or tie-breaker with 2 extra overs for each team and 2 wickets allowed. Jesus lost their second wicket halfway through their 2nd over and Teddy Hall lost only one, leaving them a few runs away from victory. But Toby Pettman (Classics 2nd year) stayed cool under pressure and Jesus stole the title with an LBW, having taken 2 wickets in 3 balls.

At Lord's, the Oxford University Blues cricket team, featuring Toby Pettman, beat Cambridge University by 5 wickets in the highly competitive annual Varsity fixture. 2018 marked the 173rd round of the match first played in 1827 at the

instigation of Charles Wordsworth who was also responsible for founding the Boat Race in 1829. Stepping into this history, Toby bowled a superb 10 overs, ending 2-34 in a match which was a joy to watch.





The Oxford University Women's Cricket Club Eleven also swept to victory, captained by Vanessa Picker, one of Jesus College's graduate students. This secured their second Varsity win for the season (and 5th consecutive Lord's win). Vanessa finished as the leading run scorer for the 2018 season with 575 runs and a top score of 114 not out. ■

FOOTBALL

The Jesus College Women's Football Club (JCWFC) had a record-breaking season this year, making it to the final of the inaugural Hassan's Cup, and moving from the bottom to the top of the Women's 2nd Division in the League.



The Hassan's Cup, set up this year by Jesus Alumni and JCWFC Coach Omar Mohsen, was certainly the highlight of the season. The final, played under floodlights at Iffley Road Stadium, attracted a fantastic number of College supporters armed with banners, Welsh flags and chants. For many of the team it was their first chance to play at a stadium and though they lost 2-1 it was an exciting and memorable experience.

BLUES



Jesus College continues to excel at sports, with the following awarded blues, half blues or 2nd colours in the academic year 2017-2018.

Eve Ackery (2015, Geography), Lacrosse, Varsity.

Cameron Bowie (2017, Maths & Stats),
Tennis, Blues & Varsity.

Isabel Donaldson (2017, Philosophy & Theology),
Ski Team, Blues.

Jenyth Evans (2015, Classics), Pistol, Blues.

Michael Gorry (2017, Modern Languages),
Rugby, Blues.

Madeline Goss (2017, Nature, Society & Environmental
Governance, Rowing, Blues.

Alice Guest (2015, History), Hockey, Varsity.

Elysia Hannaford (2014, Physics), Ski Team, Blues.

Elis Harrington (2016, Modern Languages),
Powerlifting, Varsity.

Maddy Hayes (2016, Law), Korfbal, Varsity.

Tim Koch (2016, Law), Ski Team, Blues.

Patrick Lundgren (2017, Integrated Immunology),
Basketball, Blues.

Harriet Mansell (2013, Late Antique & Byzantine
Studies), Rifle, Varsity.

Caitlin O'Brien (2015, Biomedical Imaging),
Rowing, Blues.

James Parkinson (2015, Environmental Research),
Cross Country, Varsity, Athletics, Varsity,
Orienteering, Varsity.

Henry Petch (2015, Experimental Psychology),
Lacrosse, Blues.

Toby Pettman (2016, Classics), Cricket, Blues.

Samantha Phey (2015, Law), Squash, Blues.

Vanessa Picker (2017, Social Intervention),
Cricket, Blues.

Helena Pickford (2017, Synthesis for Biology &
Medicine), Ski Team, Blues.

Michael Platt (2016, Chemistry), Snooker, Varsity.

Nithesh Ranasinha (2014, Clinical Medicine),
Basketball, Varsity, Athletics, Varsity.

Sam Skillcorn (2012, Clinical Medicine),
Triathlon, Varsity.

Miranda Stevens (2016, Biological Sciences),
Fencing, Blues & Varsity.

Louise Todd (2014, Chemistry), Table Tennis, Half Blue.

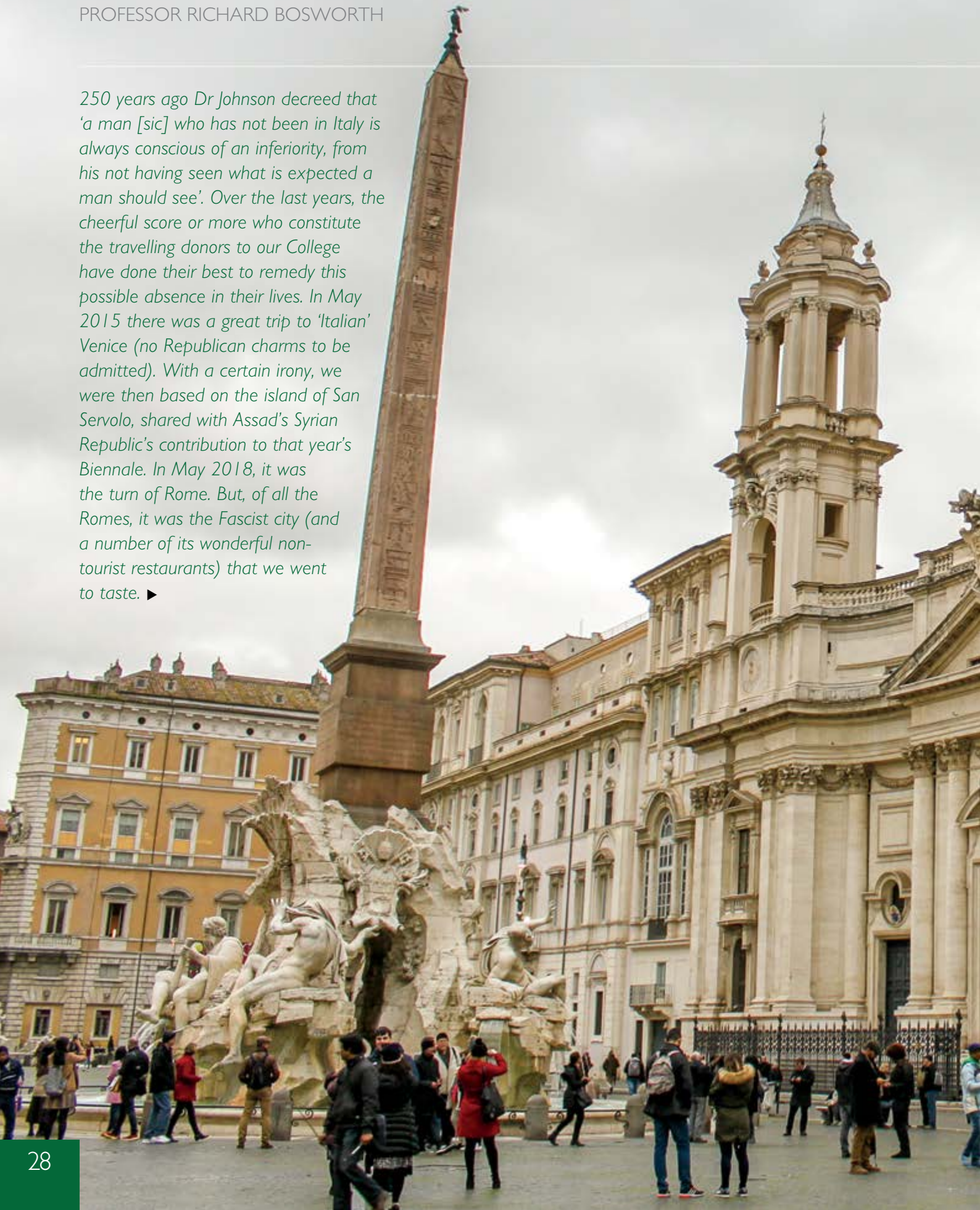
Benjamin Verboom (2014, Social Intervention),
Ice Hockey, Varsity.

Igor Wasilewski (2017, Physics), Pistol Club, Varsity.

DONOR TRIP TO ROME

PROFESSOR RICHARD BOSWORTH

250 years ago Dr Johnson decreed that 'a man [sic] who has not been in Italy is always conscious of an inferiority, from his not having seen what is expected a man should see'. Over the last years, the cheerful score or more who constitute the travelling donors to our College have done their best to remedy this possible absence in their lives. In May 2015 there was a great trip to 'Italian' Venice (no Republican charms to be admitted). With a certain irony, we were then based on the island of San Servolo, shared with Assad's Syrian Republic's contribution to that year's Biennale. In May 2018, it was the turn of Rome. But, of all the Romes, it was the Fascist city (and a number of its wonderful non-tourist restaurants) that we went to taste. ►





The trip was brilliantly organised by Brittany Wellner-James, Ursula Saunders and Nicola Choules-Rowe in the Development Office. I took on the role of Marshal (or mini-Duce), with Michal as La Ducetta, on the grounds that I have had occasion to be in Rome at least once every year since 1967. I do like to whisper self-indulgently that my best book is my account of 'Rome and its histories' (2011).

Sir Nigel necessarily provided the most authoritative command, notably in a speech given from a far up-market restaurant with a view over St. Peter's (*shh about its Fascist overtones*). Our Principal seconded these words the next day by effortlessly knocking back a chilled and brimming glass of mirto at the splendid L'isola d'oro restaurant as a helpful digestivo following who knows how many fishy courses and sips of Vermentino. He then seamlessly proceeded to the plane, Oxford, and the Oxford Town and Gown Race, where his mirto-fuelled performance exceeded any speed for age requirements.

To be sure all students of Italy know that the possibility of pasticci (stuff-ups) is never wholly absent there, and we did mysteriously lose the coach that was meant to convey us from one site to another during daytime Friday. We had to substitute with a no. 30 suburban bus, Metropolitana Linea B, and two decidedly crowded no. 3 trams, which may have meant that we were straying from a Fascist to a contemporary focus. But we did observe the Quartiere Coppedè with its pre-Fascist flourishes, the fake Villa Torlonia that housed the (legitimate) Mussolini family 1929-43 and EUR from the Marconi obelisk (where we may have been prompted to mistrust scientists' politics) to the 'Square Colosseum' (Palazzo della civiltà di lavoro), with its six storeys up and nine archways across (mathematicians and historians remembered to translate to BENITO MUSSOLINI). Again the contemporary world broke in since the building is now the headquarters of Fendi Inc. and an exhibition where they tempted us with the best of 1950s' fashion.

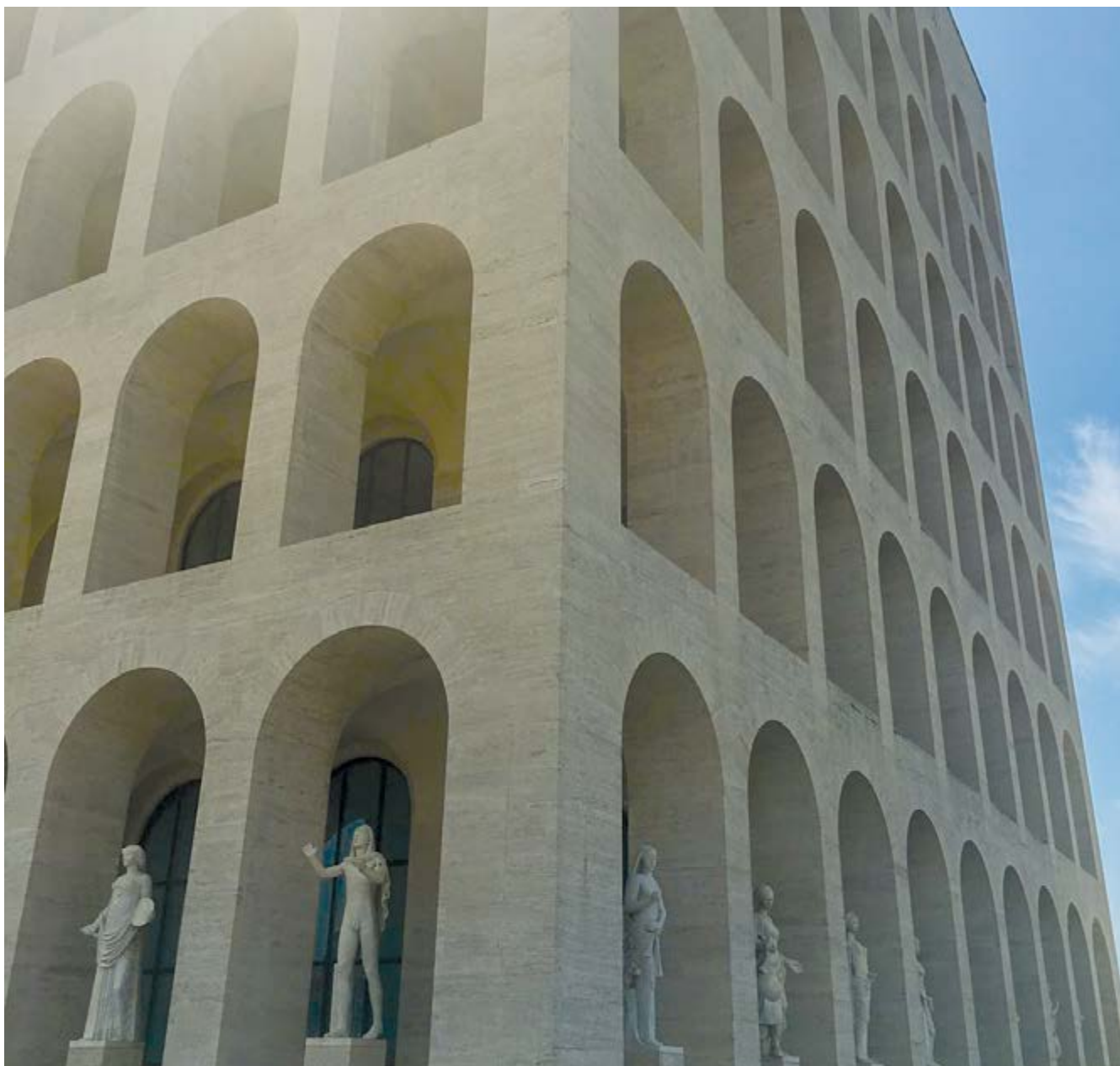
Who knows how many fur sales thereby resulted? In between, we were refreshed at the 'Fast' in the Viale Dell'Europa, my usual lunch spot when virtuously working in the (Fascist) state archive building up the hill; those not blinded by nationalism and boiled potatoes may have conceded that a Roman 'Fast' feeds you better than any quickie pub in this country.

If we were a little tired that day, it could have been because we'd heard at the Teatro dell'opera the night before a celebrated Deborah Warner directed production of Billy Budd, superbly introduced to us by alumnus Tom Brown (1975, French & German) of our company. In my own capacity as austere historian, I tried to persuade the group to focus not on the music but on the shield above the stage, which celebrated the role of King Victor Emmanuel III and Benito Mussolini 'Dux' in restoring the place in Anno VI (of the Fascist Revolution; 1928 in old money).

By the Saturday, bus now again at our service, we worked up an appetite by strolling across the Milvian Bridge (Mussolini seized power in 1922 on the same day that Constantine victoriously opted for Christianity against Maxentius in 312) to the 'Stadio dei Marmi'. We there tallied those of the displayed Fascist sportsmen who wore fig-leafs and who did not. A step further and we could admire the 'Foro Italico' (once Foro Mussolini) entrance to Rome's main football stadium (Stadio Olimpico), and muse about the lack of memorial revision, which still hails triumphant Fascist airplanes with their cargoes



2018 alumni donor trip to Rome



Square Colosseum (Palazzo della civiltà di lavoro).

of poison gas that gave Italy speedy victory over Ethiopia in 1935-6. On exit we could look back on another obelisk, the entry statement to the quarter, with its inscribed BENITO MUSSOLINI DUX left to stir emotions of one kind or another in our own days. And so to the Isola d'oro and its Sard cuisine and hospitality.

Dr Johnson uttered his dictum without ever having been or going to Italy and with a reiterated confidence that historians should not be admired or trusted, confident that his words could bulldoze Edward Gibbon, any time that little man tried to raise his voice in company. I cannot speak for the group of alumni donors over whether or not Fascist or Sard

restaurant Rome – there was also our initial lunch at the Garigliano, which I do not have space to detail – allowed them to slough off any sense of Oxonian inferiority. But Mike and I are left to plot yet another trip to our favourite city, lest that run begun in 1967 come to an end while we still have so much to see (and to eat). ■

ISOLDE AT THE SHELDONIAN

THANKS TO THE DEVELOPMENT FUND

*Jesus College, alongside the Faculty of Music, was delighted to host the interdisciplinary conference ‘Wagner 1900’, from 9th to 11th April 2018, investigating the impact of Richard Wagner on **fin-de-siècle** Vienna in music, history, politics and German culture as well as opening debates on performance practice in historical and contemporary staging. The conference was organised by Junior Research Fellow Anna Stoll Knecht and concluded with a special performance at the Sheldonian Theatre: **Isolde**, conducted by John Warner, directed by Cecilia Stinton, with Kirstin Sharpin (*Isolde*) and Mae Heydorn (*Brangäne*).*

The *Isolde* performance was a reinterpretation of Gustav Mahler’s (1860-1911) 1903 production of Richard Wagner’s *Tristan und Isolde* in Vienna, featuring set designs by the renowned Secession artist Alfred Roller (1864-1935). This production marked a turning point in twentieth-century opera staging in terms of acting technique, lighting, set designs and dramatic conception. Mahler and Roller were searching together for ways to replace visual illusion with allusion – the stage was seen as a space that could be used to suggest emotions and atmospheres, rather than a platform meant to visually represent the unfolding of the story. Visual elements that did not relate to their understanding of the music had to be eliminated. Roller, who was in charge of lighting, stage design and costumes, ‘painted the stage with lights’, and used colours as symbols of the characters’ emotions. The music was conceived as the essential vehicle of the drama, and all aspects of the production converged to create a ‘total work of art’ in a Wagnerian spirit.

Anna Bahr-Mildenburg (1872-1947), the singer who performed *Isolde* under Mahler in 1903, struck audiences with her ability to express an array of contradictory emotions: ‘love and hate, darkness and fury, sensitivity and spitefulness, passion and despair, exaltation and grief’. Bahr-Mildenburg left a trace of her Wagnerian interpretation in a performer’s guide to *Tristan und Isolde* (*Darstellung des Werkes aus dem Geiste der Dichtung und Musik*, 1936). This treatise proposes staging directions, specific gestures relating to key passages of the text, acting instructions and singing nuances, insisting that ‘Richard Wagner only demands compellingly that every gesture is the consequence of an idea and the respective word’.

The Sheldonian performance drew on these two main sources: Bahr-Mildenburg’s acting treatise and Roller’s surviving sketches for stage sets and costumes, and reinterpreted them in a contemporary context to create



Tom Weller Photography www.tomwellerphotography.com

a bold new interpretation of the opera. Inspired by the Sheldonian as a unique theatrical space, Roller's designs were adapted to embrace the building's strikingly boat-like interior and potential to make a varied stage picture. The production evoked something of Roller's ambitious coloured lighting specifications which stunned the audience in 1903.

Similarly, instead of plotting Bahr-Mildenburg's descriptions by note, the artistic team adopted her ethos as a guide, particularly her call to use Wagner's music to generate physical drama. This approach created an unusual rehearsal dynamic in which the performers, director and conductor worked collectively to find moment in which music provoked the performers' movement. In order to make this demanding process feasible, the music drama was condensed to concentrate on the character of Isolde. By removing the dramatic core of the opera (the love scene) and keeping only the passages involving *Isolde* and her confidante Brangäne, this production focused on Isolde's state of mind before and after the encounters with Tristan. *Isolde* therefore allowed for a heightened intimacy between the two female characters, providing an opportunity to perform Wagner's opera in an exceptionally concentrated version that brings out the orchestra's voice as an expression of the work's fundamental drama.

The *Isolde* performance raised some fascinating questions. Can you make cuts in Wagner's

Tristan und Isolde without distorting the work's identity? Should the Bahr-Mildenburg performance instructions be followed *à la lettre* in order to render a faithful historical reconstruction of Mahler's and Roller's 1903 production? It probed the relationship between reconstruction and interpretation processes and provided a unique opportunity to foster crucial exchanges between research and performance practice, both by enacting scholarly perspectives on stage and, in turn, by taking the performance as the matter of academic debates.

The production was generously supported by the Jesus College

Development Fund, created in 2009 to support projects proposed by members of College. Jesus College also provided critical support for the wider conference through Major Research Grants and Jesus alumnus Tom Brown (1975, French & German) kindly hosted a conversation with the prestigious soprano Susan Bullock CBE (whose concert work has included the Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan und Isolde*).

Performances like this cannot happen without these generous contributions from our alumni supporters. Heartfelt thanks to them, as well as to the 'Wagner 1900' scholars who worked in tandem with the artistic team on the conception of *Isolde*. ■





Beneath the famous dreaming spires of Oxford's Colleges lie the unseen caverns of their wine cellars. Each cellar is unique and distinctive and that of Jesus College is no exception. Tucked away under the Senior Common Room, the cellar's cool, dark space houses an important feature of College life.

The College wine cellar is managed and overseen by the Wine Steward. It is the Steward who is responsible for attending tastings and selecting wines for the College. J. N. L. Baker's history of the College recounts how wine for the 'court' dinner of the undergraduate 'Bachelor's Common Room' (which existed from 1764 to 1807) was brought up from the Master Common Room – at this time a dozen bottles of port cost about £1. Today's Steward still selects wine for College events including SCR guest nights, gaudies, and special College occasions such as the annual St David's Day and Benefactors' dinners. SCR members may also purchase wine from the cellar, typically for occasions such as Schools dinners or drinks with students, and so the Steward also manages a General Sales List of wines suitable for purchase for these events. Indeed all wine drunk is paid for! Other College staff are also involved – the Butler cellsars and brings up wines as needed while the accounts team manages the purchasing and charging for wines consumed – but it is the Steward who maintains and refreshes the wine stock.

It is both an enormous privilege

and a responsibility to serve as Steward. Managing the cellar is both an art and a science and it takes experience and passion to maintain a portfolio of wine to be used for a variety of purposes. Running a college cellar has never been more complex. For example, today the SCR is roughly twice the size it was 50 years ago, and the Steward must cater for a greater variety of tastes and occasions. In addition excellent wine is produced today in a greater multiplicity of countries and regions, some of which (New Zealand, Chile and Argentina to take just three examples) were relatively unknown even a generation ago.

Although small on the scale of supermarkets, Oxford (and Cambridge!) colleges represent a prestige market for wine merchants and a number of established merchants visit the city to put on wine tastings, the larger merchants typically once per term and smaller merchants annually. A tasting might be focussed on a region, for example *en primeur* selections from Bordeaux, Burgundy or the Rhone, or be more general, including a selection of wines from many countries. These events give the Stewards from many colleges the opportunity to come together to



HIDDEN COLLEGE

EXPLORING THE WINE CELLARS

WITH PROFESSOR PHILIP BURROWS

taste the wines on offer and select which ones they might purchase for their respective cellars. Tastings can be intense: they allow a sharing of wisdom and a comparison of views as Stewards discuss similarities (and sometimes differences!) of opinion. Each Steward must decide what is needed for their cellar and consider purchases accordingly. A lot of the wine will be bought to drink within a few years. This is especially true of whites, although quality white burgundies, for example, can be kept for longer until they peak. For reds some may be bought to drink early while others will be laid down, possibly for up to ten or twenty years. It is at the wine tastings that the Steward should decide what will develop well and over what length of time, and choose accordingly to keep the cellar well stocked. No two college cellars will necessarily be the same in character as each will reflect the needs and tastes of its community.

Arguably the most important duty of the Steward is to select wines to accompany College meals. At Jesus weekly menus are proposed by the Chef and discussed at the fortnightly Common Table Advisory Board Meeting. The Steward will then select wines for special

occasions, such as SCR guest nights, to match the food. Typically (but not always!) whites are paired with starters and fish and reds are chosen to accompany meat dishes. On SCR Guest Nights Claret, dessert wine and port are also served to conclude the evening. An additional aim of managing the cellar is to make sure that wines are drunk at their peak, and the Steward factors in the numbers dining into the selection of wine based on the numbers of bottles in stock. For example, an SCR guest night dinner may be a wonderful occasion to use 5 or 6 bottles of (for example) a Chablis that is ready for drinking, while a gaudy may call for two dozen bottles of both reds and whites to be served with dinner. Sparkling wines are usually reserved for celebratory occasions, for example before Schools dinners, when they may even be enjoyed in Second Quad in brilliant summer-evening sunshine!

Around 7,000 bottles of wine are currently stored in Jesus College's cellar and, while this may seem a large number, the Jesus community consumes around 1,000 bottles each year at the various dinners and events hosted by the College. Therefore some wines are bought

to be used quickly (eg. non-vintage sparkling wines, or white wines to be enjoyed as aperitifs) and may not spend more than a few months in the cellar. However most wine is 'aged' for several years, and good-quality wines, typically bought *en primeur*, may be laid down for 10 or more years until at their prime for serving. There are small quantities of wines in the cellar in excess of 20 years old which are still maturing and being kept for a special College occasion.

The Jesus cellar is there to serve the College community so its wine composition reflects both the needs of the College and the judgement of Stewards present and past who have carefully selected the wines. Above all at Jesus wines are bought to be drunk, not for investment, so when purchasing the Steward always has in mind College events and the types of wines required. As such, the cellar comes into different uses on different occasions but is always there to help ensure that College community and our guests have a magnificent experience of College life – it helps the College to act as a gracious host and shows us at our best and most vibrant. ■



BLOOM & WILD

AN INTERVIEW WITH
ALUMNUS ARON GELBARD
(2000, MODERN LANGUAGES)

How did you get into floristry, and what attracted you to it?

I didn't get into floristry as much as link it up with entrepreneurship. My father is an entrepreneur, as were both my grandfathers and it was something which we talked about a lot, so I had always hoped to start my own business one day. I often sent flowers for occasions and felt that it was difficult to do easily or to know what you were ordering, especially when you ordered online. I wanted to give customers buying flowers a better experience – and so I got into flower delivery.

Describe a typical day in the life of a florist

My day is different to that of a typical florist. They would normally buy flowers from a wholesale flower market, run their shop to sell these and organise bigger projects like weddings alongside this. Since I run an ecommerce floristry company, my day is a little different. I meet with different members of my team about running the website or managing marketing and operations as well as spending time in brainstorm discussions to solve particular problems. A big part of my job as CEO also involves talking to existing and prospective investors and hiring new members of our rapidly growing team. And of course, I spend a lot of time thinking about how we can evolve and keep making our business better.

Do you have any role models or sources of inspiration that influence your work?

Lots, both for floristry and entrepreneurship. I really admire Nikki Tibbles who runs Wild at Heart, one of the most celebrated British luxury florists. Over the past



Bloom & Wild

year we have been collaborating with her to design our luxury flower range which has been a dream come true for me. I also admire my fellow Jesus College alumnus Anthony Fletcher, CEO of Graze, and the way he has managed such an exciting and successful business – it was Anthony's business that got me thinking about letterbox delivery and who made me notice how effective it could be.

Flowers tend to mark important events in our lives. Do you have a favourite story from your work which illustrates this?

I'm very aware that people use Bloom & Wild to turn emotion into action at times of real joy or sadness in their lives and so I take a lot of responsibility for the trust placed in us at these important moments. People often phone our offices to order flowers and we



Bloom & Wild

love talking to customers. We had one customer who lived in Spain and always ordered flowers to the UK – we realised that although she frequently sent our flowers to others she would never have seen them herself and so we sent her a Bloom & Wild ‘care package’ to show her our appreciation which was a really lovely thing to help with. I encourage what I call a ‘Bloomerang’ culture – reaching out to customers when they buy flowers and making it a special experience is an effort which always comes back around to you.

What would you say have been some of your mistakes, failures or lessons learned as an entrepreneur?

I think I underestimated the

importance of technology to start with – neither my co-founder nor I came from a technology background and so we thought that building the website would be a quick and easy part of our work. We were proved wrong! Now we have a team of people involved in technology full-time and our website has become a huge element of our competitive advantage which makes the experience better for our customers.

I also moved too quickly at times. When we first started, we decided to bulk order delivery boxes to save money. We bought 1,000 boxes only to discover that lots of the flowers we sent in them got a disease called ‘botrytis’ (caused by

a lack of ventilation) and arrived mouldy. We’d spent our savings on those boxes so it was an expensive mistake.

How did you get people to believe in and invest in your business model?

I found that it can be tough to get people to invest in an idea on its own so I tried to make my business real as quickly as possible. When we told people we were selling flowers to be posted through letterboxes there was a lot of scepticism so we spent our savings setting up a simple initial website and a process which ran smoothly. People could then see something that was working and it so it was much easier to get them interested and on board.

Were you interested in floristry when you were at Oxford?

Actually, I wasn’t! But I’ve always been interested in doing a job well and getting positive feedback – I think at Jesus this meant good grades but outside of Oxford it meant getting on well with other people and receiving good feedback about my ideas. In this business you get so much feedback each day and that’s really motivating for me.

Did your degree help you get where you are today?

Yes it did – in lots of ways. I studied French and German which has been really helpful since Bloom & Wild has recently launched in both France and Germany. I’ve used my language skills to review translations, look at competitors’ websites and initiate meetings with partners – I went to Germany to meet a flower-growing company where few employees spoke English so my

undergraduate days came to my assistance. I spent my year abroad in Paris working for a technology company and this helped me enormously since it was my first full-time job. I learnt a lot of basic skills and got a grip of office work, meetings and how to do what the boss said! Having that professional experience built into my studies got me interested in the ways technology could be used to solve problems, which as an arts student I wasn't exposed to as much.

What are your most cherished memories from your time at College?

I have very vivid memories of going to Open Days and interviews and making friends who went on to remain my closest friends all the way through my time as a student. I also loved all the traditional Oxford stuff: the subject dinners and formal halls. It was a real privilege to be part of all those traditions and to live in and around all the beautiful rooms and buildings. And of course, being trashed at the end of Finals – I can still picture it now and I have all the photos.

Anything you would have done differently?

I think I should have gone into entrepreneurship a bit earlier – I was too scared of failure to begin with and I didn't realise that you learn just as much from things that don't work out well.

What advice would you give to anyone looking to become an entrepreneur?

Not to be scared of it and to just do it! There's a great community of people who will help you out. Also, if you fail it doesn't matter – having lived the experience of failure you

will actually be more employable. What matters is doing something which you are passionate about. You don't start a business and sell it quickly – you are going to be living it and thinking about it every day so it needs to be something you are really attached to.

What is the key to styling a beautiful flower arrangement?

I would say that there are two key elements to a bouquet composition – what is in the bouquet and how you put it together. You should select about four or five different types of stems. Try out unusual combinations and let the seasons influence you: we're using a lot of leucospermum and other tropical flowers which work really well at the moment, but less so at Christmas

Then, from a styling perspective, you can learn a lot from the basic technique of bouquet spiralling where each new stem is slanted against the previous one. I'm still not great at this but I've improved a lot – we have 'flower hour' at the end of the week at the office where a florist runs training sessions for the whole team.

Any tips for making cut flowers last longer?

Lots! This is a subject close to our hearts. First you should cut 2cm off each stem at a diagonal to increase the surface area which is exposed to water. You should always add flower food to the water and you should change the water and add new flower food every two or three days to help the plants drink healthily. Never let leaves go below the water line because they make the water toxic. A less heard-of tip would be to look up which flowers



Bloom & Wild

can be mixed together. Some flowers damage others – daffodils for instance release a kind of toxic slime which can be harmful to some other stems. And it sounds counter-intuitive but you should keep flowers away from light or heat. You don't need to put flowers by the window since bright light will actually make them wilt faster.

What has been your biggest achievement so far, and what are your plans for the future?

I am extremely proud of getting the company up to where we are so far, especially the promising signs of expanding the business abroad. Also of becoming a dad – balancing entrepreneurship and parenthood is busy but it's extremely rewarding. In terms of the future, only 1 in 10 people have heard of Bloom & Wild in the UK and I am really keen to broaden our reach and have more and more people use us to make the experience of sending flowers the joy that it should be on a bigger scale. ■

Jesus alumni benefit from a 15% discount on Bloom & Wild purchases using the code **turlstreet**

Bloom & Wild Flower Delivery:
www.bloomandwild.com

Tag Bloom & Wild on **Instagram @bloomandwild** or tweet **@bloomandwild** too. Search **Bloom & Wild** on Facebook or look on **Pinterest** for floral styling inspiration.

ARCTIC DREAMS

DAVID LONG (1973, GEOGRAPHY)



The author at Ilulissat Icefjord, Disko Bay, West Greenland

The Arctic always fascinated me. Studying Geography at Jesus showed me how ice, wind and water shaped its austere landscape. And epic stories of the search for the Northwest Passage sustained an armchair enthusiasm for exploration and remote places. But I never imagined I might experience the fragile beauty of the Arctic for myself.

On 12 August 2015, I flew in a small plane to join my friend's sailing yacht *Snow Dragon II* at Resolute Bay on Cornwallis Island in far-northern Canada for the final 2,500-mile stage of her voyage through the fabled NW Passage to Nome, Alaska. The time window for transiting the Passage is short. Channels between islands and peninsulas in the Canadian Arctic archipelago are often blocked by ice until mid-August and open only briefly. Viable routes may not clear until the last moment. The Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge – which logs vessels completing the NW Passage – lists seven possible routes linking the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Roald Amundsen made the first transit by sea in his sloop *Gjoa* in 1903-06 but spent three winters in the Arctic as the ice did not open long enough for him to complete the voyage in a single season. And it was not until 1977 that a sailing

vessel – Willy de Roos' *Williwaw* – got through in one season. But the number of sailing vessels completing the NW Passage surged in the past decade as Arctic summer ice cover receded fast. Out of a total of 136 recorded NW Passage transits by sailing vessels from 1906-2017, 110 were made since 2007. *Snow Dragon II* travelled with three other yachts – *Bagheera*, *Salty* and *Maia* – for mutual support and safety.

Navigating Arctic waters is easier these days. Satellite communications provide accurate positioning and access to weather forecasts and ice data. *Snow Dragon II* has a GPS compass because magnetic devices are erratic so close to the magnetic north pole. Charts and pilot books are incomplete so we plot our courses along lines of soundings, avoiding uncharted blank spaces wherever possible. But our choice of route is determined by ice and weather, which we must monitor closely – especially Canadian Ice Service charts emailed daily via satellite phone by my wife Georgina.

We left Resolute Bay on 14 August when a channel opened along the east side of Peel Sound. To reach it we went through an area of relatively dense ice. *Snow Dragon II* has an aluminium hull and the other

Bagheera, Salty and Snow Dragon pushing through ice in Victoria Strait

AND THE GEOGRAPHY FELLOWSHIP APPEAL

yachts are steel so we could – with care – push small ice floes out of the way. In calm weather there is no risk of ice being compacted by the wind. After Peel Sound we crossed Victoria Strait where Sir John Franklin's two ships *Erebus* and *Terror* were trapped in 1846. Victoria Strait does not always open and an alternative route used by Amundsen goes south around King William Island. But we decided to attempt Victoria Strait as ice charts showed a long lead opening up with just a narrow band of denser ice to bar our way.

Twice we encountered solitary polar bears wandering along the edge of the ice pack. Neither seemed intimidated by the sight of four yachts when we stopped to take photos. At the end of the day as the sun set we pushed south through the dense ice band to find open water on the far side. The next day we stopped at Jenny Lind Island for rest and recuperation, visiting

the site of CAM-I Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line station – now decommissioned and buried. All that remains is a gravel air-strip and two jet-fuel tanks by the shore.

Walking ashore after days on the move at sea is always a treat. But with polar bears around we must

take care, carrying flares, shotgun and rifles in case of attack. The landscape is bare with low, sparse vegetation. There are no trees and the surface is decorated with patterns of frost-sorted stones. Snow geese and caribou – summer visitors – were already gone, leaving only feathers and footprints. A few late flowers were still blooming. And an Arctic fox trotted boldly up to check us out.

From Jenny Lind we sailed on to Cambridge Bay (pop. 1,600) on Victoria Island where we topped up fuel and water for the longest leg of our journey – 1,500 miles to Nome, Alaska. Weather - not ice - was now the challenge as we headed west along the north coast of

Canada. After hiding from a storm for two days in a safe anchorage, we sailed north to avoid the next, taking advantage of strong winds to move fast in often rough seas near the edge of the polar pack ice in the Beaufort Sea. Ten days later we sighted land again on the west coast of Alaska. Heading south in the Chukchi Sea, a spectacular Northern lights display arched above us against a starry sky. Finally, we passed through the Bering Strait – the end of the NW Passage – to reach Nome on 9 September.

The Arctic is more open than it used to be. Cruise ships now offer trips through the NW Passage and cargo vessels and tankers make commercial voyages. And ice loss threatens to destabilise the delicate ecosystem. On 29 August 2017, two yachts – *Snow Dragon II* and *Bagheera* - reached 80N in a formerly inaccessible area of the Central Arctic Ocean on a scientific mission* to assess changes in the Arctic environment. If I were studying Geography today, I know where I would go. ■

*www.arcticmission.com

Twice we encountered solitary polar bears wandering along the edge of the ice pack

The Paget-Clarke Fellowship

Jesus College is seeking to endow a Teaching Fellowship to honour the legacies of Mr Paul Paget and Professor Colin Clarke. The Paget-Clarke Fellowship is one of two Geography Fellowships held at Jesus and will honour these two eminent Fellows who between them have taught Jesus Geographers from 1957 to 2003 inclusive. The College's aim is to raise £600,000 to permanently endow the Fellowship. Thanks to generous donations from alumni, we now have only £270,000 to complete this endowment. If you would like to support the fund or learn more about the Fellowship, please contact Ursula Saunders in the Development Office at ursula.saunders@jesus.ox.ac.uk

A portrait of Sir Leoline Jenkins, a Welsh politician and writer, seated in a red upholstered chair. He is wearing a dark coat with a large, ornate silver brocade collar and cuffs. He holds a small white envelope or document in his left hand, which has the word 'Memorials' written on it. The background is dark and draped.

THE WELSH CONNECTION

ALUMNI EXPLORE COWBRIDGE

CLIVE JENKINS *Cowbridge Grammar School 1959-66, Jesus College 1966-69*

Sir Leoline Jenkins' bequest of his newly acquired school to Jesus College (1685) strengthened an established practice: many local boys who from its founding by the Stradlings of St Donats in 1609 went up to Jesus would, like him, have been there.

Sir Leoline Jenkins (c.1623-1685)



Daniel Durel, 'the Glamorgan Busby', Master of Cowbridge School 1721-1763

Corporate ownership was safer than familial; but responsibility for repairs was not assigned and, by law, the College kept any surplus income above the fixed charges on the Jenkins estates, leaving the school's endowment frozen.

The papers of Daniel Durel (Master 1721-1763) reveal a school functioning as Jenkins' intended feeder for Jesus College – nine much needed entrants in some years – thanks in part to his mutually beneficial pensions for pupils and College exhibitions confined to the school. From the 1720s to the 1830s it often seemed the best school in South Wales, shining more brightly in its provincial sphere than the College did in Oxford. Its supply to the College of quantity, leavened by quality, rendered it a notable asset – and low-maintenance, given the College's neglect of the repairs, which was Durel's constant complaint, echoed by his successors, traversing his staunch loyalty to Principal Pardoe (1727-1763).

But in 1847 Hugo Harper found the school had "sunk to a very low ebb" by the overlong reign of William Williams (1787-1847). Its 'resuscitation' – from 12 boys to 80+ and brand-new buildings replacing ruins, which was Harper's stipulation for taking the job – aroused intense local satisfaction unshared by Harper himself. When in 1850 the College refused his

hard-headed request for twice as many buildings, he decamped for Sherborne, whose trustees were prepared to use their ampler endowments, as indeed from the 1860s were Cowbridge's regional rivals, isolating Jesus College as inactive (minor extensions apart).

The opportunity in 1847-1860 (when rivals were ineffective) to further develop a new-style public school was lost. Small, time-honoured, Classics-monopolised schools were yielding to the forerunners of today's complexities. Harper left Sherborne with a curriculum of about ten subjects besides Classics, 350 pupils, and specialist staff and buildings. But the College and the local elite just wanted a better yesterday: new buildings to revive the traditional, only slightly enlarged, feeder. From 1847 to 1875 Cowbridge's results were good to very good in Classics and Mathematics but Harper's able successors, hampered by inadequate facilities, struggled to establish a 'Modern side' and even to maintain current pupil numbers. This was linked with the personal grievance of a small core emolument that rendered their income dependent on numerically fluctuating fee-payers.

Headmasters past and present were part of the wide conspectus which by 1880 was demanding, often rudely, that the Jenkins revenue be more generously

disbursed. The College, with Harper now Principal, tried to honour his assurance that the school was "part and parcel of ourselves" with an advantageous fresh start, proposing *ex gratia* payments including £150 p.a. for the headmaster: an assured core income. A crucial building grant of up to £3,500 would help set up Cowbridge as Harper's 'First Rate Classical School' under the right headmaster.

This generosity was dependent on replacing the current incompetent headmaster, Morris Price Williams (1875-1889). Pupil numbers had plummeted to 36 in December 1880; he had let the newly acquired property go to ruin; and, despite Harper's being his immediate superior, he periodically joined the abusive wing of regional opinion. But, spurning bribes of College livings, he refused to go. So in 1881 the crucial £3,500 grant was shelved. Regional competition was now stiff, and the enhanced boarding accommodation needed for the prospective upper-middle-class clientele of a revamped classical school proved unaffordable in the later 1880s. Hence after this attempt to expand and modernise the school unaided, the College (prompted by unfair criticism of near fraudulently sitting on money when the funds it had at its disposal were actually insufficient) about-turned and tried to attract funding from other sources.

The Welsh Intermediate Education Act 1889 offered a demotic alternative that was dayboy-slanted, part rates-funded, and likely to draw the sting from the College's critics. The programme of the local 'Cowbridge party' could dovetail with the ancient Classical set-up: most obviously John Bevan's 1847 blend of traditional curriculum with more and poorer boys for subsequent training as clergy-cum-teachers via increasing the Jenkins free places. The newer 1880s demand that the College fund an 'intermediate school' with a wider, more practical curriculum savoured of a Modern Side.

The subsequent agreement secured exceptionally good terms for both College and school. The County would take over the general running and some funding; the College would retain one fourth of the governors. Alongside non-denominational services, staff could continue to teach the Anglican catechism to Anglican boarders; and – most remarkably – pupils from outside the county (i.e. from anywhere) could sit for boarding scholarships. Several characteristics of an independent school were preserved. But the local 'Church Party', objecting that the agreement would destroy the school's traditional Anglican character, succeeded in getting it excluded from the Intermediate Bill at the last moment by an astonishing fluke of Parliamentary procedure (1895).

The College, forced to continue ownership, again proved unable to finance a relaunch. With *flourishing* public schools for the rich and the new county network for the rest, other possible funding had vanished. From 1904 the College



Hugo Daniel Harper: Headmaster of Cowbridge School 1847-1850; Principal of Jesus College 1877-1895

and the County tried to revive the 1895 agreement and incorporate the school into the County system but met delay from a Board of Education who considered it superfluous.

In 1918-19 the Board did admit Cowbridge as a 'transitionally assisted school' minus the privileges of the 1890s. Even so, the College appointed four governors to the County's six, thereby retaining some genuine power, given the wide autonomy of governors and headmaster. Henceforth the school flourished. By 1937 there were 217 pupils (which rose to 450 by the 1960s). Boys still went to Jesus, indeed in greater numbers, directed there by the regenerative headmaster and Jesubite, Richard Williams (1919-

1938). But the juxtaposition of the Harper buildings with the Council's new block of 1938 illustrated that ownership had changed.

When the County took total control (1949) the Jesus connection became the grin of the Cheshire cat. Iolo Davies, senior Classics master, boarding master and (1971-73) last Headmaster was a loyal Jesubite but the only one on the staff. Sports matches apart, the College meant little to most staff or pupils including most of those Oxbridge-bound, whom Idwal Rees, headmaster (1938-1971), often directed to *his* old college, St John's Cambridge. Jesus became an also-ran. My immediate Cowbridge predecessor at Jesus, Robert Williams, I have never met: he went up in 1958; I in 1966.

And who lives by the Council
perishes by the Council. It had
much eroded the autonomy of
school governors by the 1960s.
The College representative among
them did not make decisions on
building and repairs or crucially
comprehensivisation; the Council
did. And with comprehensivisation
in 1973/4 the story ends.

To conclude: after after 240 years
of *Ancien Régime*, decisions were
taken from 1849 to 1949 which
made the grammar school what it is
today: extinct:

The College's refusal of Harper's
request for twice as many buildings
probably reflected not so much



School buildings erected by Jesus College 1848-1852

The Stradling buildings 1609-1847 (1846 is the artist's error for 1847) Reproduced by permission of Cardiff Libraries.





Detail from a memorial window of the grammar school in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge

blinker conservatism as shortage of funds: a thenceforth constant theme. Jesus had just spent an unprecedented £5,000 (£900,000 today) on new buildings. It could afford a school on a scale Shakespeare would have known; but not to develop its new-wave 'Arnoldian' successor. Public subscription from the local élite who adored what Harper had achieved was a tactic which worked well for Christ College, Brecon from 1856, and one which Harper used *inter alia* at Sherborne. But *ipso facto* that young dynamo had cut his Cowbridge losses quickly and decamped.

Principal Harper's proposals of 1880-1881 (unfinished business?) would probably have succeeded but they were quickly diluted to relative ineffectiveness.

Vice-Principal Llewelyn Thomas'

excellent agreement with the County – early 1890s – was scuppered by the suicidal machinations of 'The Church Party', leaving the hapless College to demonstrate that it could not afford to run a sufficiently competitive school. The school was therefore too weak to enter that best of both worlds for cash-strapped trustees of ancient foundations – the new Direct Grant Scheme of 1920. Much-revived, Cowbridge would

have been eligible for the more generous version of 1946; but the College opted (1949) to hand it entirely to the County. Given the intimate interweaving of the two institutions for over two hundred years, this decision to junk the school seems astonishing. In our own day of 'outreach' the College's actually running a school in Glamorgan might be a huge advantage. But never mind 1749; 1949 is a Foreign Country. And Jesus obviously felt that its responsibility for a school was an anachronism.

The Jesus – Cowbridge connexion is often considered a miniaturised version of that between Winchester and New College or Eton and King's – inaccurately: these schools are independent foundations. A much closer parallel is Magdalen College and the school it owns

outright. Though Magdalen was then richer than Jesus, it discussed intermittently if heatedly, from Edwardian days into the 1970s, whether to offload or even to close it down on comparable financial grounds. But the Direct Grant scheme eased the financial strain from 1920. And under it MCS first did reasonably well, then from the 1940s very well. With the end of Direct Grant, the governing body voted to resume its independence and a hands-off scheme of governance was created. So now the College gets half its famous choir and the supererogatory reflected glory of being the eponym of one of the best day independents in the country in return for minimal yearly outlay plus *ex gratia* contributions to the school's perpetual Harperian building schemes.

But it was touch and go. Until the 1970s genuine supporters of the school on the governing body were joined by those who, when it came to closure, did not dare. The school was on their doorstep – to 1928 *within* their doorstep – supported by a large powerful blend of parents, old boys, Town and Gown, i.e. colleagues and neighbours of the Magdalen dons. Of the two schools in distant parts – a bus ride away from trouble – for which Magdalen was also responsible, it closed one down and gave the other to the County. Jesus College chose the second option for Cowbridge. ■

Clive Jenkins is a member of the Jesus College Old Members' XL Network, the alumni group for Old Members of Jesus College who matriculated 40 or more years ago – currently in or before 1978. Its programme of social events can be found on their website, www.jomgorg. More on Cowbridge Grammar School can be found in the XL's newsletter

THE WELSH CONNECTION

SEREN NETWORK SUMMER SCHOOL



Last year's inaugural Jesus College-Seren Summer School saw twenty-two students invited from all over Wales for a taste of academic life in Oxford. The theme around which lectures, seminars and tutorials revolved was 'Humanity's Future'. All participants recorded a more favourable and accessible view of the University after the summer school. Sixteen of the twenty-two participants went on to apply to Oxford. The remaining seven applied to other top universities, including Cambridge. Three were offered places at Oxford.

Building on this success, Jesus College hosted an expanded school for seventy-five students and eleven teachers from the 20th to 24th August. The summer school runs as an all-expenses paid programme and is a joint initiative between the college and the Welsh Government's Seren Network which supports Wales' brightest sixth formers in accessing leading universities. This year the summer school took the theme 'The Meaning of Life', featuring lectures on the philosophy of life, life in space, the development of life in the womb, the good life in ancient Greece, and the ethics of end-of-life care.

This expansion marks an exciting step forward for Jesus College Access programmes, inspiring

more students to consider applying to Oxford. Seren learners come predominantly from state schools, in some of the poorest parts of the UK. We hope to continue attracting the brightest minds to Oxford, especially from under-represented communities. The summer school is an integral part of the new plans to widen and improve access initiatives set out in the College's Strategic Plan 2017-2021. ■

For further details about the programme or for information on how to support the Seren initiative, please contact

**Jesus College Access Fellow
Dr Matthew Williams**

**E: matthew.williams@jesus.ox.ac.uk,
or T: +44 (0)1865 287261 or follow
on Twitter @jesus access**

PRIVATE PASSIONS

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

Rosalyn Green, Director of Human Resources at Jesus College, writes about her love of wildlife photography.

Around 8 years ago I bought my first DSLR camera and signed up for a one day 'getting to know your camera' course, which is where I began to get hooked on photography as a hobby. I have attended a few short or one-day courses since that one, but I have learnt mainly from reading about photography, from practising and from looking at other people's photographs. I am quite self-critical about my photos and that also helps me improve as I will always look to see what I could have done differently.

I particularly love photographing wildlife, it's fascinating to observe things which are outside of my everyday life. Being able to observe, and photograph, sights such as the habits of the tiny harvest mouse or watching the stealth with



which lionesses work together to catch their prey is a privilege. I try to learn about the wildlife I am photographing, I think that leads to better pictures. Along the way I have been fortunate to meet some really interesting people with a passion for wildlife, in the form of naturalists, guides and other photographers.



Wildlife photography can be challenging – animals are generally not predictable and it needs patience. You don't get a lot of time to set up your shots and if you dither there is a good chance that whatever it was that you were hoping to get will have wandered, flown or swam away. In advance I think about the light and the time of day that I am going out to take pictures – the 'golden hour' has the best light (hour after sunrise and before sunset) as it is softer. I also try to keep in mind certain 'rules' of composition – thirds, leading lines, colour, perspective and what may be happening in the background. Even with planning it is inevitable that there are lots of deletions!

The greatest challenge I find is getting close to the wildlife and then being able to take a shot from the right angle. I like to photograph at eye level, or lower, if possible and that is easier if the animal is not potentially dangerous, certainly more challenging with bears!

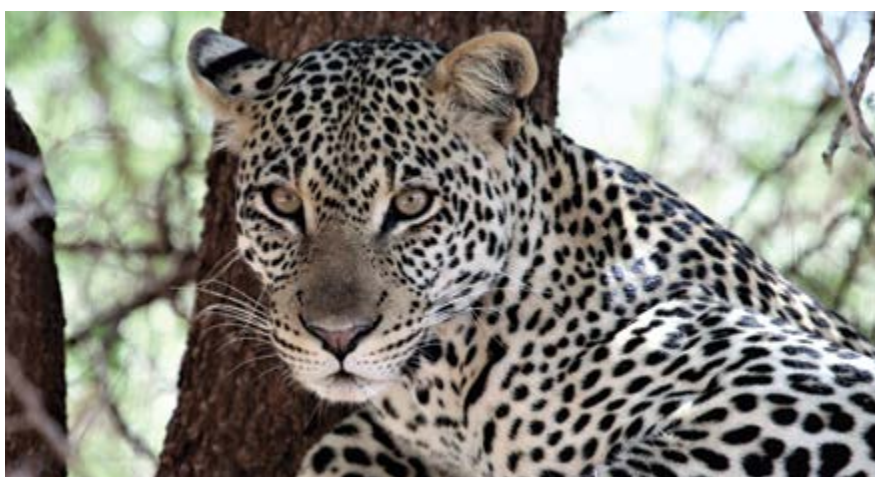
In terms of the equipment I use, I upgraded my camera to a Canon EOS 80D (somewhere between beginner and professional) about two years ago and at the same time I bought a telephoto lens to join my macro and day to day lenses. Photography equipment can form an endless wish list and unfortunately be a bit of a money pit – lenses, tripods, camera bags, spare batteries, filters etc. – but there is a thriving secondhand market which helps keep costs down.

My brief time in Kenya was amazing and certainly a highlight for me in photography terms. One of the most memorable photographs



I took was of a leopard – they can be quite hard to see on safari but Emmanuel our guide and driver was fabulous at finding the right places. Emmanuel spotted a leopard in the trees one morning but because we were limited in how we could position ourselves the photograph opportunity was not great, the shot was too obscured. We waited and

watched this beautiful leopard for about an hour and a half as he made himself comfortable and dozed. I loved the time watching him, sitting quietly in a beautiful setting where all we could hear were animal noises. Eventually the leopard very kindly obliged and turned to look straight into the camera lens. That was an amazing day.



I have a long list of wildlife that I want to photograph in the wild: mountain gorillas; polar bears; penguins; puffins; and mountain hares are all currently on my list. Whilst wildlife photography is without a doubt my favourite form of photography, I also enjoy many

other types too: landscape, street and macro for instance, which means photography is a year-round hobby. There are others in College who share an interest in photography and through the year we have taken opportunities to go out together with our cameras,

perhaps to try a bit of night photography, visit the Botanical Gardens or have a wander to the river.

For anyone wanting to have a go at wildlife photography, I found attending a specialised workshop to be a really good introduction. The photographer will offer tips on camera use if needed, but primarily it is about going to good locations and being supported in getting the best photos of your subject. Finally, be ready for early mornings – wildlife photography almost always involves getting up at the crack of dawn (or before)! ■

*If you have a Private Passion that you would like featured in the next edition of the Jesus News then please contact
nicola.choules-rowe@jesus.ox.ac.uk*



THE ALDABRA CLEAN UP PROJECT

An opportunity to support a conservation expedition to one of the wildest islands in the Indian Ocean

BECCA GOLDBERG

I am a DPhil student at Jesus College and I have been given the once in a lifetime opportunity to join an expedition to the Aldabra Atoll. The expedition aims to clear away the tonnes of ocean plastic waste that now pollutes this otherwise pristine coral atoll. The project unites a team of six students from Oxford and six young conservationists from Seychelles and together we will undertake the five-week expedition to Aldabra in March 2019.

The Aldabra Atoll is a UNESCO world heritage site in Seychelles which is home to a unique and thriving diversity of plants and animals, including the largest population of giant tortoises in the world. Despite its remoteness and the absence of humans, an estimated 500 tonnes of plastic debris brought in by the oceans from all over the world now covers the islands. Researchers working on Aldabra have witnessed the effects of this waste on the native wildlife including the ingestion of plastic by tortoises and seabirds and

the entanglement and trapping of birds and sea turtles. Our clean-up expedition is vital to ensuring the protection of this island ecosystem.

Due to the location and nature of the atoll, this is not your usual beach clean. In order to dispose of the plastic, we will need to charter a cargo ship to transport the collected trash to the main island Mahé, 1,000km away. As part of our project we aim to develop sustainable ways to reuse and recycle this trash which can continue to be used on Aldabra



Our students and alumni are making a difference, both in the UK and around the world. We love sharing their stories and opportunities to get involved in these exciting projects.

and in Seychelles. We will also be conducting research to identify and quantify the trash and to assess the impacts of plastic on the Aldabra wildlife. Prior to our expedition we are engaging with community events and schools within the UK and Seychelles to raise awareness of ocean plastic pollution and the efforts that each of us can make to reduce its effects on the environment.

Following its launch in May, the project has gained widespread support. The President of Seychelles

attended the Seychelles project launch and on his visit to the G7 summit this year he highlighted the issue of plastic pollution by sharing photos from Aldabra. Former Jesus principal Lord John Krebs has also voiced his support saying that the project "is a crucial contribution to protecting marine biodiversity and habitats in this precious place."

For our expedition to go ahead we need to raise funds of £150,000. In the last few months we have successfully raised £65,000 from corporate sponsorship, individuals

and crowdfunding. We would welcome any additional sponsors and supporters who can share our work and help us on our way to restoring this special place to its former pristine state for the benefit of us all. ■

Further information about our project can be found on our crowdfunding page

queens.hubbub.net/p/AldabraProject

We are also active on Facebook and Twitter (@AldabraCleanUp) and on Instagram (aldabra_cleanup).

If you would like to get in touch about anything to do with the project you can contact me via email: rebecca.goldberg@jesus.ox.ac.uk

A CONSERVATION EXPEDITION TO ONE OF THE WILDEST ISLANDS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN



Background: The Aldabra Atoll is the second largest coral atoll in the world and isolated from the nearest landmass (Africa) by hundreds of miles of open ocean Seychelles Islands Foundation

Above: The island's animals, including the giant tortoise (pictured here) are being seriously impacted by plastic debris through ingestion and entanglement Seychelles Islands Foundation

Left: Every day plastic debris varying from domestic items such as flip flops and lighters to large fishing equipment washes onto Aldabra's shores Seychelles Islands Foundation

GREATER CHANGE

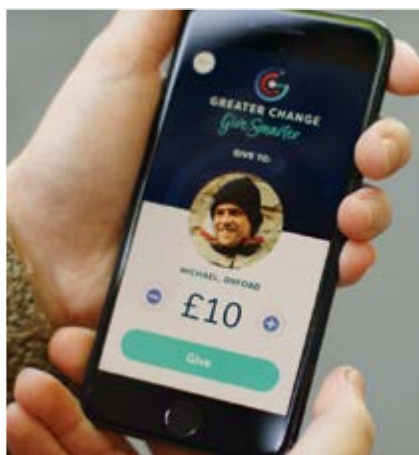
ALEX McCALLION (2014, ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT)

In April this year 'Greater Change', the mobile donation system to support the homeless led by Alex McCallion of Jesus College together with George Beaumont (2014, Chemistry), received the second prize of £4,000 and certificate for Highly Commended at the Tri-Innovate 2018 Pitch Event. Here, Alex discusses how this initiative came about and how it works.

During my time studying Economics and Management at Jesus, it was impossible not to notice how many people in the city were homeless. Occasionally, I would stop for a chat and buy someone some food. The conversations were always enjoyable, interesting and different to those had in the student bubble.

After a while, through these conversations, I started learning more about the barriers to getting out of homelessness. For many, the reasons were complex. However, for a significant number of people, most difficulty arose with problems of acquiring ID or not having an address. Without employment ID, an address was impossible to afford. It was evident that funding certain purchases could give people a better chance of moving on. These were purchases that could help in the long run such as: identification documents, skills courses, rent deposits and first month's rent. Many people had non-financial support and motivation, but they did not have that personalised funding available to move on from homelessness.

There was also a clear public willingness to help. This was obvious



through conversations I had with friends around the topic, the number of people volunteering and people doing things such as buying food or giving money.

People have a natural desire to help the person they see or speak to. There are, however, many problems with the current method of giving. Cash is very rarely spent on these long term purchases. Some people who have stable housing beg 'professionally'. As well as this, we are gravitating further towards a cashless society.

The problem was therefore that people wanted to financially help those they connected with through conversation or proximity. However, for the variety of reasons above, they often felt unable to: this was a huge problem. For a significant number of the homeless, the collective financial help of the public could form a vital part of helping someone transform their life. Greater Change is all about solving that problem. Greater Change allows you to give directly to someone without carrying cash, knowing the money is helping them

move on and knowing the person is someone who is genuinely in need. All donations are matched by a corporate sponsor too.

How does Greater Change work? Greater Change is an app and website that allows people who are homeless to crowdfund goals that will help them move on. These goals are set by the homeless person and agreed by their support worker. Money given to the individual is held in a restricted fund by the charity they are working with. This money can only be used for the pre-agreed purpose. The key feature of this model is you know that when you give you are contributing to a pre-agreed well thought through plan with non-financial support around it. Therefore Greater Change is not just about facilitating giving, it is about facilitating giving that actually makes a difference. It is giving, smarter.

So how would you give to someone? If you see or speak to someone you would like to give to simply type in their name or scan their QR, this will bring up their profile where you can choose an amount and press send. Alternatively, you can visit our website (www.greaterchange.co.uk), read stories, then give directly to someone through the website. These methods mean you can give without carrying change but know you're making one. ■

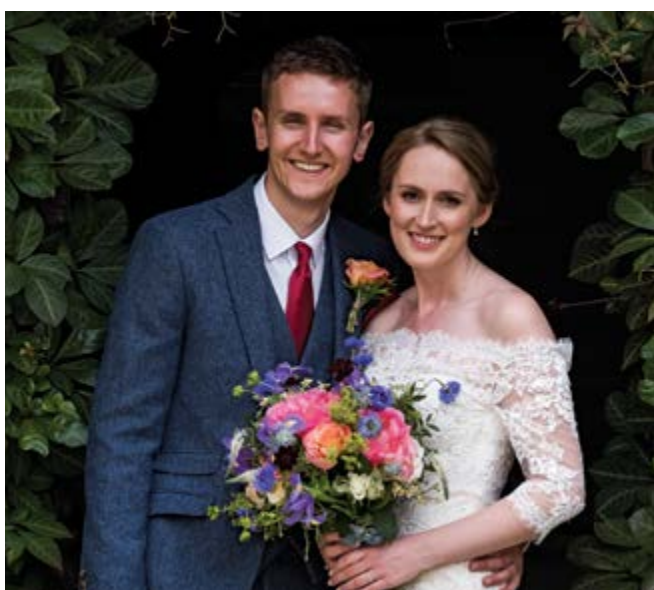
Greater Change was featured on the BBC News website home page in August 2018. See www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/stories-45102437/scanning-homeless-people-with-smartphones-to-donate-money.

Greater Change is an app and website that allows people who are homeless to crowdfund goals that will help them move on.



A COLLEGE WEDDING

Catherine and I met for the first time at a Jesus College 'Babies weekend' in Spring 2008, ahead of starting our Geography degrees together in October 2008. As two of eight new geographers starting that year we soon became great friends – after a first year of fieldtrips, essays, and Collections, it wasn't until 15 May 2009 at Pembroke Ball that we shared our first kiss.



Our first date was slightly haphazard, a trip to the Oxford Union ended in me covered in wine as Catherine nervously spilt her drink all over my trousers – at least you could say it was memorable! Over the next two years we shared some amazing memories at Jesus and made life-lasting friends, many of whom were with us this June to celebrate on our wedding day. Life was fast-paced and exhilarating. Between lectures, tutorials and essays, we each packed in a sufficient amount of punting, college sports, partying, and 'balling'.

Just over nine years had passed since Pembroke Ball when we found ourselves back at Jesus College making our vows in front of our family and a lot of Jesus friends! Celebrating our wedding at Jesus could not have been more special, and the memories from the day will stay with us always. Having known Megan (the Chaplain) since our second year, it was particularly poignant to have a friend be able to conduct the ceremony.

Our Jesus journey is not yet over... Catherine is now back at Jesus, aiming to complete her DPhil in Environmental Research this summer, before pursuing a career in academia. ■

WHY I GIVE TO JESUS COLLEGE

I was the first Junior Research Fellow at Jesus College in 1963. That was a prestigious position, which gave me a good start in my early career. I was grateful for that opportunity and want to give another young researcher the same chance. Climate change is a complex problem facing the world today. It will take a huge effort to understand it and to learn how to deal with it.



Professor Thomas Phillips (Junior Research Fellow in Physics, 1963-67)

I was inspired to make a gift to Jesus College because of its early interest in atmospheric science. When I was a JRF, John Houghton (now Sir) was a Fellow at Jesus College. He became a Professor of Atmospheric Physics at Oxford, Director General of the Met Office, and played a key role in the development of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Now he is an Honorary Fellow of Jesus College. I decided to make the gift in my lifetime because that will allow me to watch its fruition. ■

Professor Phillips has had a major influence in the development of millimetre and submillimetre astronomy, and in the study of the Cold Universe. He began his career by inventing new heterodyne techniques for high sensitivity spectroscopy. This included hot electron bolometers, followed by the SIS superconducting junctions. The detectors he built for the OVRO (Owens Valley Radio Observatory), KAO (Kuiper Airborne Observatory), and CSO (Caltech Submillimeter Observatory, Hawaii) telescopes led to numerous discoveries. The success of the Herschel Space Telescope as well as the ALMA and NOEMA interferometers is to a large part due to his technological innovations and his energetic leadership in seeing these ambitious projects to completion. In 2010, he was awarded the NASA medal for exceptional public service for his work on HIFI. Professor Phillips was the Director of the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory in Hawaii until it ceased scientific operations in 2015. He is now Professor Emeritus at the California Institute of Technology (John D. MacArthur Professor of Physics, Emeritus 2013- , having previously held the full Professorship from 2011-2013). In 2018, Professor Phillips made a gift to the College to support a Jesus JRF in Climate Change.

ALUMNI BENEFITS

We have over 6,000 Old Members in contact with College, ranging in ages from 21 to 97 years and located in a staggering 99 countries. The wide variety of subjects that individuals have studied while they were here has led to an infinite number of career paths.

EVENTS

Through our events, we aim to connect individuals by year group, subject and interest. Our programme varies, but each year we offer between 20-30 different events. Key events include:

- A Gaudy every 5 years
- A dinner to celebrate 25, 40 and 50 years after matriculation
- London drinks receptions
- Subject-focused events
- Career networking

We also host a dedicated drinks event for recent leavers. Taking place in January, the event is an informal opportunity for alumni who left Jesus in the last ten years to meet up with contemporaries.

COMMUNICATIONS

Currently alumni receive the annual College Record, the new Jesus News newsletter, and monthly email bulletins. We also host Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter groups helping you to keep in touch with old friends and the College.

ALUMNI WEBSITE

The Jesus College website (www.jesus.ox.ac.uk/alumni) has its own dedicated alumni pages. Updated regularly, they contain all you need to know about being an Old Member of the College, including the latest news and events. It also serves as a knowledge base with information on obtaining degree certificates and transcripts, and how to book B&B accommodation in College.

DINING RIGHTS

Members are welcome to dine in Hall on Sunday nights with up to two guests, at a cost of £14.20 per person, with the option of attending the earlier Evensong. To book, please contact the Development Office on E: alumni@jesus.ox.ac.uk or T: +44 (0)1865 616810

BED & BREAKFAST

Jesus College offers accommodation to Old Members on a bed and breakfast basis. For detailed information and to book, please see the following page.

CAREERS

Graduates of Oxford University are eligible to access the University Careers Service for up to four years after the completion of their studies. This valuable resource includes a searchable database of vacancies, events and fairs designed to inform your career choice and provide opportunities, as well as providing access to guidance and information from professionally trained careers advisers. For more information, visit www.careers.ox.ac.uk. In addition, the Development Office promotes offers of mentoring, work placements, careers advice and networking opportunities from alumni to current students and recent leavers on a regular basis.

CONFERENCE & EVENT HIRE

Subject to availability and out of term time, the College can accommodate up to 10 weddings per year and cater for conferences or private parties. Initial enquiries to the Development Office E: alumni@jesus.ox.ac.uk or T: +44 (0)1865 616810

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GIVING TO JESUS COLLEGE



DONATION FORM



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OXFORD

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Title & Initials

Forename(s)

Subject

Year

Address

Postcode

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Email

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DESIGNATION OF GIFT

You can choose to direct your gift towards the area you would most like to support (tick one box only):

- Development Fund** ☐ Wherever the need is greatest ☐ Promoting access ☐ Promoting scholarship
☐ Fabric & environment ☐ Rewarding excellence ☐ Oxford experience

Other ☐ _____

YOUR GIFT

- ☐ I would like to make a regular gift and have completed the Direct Debit instructions below
- ☐ I have enclosed a cheque for the amount of: Cheques payable to: **Jesus College, Oxford**
- ☐ I have made a one off/regular donation (delete as applicable) via the University's online payment system
http://www.giving.ox.ac.uk/colleges/jesus_college.html
- ☐ For payment by Standing Order (mandate for UK bank account holders only).

We will submit this form to your bank so please ensure all information is complete.

TO: (name, address and postcode of your bank)				
Please pay to Barclays Bank PLC (20-65-18) Oxford City Centre, for Jesus College Development A/C no: 03751201				
The sum of £ and the same sum on the same day each month/quarter/year (delete as applicable) beginning on:				
Day	Month	Year	Duration	or until further notice
Account Number:		Branch Sort Code:		Signature Date

I am happy to be included in an annual published list of donors (donation amounts will not be featured): **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

I wish to make my donation anonymously. ☐

giftaid it

- ☐ UK Taxpayers, please fill in this Gift Aid declaration so we can reclaim 25p for every £1 that you give – at no extra cost to you. In order for us to reclaim the tax you pay on your donation(s) you must have paid UK income or Capital Gains Tax equal to the tax that will be reclaimed. This declaration includes all previous donations in the last four years and all future donations until you instruct otherwise. I wish all donations I make hereafter to be treated as Gift Aid donations, until I notify you otherwise. I understand that I must pay income and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to that which you will reclaim.

Full name (in block capitals)

Signature

Date

THANK YOU

It is possible to make a gift to the College by Standing Order from your bank account, by credit card or by international transfer. Additionally, there are other ways of giving as listed below.

GIFT AID

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can increase the value of your donation at no extra cost to you by signing a Gift Aid declaration. For every £1 donated the College can reclaim 25p in tax. This means that a £1,000 donation made under Gift Aid is worth £1,250 to Jesus.

In addition, if you pay a higher rate of tax, you are able to claim personal tax relief on the difference between the higher rates of tax and the basic rate in your Self-Assessment Return. You can reclaim 20% of the tax of the gross value of your donation.

GIFT OF SHARES

Donations of shares and investments have become one of the most tax-efficient ways of giving. Income tax relief applies to gifts of quoted shares and certain other investments by individuals and companies if the stocks are UK-listed, whether or not the donor is resident in the UK. This is in addition to the relief from capital gains tax. Certain gifts of property also attract the same tax advantages.

GIVING FROM EUROPE

If you are a resident and paying tax in Europe, it may be possible for you to make a gift to the College tax-efficiently through Transnational Giving in Europe, www.transnationalgiving.eu which covers 15 European countries.

GIVING FROM THE USA

If you are a resident of the USA, you can give to Oxford and its colleges via Americans for Oxford, Inc. This is the University's primary charitable organisation in North America, and has been determined by the United States Internal Revenue Service to be a tax-exempt public charity with 501(c)(3) status.

CORPORATE MATCHED GIVING

Some companies will match donations their employees make to charities. Your payroll department will be able to tell you whether your company operates a matched giving scheme.

REMEMBERING JESUS COLLEGE IN YOUR WILL

Legacy gifts made to Jesus reduce the tax value of your assets and, in the UK, there are currently additional tax benefits to leaving more than 10% of your estate to the College in your Will. Additionally, legacies are free of inheritance tax in Canada and Australia and certain other countries. Please contact the Development Office if you would like more information on leaving a legacy.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Jesus Development Office on +44 (0)1865 616810 or on alumni@jesus.ox.ac.uk

CAMPAIGN NEWS AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

DR BRITTANY WELLNER JAMES

Six years ago, Jesus College embarked on an ambitious campaign to raise £45 million by its 450th anniversary in 2021. This autumn, we move into the public phase of the campaign grateful to the many alumni and friends who have already given their support. Alumni gifts have so far amounted to more than £20 million, and the College owes a debt of gratitude to the alumni community for their commitment to Jesus and its core purposes of education, learning, and research. A major pledge of £15 million towards the Northgate site development on Cornmarket was announced in 2016, and brings the total funds raised from alumni and friends of the College to £35 million. We now move forward with confidence and determination to raise our final £10 million over the next three years.

The College is already beginning to see the impact these donations have made. Plans for the Northgate site are progressing impressively, and it is clear that the project will be one of the College's most exciting developments in its history. The Northgate development will provide a dynamic new space at Jesus College for the best and brightest minds to study and for scholars to collaborate on cutting-edge research. Considerable funding has also been secured towards new Tutorial Fellowships, while donations towards student support help ensure that an education at Jesus College will remain accessible to the most able students from all backgrounds.

One of the questions most frequently asked of the Development Office is whether small gifts matter to the College. Our answer is emphatically yes! Gifts of any size make a difference, and our many small donors together make up a vital enabling force. The 59% participation rate from alumni in this year's spring telethon, for example, resulted in a record-breaking total of £178,000 for the Development Fund. The success of the College's 450th



Anniversary Campaign will depend on alumni engagement at all levels, whether this means a major gift, a small one-off donation, or simply the gift of an alumnus or alumna's time. All of these contributions are crucial to ensuring a bright future for the College.

We have greatly enjoyed seeing many Jesus alumni at our events this year and welcoming back special classes for their gaudies in College. In June, we hosted our first Legacy Luncheon, which was a great opportunity to thank those who have committed to leaving a gift to College in their wills. I have also had the pleasure of meeting alumni around the world: in April, the Principal and I made a visit to the United States, where we visited Jesus alumni in Los Angeles and San Francisco. This autumn we will launch a special series of campaign events, which celebrate both the College's Elizabethan foundation and its future in the "information age". Both programmes will offer something special, from exploring the authentic musical world of the court of Elizabeth I, to innovative research advancements in Artificial Intelligence. We hope that you will join us! ■

WELCOME HOME



Alumni are very welcome to visit the College throughout the year. Please do get in touch if you are thinking of returning to Jesus College, even if just for a visit, so that we can make your visit as enjoyable as possible.

We are pleased to offer accommodation out of term time to alumni on a bed and breakfast basis at discounted rates, subject to availability. We can also accommodate larger parties, again subject to space and availability. Old Members are also welcome to dine in Hall on Sunday nights and are warmly invited to attend Evensong in the Chapel.

There are various room types, including en-suite, semi en-suite and standard, as well as some twin sets. Rooms are clean, comfortable and serviced daily, and are provided with towels, toiletries, tea and coffee making facilities, a telephone and free internet access. You are also welcome to use the College bar, subject to availability. To book your room(s), please visit www.jesus.ox.ac.uk/visitors/accommodation/bed-breakfast.



THE DIGITAL APE

How to live (in peace) with smart machines

BY SIR NIGEL SHADBOLT, ROGER HAMPSON

A new kind of animal, an ape with almost magical, angelic powers is emerging. We have a choice as to whether it will be Gabriel or Lucifer. We have a choice as to whether our new powers will empower or oppress humankind.

This book is an assessment of what is happening to the human race in the first decades of the 21st century; the most significant transformation in what it is to be human since we left Africa. Homo sapiens is being reborn as a digital ape.

The essence of human nature is our use of tools and our collective language, knowledge and memory. As we have fashioned our tools and technology so they have shaped us. For 200,000 generations before modern humans appeared our tool use was changing our brains, our bodies and how we communicated. Today our digital technologies continue this pattern. The book looks at what the consequences are and might be into the future.

These digital tools are ubiquitous. We have universal information and universal access to it; we have universal selection of goods and services (those of us who can afford them); we have universal instant maps. Everything around us is intelligent – the objects we work with, the machines we live with and travel in, our entertainment. Individuals now use, even wear, tools which enhance nearly every aspect of their cognition.

The digital ape is a group animal which feeds, makes love and preens in public, like the early hominids and the chimpanzees in a forest clearing. It posts its most trivial doings to Twitter and Facebook. That is perhaps fortunate, since privacy and invisibility are in 2018 temporary,

fleeting phenomena, available only when powerful interests happen not to be actively interested. This passive privacy zone declines daily. There are small ways we can fight back: for instance, insist that we have rights to our data. We need big ways to fight back, if we wish to continue to be individuals of the kind invented in the west three hundred years ago.

The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is discussed in detail. We review the methods and techniques behind AI, describe how AI is being deployed and what this means for us at home and at work.

The original ape in us still selects a mate, searches for food, chatters, steals, wages war, and creates great art but now using the products

of digital technology. Is the digital ape on the verge of a new Age of Enlightenment, like the one scientists, philosophers and poets drove forward in the seventeenth century? Or will our magical machines evolve so quickly that they either outwit us, or else lead us to a very unpleasant, collectively diminished, future, in which relatively small super-enhanced digital elites make choices for the rest of us?

Writing a popular and accessible book about the topics one researches on a daily basis is a daunting challenge. In the case of the Digital Ape it has been great fun, as over the course of two years, the project has taken shape with my colleague Roger Hampson. I hope this summary of the content provides a taste of why we thought it worthwhile. ■



Nigel Shadbolt

Sir Nigel Shadbolt is one of the UK's foremost computer scientists. He is a leading researcher in artificial intelligence and was one of the originators of the interdisciplinary field of web science. He is Principal of Jesus College Oxford and a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Oxford. He is chairman of the Open Data Institute which he co-founded with Sir Tim Berners-Lee. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering, a Fellow and former President of the British Computer Society.



Roger Hampson

Roger Hampson is an academic and public servant. He was chief executive of the London Borough of Redbridge for 16 years until early 2016. Until 1986, he was an academic economist of social policy, latterly research fellow at the Personal Social Services Research Unit at the University of Kent. PSSRU was and remains the world leader in the promotion of efficiency in social and health care by the rigorous analysis of data. He was a member of the Local Public Data Panel, and a non-executive director of the Open Data Institute.

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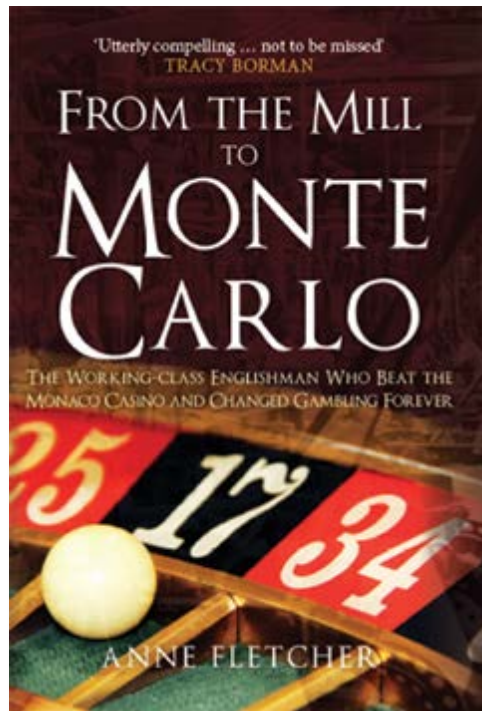
FROM THE MILL TO MONTE CARLO

The working-class Englishman who beat the casino and changed gambling forever

BY ANNE FLETCHER

Amongst the men 'who broke the bank at Monte Carlo', Joseph Hobson Jagger is unique. He is the only one known to have devised an infallible and completely legal system to defeat the odds at roulette and win a fortune. But he was not what might be expected. He wasn't a gentleman, an aristocrat, or a professional gambler: he was a Yorkshire textile worker who had laboured in the Victorian mills of Bradford since childhood.

What led a man like this to travel nearly a thousand miles to the exclusive world of the Riviera when most people lived and died within a few miles of where they were born? The trains that took him there were still new and dangerous, he did not speak French and had never left the north of England. His motivation was strong. Joseph, his wife and four children, the youngest of whom was only two, faced a situation so grave that their only escape seemed to be his desperate gamble on the roulette tables of Monte Carlo.



Today Jagger's legacy is felt in casinos worldwide and yet he is virtually unknown. Anne Fletcher is his great-great-great niece and in this true-life detective story she uncovers how he was able to win a fortune, what happened to his millions and why Jagger should now be regarded as the real 'man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo'. ■

'An utterly compelling and deeply personal account of a working class Victorian man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo. In telling the remarkable story of her ancestor, the author brings to life one of the most transformative periods in British history. Her painstaking research is as fascinating as the tale itself. Not to be missed.'

Tracy Borman

'A thrilling true detective story that redefines family history. Anne Fletcher deploys impeccably researched social history on the Victorian north of England as the convincing backdrop to a portrait of a desperate man whose last chance is finding improbable luck, a thousand miles from home.'

Jonathan Foyle



Anne Fletcher

Anne Fletcher read Modern History at Jesus College from 1984 to 1987. She has worked for twenty-five years as a professional historian in the heritage sector, researching, writing and developing visitor experiences at historic sites such as Hampton Court Palace, Bletchley Park, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral and Tower Bridge. She has recently partnered with Oxford University to run projects that help history undergraduates and post graduates gain experience of and offer their expertise to the heritage sector.

We'd love to hear about other books published by Jesus College authors – to be featured in the 'In Print' section of Jesus News please contact Nicola Choules-Rowe in the Development Office on nicola.choules-rowe@jesus.ox.ac.uk



JESUS COLLEGE ALUMNI EVENTS CALENDAR

Annual events programme for 2018-19

FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

- » Gaudy (58, 68, 86, 93)

WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2018

- » Christmas Carols

SATURDAY 1 DECEMBER 2018

- » Parents' Brunch

FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2019

- » St David's Day Tea

FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2019

- » Gaudy (64, 84, 99, 14)

22-24 MARCH 2019

- » Tokyo Alumni Weekend

TUESDAY 23 APRIL 2019

- » Commemoration of Benefactors' Dinner

SATURDAY 1 JUNE 2019

- » Parents' Brunch and Summer Eights

SATURDAY 8 JUNE 2019

- » Legacy Lunch

FRIDAY 28 JUNE 2019

- » Gaudy (1954 & before, 1957, 1978, 1994)

SATURDAY 29 JUNE 2019

- » Old Members' Day

FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2019

- » Gaudy (1959, 1974, 1979, 1989, 2004)

DATE TBC

- » Cadwallader Dinner

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2019

- » Christmas Carols

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2019

- » Parents' Brunch

Campaign events programme for 2018-19

SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

- » Celebrating the Elizabethan College: A Tudor Feast

THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER

- » The College in the Information Age: Sir Nigel and The Digital Ape

FEBRUARY – DATE TBC

- » Celebrating the Elizabethan College: Music of the Age

FEBRUARY – DATE TBC

- » The College in the Information Age: Big Data – Sir Nigel in conversation

APRIL – DATE TBC

- » Celebrating the Elizabethan College: All Alumni Dinner

MAY – DATE TBC

- » Celebrating the Elizabethan College: Hampton Court Palace Reception

*For further information or to book events, please contact Hannah Gibbons
T: +44 (0) 1865 616810 E: hannah.gibbons@jesus.ox.ac.uk*

*For regular events updates, please visit our alumni events website:
www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/jesus/events*



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