



ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

# Catharine WHEEL

Summer 2010



Student profile: Kirsty Houston



Madagascar's Baobabs



Rowing, boats and boathouses

# Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 1 June 2010: St Catharine's Luncheon Club.** At The Travellers' Club by kind permission of Paul Everard (1959). Please contact Jo Cooney ([jlc47@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jlc47@cam.ac.uk) or 01223 748164) for further details and if you wish to join the circulation list.

**Saturday 12 June 2010: Garden Party for Benefactors, Woodlarkians and Members who matriculated between 1955 and 1960.**

**Saturday 12 June 2010: May Bumps Pimm's Marquee on the banks of the River Cam.**

**Saturday 12 June 2010: South West Branch Annual Lunch.** Abode Hotel, Exeter. Please contact David Sanders ([southwest@stcatharinescollege.org](mailto:southwest@stcatharinescollege.org)).

**Saturday 19 June 2010: Midlands & Wessex Branches Visit to Worcester College, Oxford.** Please contact John Moverley ([john@dunmovin.co.uk](mailto:john@dunmovin.co.uk)).

**Saturday 26 June 2010: St Catharine's Members' Reunion Dinner.** We would like to invite all St Catharine's Members who matriculated between 1978 and 1980 back to College for a Reunion Dinner. Online booking available at [www.caths.cam.ac.uk/events](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/events)

**Thursday 1 July 2010: St Catharine's in Paris.** A reception to accompany the Choir performance. Further details TBC.

**Saturday 3 July 2010: An afternoon with Joanne Harris.** At her home in Huddersfield. Open to Members and guests. Online booking available at [www.caths.cam.ac.uk/events](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/events)

**Saturday 10 July 2010: East Anglian Branch Visit to the Norfolk Broads.** Online booking available at [www.caths.cam.ac.uk/alumni/society](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/alumni/society)

**St Catharine's College Choir** will be paying a visit to Paris this July (see below for details). The programme will include Purcell, Bach, Brahms, Britten, Parry and Harvey.

Thursday 1 July:

St Germain des Prés 4pm

Friday 2 July: La Madeleine 4pm

Sunday 4 July: Saint-Denis 11am

Sunday 4 July: Saint-Sulpice 4pm



**Alumna Ivana Gavrić (1998)** will be making her Wigmore Hall debut on 15 July at 7.30pm. Programme will include works by Schubert, Janáček, Rachmaninov and Prokofiev. Since graduating, Ivana has performed around the UK, including at the Royal Festival Hall, Royal Albert Hall and Windsor Castle in the presence of Prince Charles, across Europe, and in Russia and Japan. Described by Maxim Vengerov as 'a wonderful artist – powerful and exciting', she was invited by Oscar-winning director Anthony Minghella to perform Bach on the soundtrack of his film, *Breaking and Entering*. [www.ivanagavric.com](http://www.ivanagavric.com)

**Saturday 18 September 2010: St Catharine's Members' Reunion Dinner.** We would like to invite all St Catharine's Members who matriculated between 1984 and 1986 back to College for a Reunion Dinner.

**Saturday 25 September 2010: St Catharine's Society Annual Dinner and AGM.** Open to all Members and their guests. Please find more details inside this edition of the *Catharine Wheel*. Online booking available at [www.societydinner.stcatharinescollege.org](http://www.societydinner.stcatharinescollege.org)

**Friday 24 – Sunday 26 September 2010: University Alumni Weekend.** Visit the University Alumni Office website ([www.foundation.cam.ac.uk](http://www.foundation.cam.ac.uk)) for more information.

**Saturday 9 October 2010: Geographers' Reunion Dinner.** Open to all Members who studied Geography.

**Thursday 14 October 2010: St Catharine's in the City.** Informal drinks at Corney & Barrow, 10 Paternoster Square, from 6.30pm. Open to all Members. Further details TBC.

**Wednesday 20 October 2010: London Group Autumn Dinner, Lincoln's Inn.** (Previously advertised for 15 July 2010) Booking forms available at [www.caths.cam.ac.uk/alumni/society](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/alumni/society)

**Friday 22 October 2010: Catz+10.** Open to all Members who matriculated in 2000. An opportunity to return to College to dine at High Table alongside contemporaries and Fellows.

**Saturday 13 November 2010: Natural Scientists' Reunion Dinner.** Open to all Members who studied Natural Sciences.

**Saturday 5 February 2011: Engineers' Reunion Dinner.** Open to all Members who studied Engineering.

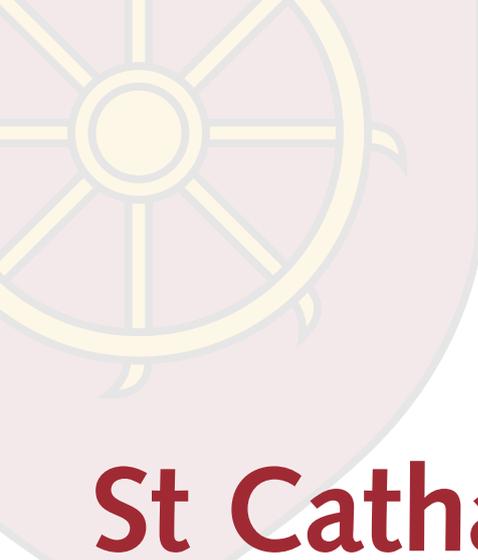
**Saturday 5 March 2011: English Reunion Dinner.** Open to all Members who studied English.

**Saturday 2 April 2011: St Catharine's Members' Reunion Dinner.** We would like to invite all St Catharine's Members who matriculated between 1960 and 1963 back to College for a Reunion Dinner.

**For more information on any of these events, please contact the Alumni & Development Office on 01223 748164.**

## Forthcoming Reunions

11 June 2011 (Garden Party) .....  
..... (1956 and earlier)  
17 September 2011 ..... (1975–77)  
31 March 2012 ..... (1968–71)  
15 September 2012 ..... (1987–89)  
April 2013 ..... (1972–74)  
September 2013 ..... (1990–92)



# St Catharine's College Centre

**A key component** of the St Catharine's Campaign (see overleaf) is an exciting development on the College's Island Site, providing us with a much-needed communal space. This scheme has the enthusiastic backing of the Master, Fellows and the wider Membership of the College. The new project will create a multi-purpose building to occupy the area of Chapel Court which at present contains the bar and JCR.

At the heart of the new scheme is a modern, open-plan space which can be divided by a moving acoustic screen to create an auditorium and separate foyer.

The auditorium will be a flexible space, able to accommodate a seated audience of 160 for formal presentations and to be put to a variety of other uses: meetings, performances, film screenings and informal gatherings. The foyer will contain a café and informal study areas.

The new bar will be constructed in the basement, in part of the area currently occupied by the College's underground car park. The bar will include areas for café-style seating, games and dancing, and have a separate entrance from Chapel Court. The first floor includes a new JCR and conference/meeting

rooms with flexible dividing walls. In developing this exciting project the College has sought to reflect state-of-the-art thinking on energy conservation and environmental issues.

The College's ambitious proposal will radically enhance Chapel Court and reshape it in relation to the new structure. A discreet, landscaped court area and direct link with Hall will fully integrate it into the larger fabric of the College.

This significant College project has an estimated cost of £7 million, including VAT.





# St Catharine's Campaign

**We will build for the future as our predecessors did for the present.**

**The history of St Catharine's** is one of benefaction: the College was founded as a place of learning in 1473, thanks to the vision and generosity of Robert Woodlark, and has grown due to the philanthropy of its patrons ever since.

St Catharine's, a place where education and research are at the core, is also flourishing in music, sport and arts. Cambridge's tutorial and supervision system remains unparalleled, but maintaining this system is costly.

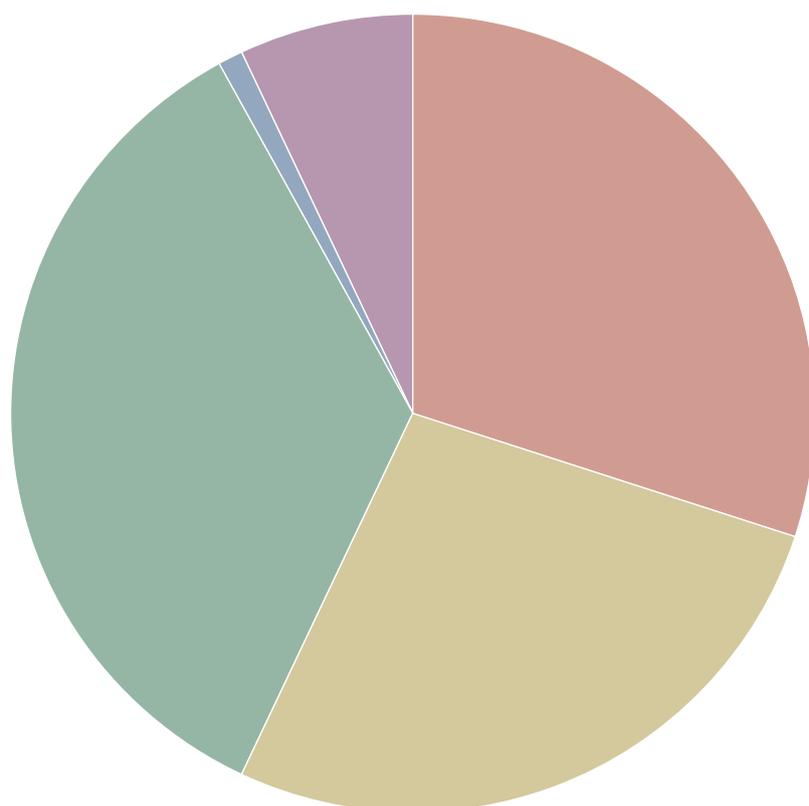
For only a short period in recent times, the Government carried the burden of financing many students through their university education. With reduced state funding for higher education and with the cost of providing such education increasing dramatically, the College is bearing the cost of excellence and is facing a shortfall. For this reason, we once again turn to our supporters, Members and Friends alike, to help us ensure the future of the College.

In January 2009 the Master and Fellows of the College launched a major fundraising appeal for St Catharine's,

the first for two decades. We have set ourselves a goal of £30 million for the St Catharine's Campaign, covering three core areas:

- Endowment to support the long-term stability of the College.
- Teaching Posts to help maintain the superb academic performance of our students.
- Facilities to create the College Centre and provide more Graduate accommodation.

It is a testament to the goodwill of Members of St Catharine's that we have already raised £11.7 million towards our goal.



- Endowment (£3,471,880)
- Teaching (£3,127,030)
- Buildings (£4,137,875)
- Campaign Support (£100,000)
- Miscellaneous (£824,345)

**Total: £11,661,130**

## Hospitality

For business or pleasure, you may wish to make use of the College facilities. If you have any inquiries about available function rooms and catering please contact the Catering & Conference Manager at 01223 338381 or [conference.manager@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:conference.manager@caths.cam.ac.uk).

# The Annual Fund

## What is the Annual Fund?

In addition to our long-term strategic fundraising, St Catharine's also looks to provide immediate support for the most urgent and important areas of student life in the College, thus reducing the pressure on its modest endowment.

St Catharine's Annual Fund allows an aggregation of a large number

*"Having a drum kit at Catz has really benefited all students, not just those studying Music."*  
Peter O'Malley, 5th year Veterinary Medicine Student

*"I was most grateful for the bursary that I received from St Catharine's. The College is highly understanding with regard to the limits of government offered bursaries, especially for families on lower incomes."* George Woodhams, 3rd year SPS Student

*"The Chapel was extensively refurbished in the Long Vacation 2009. A considerable sum of money was spent on electrical upgrade, re-lighting, complete redecoration and cleaning, plaster and marble restoration, wood polishing and the replacement of tired fabrics. Those who have visited the Chapel since its reopening have been delighted with the result of the work which has enhanced the appearance of the building as an historic place of worship and set it in good stead for the next thirty or forty years."*  
Anthony Moore, Fellow, College Chaplain

of small donations to make a real difference in areas such as student support and College facilities, as well as other significant aspects of College life (sport, arts and music, for example). It provides an opportunity for a considerable number of Members to make a significant joint impact. The key characteristic of an annual fund is that the funds raised are disbursed in the same year, which creates an immediate benefit for the students. Your support of the St Catharine's Annual Fund demonstrates a commitment to the College in a most valuable way.

## 2009

Through the generosity of so many of our Members, last year we raised £138,000. These kind donations were used to provide much-needed student bursaries, renovation work in the College Chapel (as reported in the 2009 Magazine), funding for musical instruments and a modest boost to the Old Members' Sports Fund.

## 2010

This year we are again raising money for student bursaries, but are also looking to boost the Old Members' Sport Fund and improve some of the facilities students use in the College, such as the music practice room and the gym.

The fundraising effort for this year's Annual Fund was launched with our second telephone campaign. Current students telephoned many of you between 14 and 28 March. We are delighted to report that they hugely enjoyed talking to you, hearing of your experiences during your time at



St Catharine's and beyond. Moreover, you have humbled us yet again by the strength of feeling for your College and by your support for the Annual Fund. While the telephone campaign is only one of the ways you can contribute to the Annual Fund, it does galvanise the effort and we are most grateful to you for raising £165,000.

Thank you very much!

*The picture shows the team of students who took part in our second telephone campaign.*

## Dining Rights

Members with MA status are entitled to dine at High Table at College expense once during Full Term (Tuesdays are proving particularly popular). If you would like to take advantage of this entitlement, you may wish to write to the President or sign in by contacting the Porters' Lodge (01223 338300).

# Bequests to St Catharine's

Since its foundation, St Catharine's has been fortunate in having benefactors who have contributed handsomely to its endowment, helping to sustain and enrich it as a place of academic excellence and innovation.

Some have given as an expression of affection for the College; others out of gratitude for what the College has given them or because they believe in what it stands for. Some have chosen to leave a legacy because their circumstances have not permitted them to help the College during their lifetime.

The facilities that students of St Catharine's enjoy – sports grounds, accommodation and even the supervision and tutorial systems – have been provided predominantly by legacies for over 500 years. We have all benefited from the support of earlier generations, generosity which creates a link stretching from the alumni of St Catharine's to today's students, and into the future. Legacies are enduring, enabling provision of the distinctive education and experience that characterises our College.

We are now asking all Members to consider this way of helping to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the same type and quality of education that they enjoyed during their Cambridge years. Bequests are vital to the long-term future of St Catharine's. These can come in many forms, not always money. Property or stocks and shares, for example, are gratefully accepted by the College.

So far, 200 Members have informed us that they intend to make St Catharine's a beneficiary of their wills and this support is very much appreciated.

If you are considering leaving a legacy to St Catharine's or have already done so but not told us please contact the Development Director (Tel: 01223 337914; email: [development.director@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development.director@caths.cam.ac.uk)). All enquiries are handled in complete confidence.

## Tax benefits

The Inland Revenue recognises St Catharine's as a charity. It pays no tax on gifts of money or property made either during your lifetime or on your death. Such gifts are therefore of particular value to St Catharine's.

In addition, since legacies to St Catharine's do not attract Inheritance Tax, a bequest to the College can reduce

the amount of Inheritance Tax to be paid on your estate. At present, even a relatively modest estate will qualify for Inheritance Tax. By making a legacy, it is possible to lower your tax liability and so reduce considerably the amount your family or other beneficiaries have to pay.

In the UK, the Inheritance Tax threshold and the rate of tax payable are reviewed each year in the Budget.

## Types of legacy

Legal advice should be sought in deciding which type of legacy is the most appropriate for you and in preparing the will or codicil to achieve your wishes.

**The Specific Pecuniary Legacy:** This allows you to give a specific sum of



money. It has the disadvantage that inflation will erode its value over the years. One way to obviate this would be a legacy, which is index-linked. Another would be a residuary legacy as explained below.

**The Residuary Legacy:** This involves leaving all or part of the residue – the amount that remains after other legacies have been paid and debts, taxes and other charges met. It means that you do not have to decide exactly how much you wish to leave or take into account the effect of inflation.

**The Reversionary Legacy:** This can be an attractive way to leave money by providing for your family first and then benefiting the College. It involves leaving your assets to trustees so that beneficiaries can enjoy the income during their lifetime with the whole or a portion reverting to the College on their death.

**The Conditional Legacy:** This provides for the eventuality that if none of your dependants survive you, your estate will be left to other named beneficiaries including, perhaps, the College.

**Legacy in Kind:** A bequest to the College can take the form of money, stocks and shares, property or other valuable gifts in kind. It may be included in your will either when it is first drawn up or subsequently by the addition of a codicil.

Finally, if you find yourself as beneficiary under a will, you can transfer all or part of your inheritance to College under a Deed of Variation. Amounts thus transferred are free of Inheritance Tax, affording the opportunity for the College to benefit during your own lifetime.

## The Woodlark Society

The Woodlark Society of St Catharine's was established in 1995 to recognise during their lifetime those who have made a legacy in favour of the College. Membership to the Society is given to those who have made a legacy pledge to the College. As a member you will be invited to the College on the Feast of St Catharine, 25 November, for an afternoon of events culminating in the Commemoration Service and to dine with the Fellows and second year students. In addition all 'Woodlarkians' and their partners are invited to the College Garden Party which takes place in June.

**'The Woodlarkians':** Mr F Thompson (1932), Mr B G Mabey (1935), Mr D S Walker (1936), Mr R A Bratt (1937), Mr L M Harvey (1938), Mr J R Lloyd CBE (1938), Mr D H Spencer (1939), Professor N Sheppard FRS (1940), Mr H R Threlfall (1940), Mr E J Peet (1941), Professor J O Newton (1941), Mr B S Stocker (1942), Mr J M Kaye (1943), Mr L Levi (1943), Mr R W Stanley (1944), Mr J A D Bunn (1944), Mr F Curmin (1944), Mr D Asdell (1945), Mr D G A Barham (1945), Mr R E Browne (1945), Mr D E Chamberlain (1945), Mr A G S Hanby (1945), Mr M J Hughes (1945), Professor W T W Potts (1946), Mr G F Willett (1946), Professor P A Young (1946), Professor H F Pribram (1946), Dr A N Ede (1947), Mr D C L Marwood (1947), Mr R A Hill (1947), Mr A C H Riley (1948), Mr D Rothwell (1948), Mr J V Smith (1948), The Revd W G Burman (1948), Mr G Drake (1949), Mr A Freer (1949), Dr J A Norris (1949), Mr M G H Wright (1949), Mr G Miller (1949), Mr D Rippengal CB QC (1949), Mr R D N Somerville (1949), Mr M R Brookbank (1950), Mr G Harrington OBE (1950), Mr C G A L Potts (1950), Mr G Stokell (1950), Mr P J Boizot MBE DL (1950), Mr S L James (1950), Mr G V R Summer (1950), Mr D Joy (1951), Mr M Craven (1951), The Revd Canon Dr A B Wilkinson (1951), Mr R W T Amos (1951), Major R A Curren-Briggs (1951), Dr D J C Yates ScD (1951), Mr R W D McKelvie (1952), Mr D Thornton (1952), Mr J Lepper (1952), Mr P S M Brull (1952), Mr J O Bailey (1953), Mr P A Barker (1953), Mr J J Bunting (1953), Mr D A W Evans (1953), Mr C D T Fitch (1953), Mr C J P Watney (1953), Dr D Salter (1953), Mr P R Allan, OBE, DL (1954), Mr E G Allen (1954), Mr M H Thomas (1954), Mr C W Johns (1954), Mr J P Walters (1955), Mr A J Macaulay (1955), Mr D J Lambourne (1956), Mr D L Turnidge (1956), Mr R A Bailey (1956), Mr Ray Mingay, CMG (1956), Mr B C Blomfield (1957), Mr J B Gwynn (1957), Mr P B Holden (1957), Mr R E Smith (1957), Mr R E Andrews (1957), Mr D W G Calder (1957), The Rt Hon the Lord Naseby (1957), Dr M G Stanton (1957), Mr A L Bain (1957), Mr B W Girling (1958), Mr G M Reid (1958), Mr W G Simpson (1958), Mr

T J S Waterstone (1958), Dr C J Edgcombe (1958), Mr R B Collier (1959), Mr P C Johnson (1959), Mr P J B Le Brocq (1959), Mr P M Everard (1959), Wing Commander G R T Morgan (1959), Mr H R Walduck (1959), Mr M L Brown (1960), Mr S Robinson (1960), Professor A G Watts (1960), Mr A J Engel (1961), Mr G J Gregg (1961), Mr R A Henderson QC (1961), His Honour Judge Alan Pardoe QC (1961), Dr D K Potter (1961), Dr G E Roe (1961), Dr R E Timms (1961), Mr B B Woodham (1961), Mr A C Yolland (1961), Mr J L Oakes (1961), Mr G O Chapman (1962), Mr N J Hartley (1962), Professor S J Mennell (1963), Mr H W Bate (1963), Professor Sir Richard Gardner FRS (1963), Mr D W Morgan (1963), His Honour Judge Pugsley (1963), Mr S G Smith (1964), Revd C G Hall (1964), Mr P M Cohen (1965), Dr G T Cavaliero (1965), Mr M Feeney (1965), Dr D A Gregory (1965), Mr J A Lorrinan (1966), Mr D W Peace (1966), His Honour Judge David Tyzack QC (1966), Mr D H Hymers (1966), Dr D F Mayhew (1967), Mr C M Rowe (1968), Professor Sir Alan Battersby FRS (1969), Mr A B Travers (1969), Mr I R Fallon (1969), Mr N F Haynes (1970), Mr C J Merrill (1970), Professor Sir Christopher Bayly (1970), Dr J C Moore-Gillon (1970), Mr D R Wilson-Johnson (1970), His Honour Judge Patrick McCahill QC (1971), Mr M R Smith (1974), Mr A J Stormonth Darling (1974), Mr C Sinclair-Poulton (1975), Mr J N Hemsley (1975), Mr T S J Russell (1975), Mr P H Wolton (1975), Mr B W Maidment (1976), Dr C N Lewis (1976), Mr R L Maybury (1977), Dr G F Lesser (1978), Mr D M P Lamont (1979), Dr T J C Kelly (1979), Dr A Brinklow (1980), Mrs D C Cox (1980), Mr R W M Palmer (1980), The Revd S A Chinery (1980), Mr T B N Farazmand (1980), Professor S M Springman OBE (1983), Mr J Ardron (1983), Dr D H Hatton (1983), Mr C M Lowe (1985), Mr J C Peck (1985), Mr J R B Harris (1986), Dr P R Palmer (1987), Rear Admiral A M Norman (1989), The Revd Dr J P Stock-Hesketh (1989), Dr J N Marchant Forde (1990), Dr A R Rudd (1991), Miss F L Shorey (1998), Dr H L Yewlett (2005), and 12 who wish to remain anonymous.

### Dr Stuart Henry Cousens (1948)

studied geography at St Catharine's as an undergraduate and graduate, gaining his PhD in 1959. He moved to Swansea in his late 20's to take up an academic position at Swansea University where he remained until he retired.

His passion for Geography stayed with him from his double first gained while at St Catharine's, through his life as a university lecturer and his subsequent retirement.

It was always Stuart's wish to be closer to his beloved College and in December 2008 during a very cold snap he moved back to Cambridge. Even ill health could not repress his spirit and throughout his final months he made twice-weekly visits to the College.

In those last months of his life he made the most of what Cambridge

University and most particularly the College had to offer him. He would rest up one day in order to have the strength to walk from his home near the station to attend a seminar in the Geography faculty, listen to the choir in Trinity, hear one of the St Catharine's graduate seminars or view the new exhibition at Kettle's Yard.

Sadly, he did not survive a major operation at Papworth Hospital, and he died in 2009. His funeral was held in the College Chapel.

Dr Cousens was an extraordinary man who was immensely proud of St Catharine's and I was honoured to have known him.

Dr Cousens bequeathed his entire estate, valued at £1.68 million, to St Catharine's to support the College endowment.

*Deborah Loveluck, Fellow and Development Director*

# The 1473 Foundation

**The 1473 Foundation** is a society of benefactors to the College. It enables us to recognise philanthropy at St Catharine's and honour our benefactors in their lifetime. It creates a special bond between them and the College as well as providing an opportunity for the College to expand its circle of supporters and celebrate the generosity of those who share our vision.

The invitation to membership is extended to those who, by their generosity, have shown an affection and concern for the College and all it represents, enabling the work of more than five centuries to continue to flourish.

Membership of the Foundation is not exclusively restricted to the Members of St Catharine's and is open to those who recognise the importance of the College's contribution to learning and research and have a desire to promote and support our activities.

The College was particularly honoured

this year to be able to invite the first Fellow of St Catharine's to join the Foundation – Professor Sir Alan Battersby.

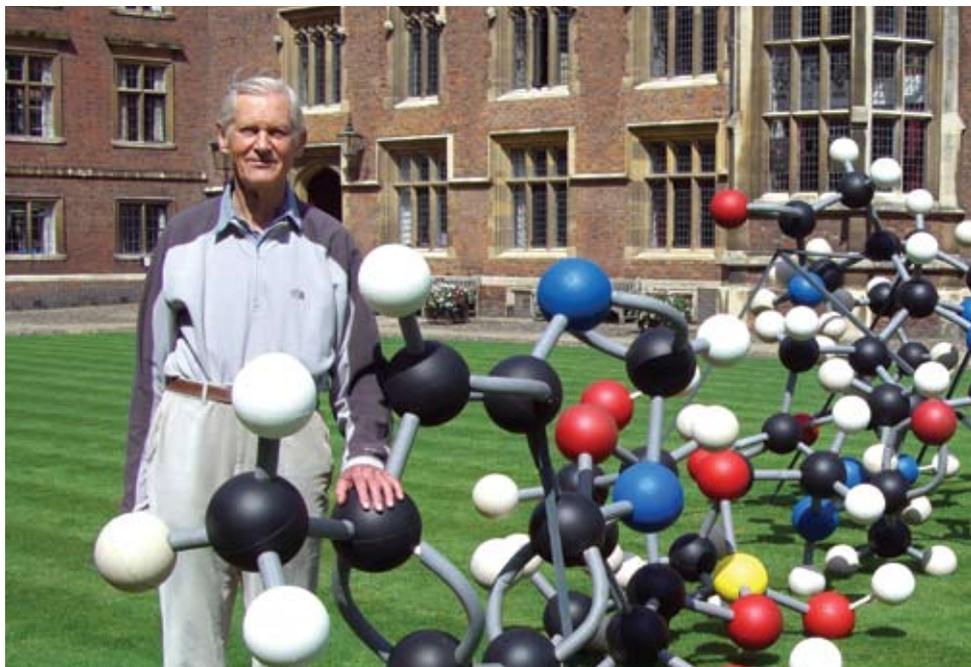
## Professor Sir Alan Battersby

Alan Battersby was born in 1925 and as a small boy started to develop a great interest in chemistry. He saved his weekly pocket money to buy flasks and test tubes, eventually building up an impressive set of equipment during the early 1930s for experiments at home. Sir Alan was lucky to have gone on to have an excellent chemistry teacher in school who nurtured his love for the subject. His first steps into organic chemistry, which was to become his major interest, were made at this time.

Having won a scholarship, Sir Alan first studied at the University of Manchester, where, at the time, the great Alexander Todd was the Professor of Organic Chemistry. For his PhD, he moved to the University of St Andrews;

he was subsequently appointed to the faculty (1948–1954). During this period, the award of a Commonwealth Fund Fellowship gave him the opportunity to study in the United States but his research on the biosynthesis of natural materials began in earnest when he was appointed to the University of Bristol in 1954. His aim was to discover the chemical steps by which plants, micro-organisms and animals construct the essential substances for life such as haem and vitamin B12. In 1962 Sir Alan accepted a Chair at the University of Liverpool and this was followed by the invitation in 1969 to the Chair of Organic Chemistry at Cambridge and a Professorial Fellowship at St Catharine's. He held the former position until 1988 when he succeeded Lord Todd to occupy the prestigious Cambridge 1702 Chair. The 1702 Chair of Chemistry is the oldest continuously occupied chair of chemistry in Great Britain.

*"Looking back, I could not have imagined how fortunate I was to have been welcomed to St Catharine's to which I have become emotionally attached. I have a great regard for Cats and feel a real affection for it. So I wanted to give at least some help to the College in these difficult times for funding that I fear will become even more so in the future. Also by 2009, I had been privileged to be a Fellow of Cats for 40 years so this seemed the perfect time to mark this milestone by becoming a member of the 1473 Foundation."*  
Professor Sir Alan Battersby

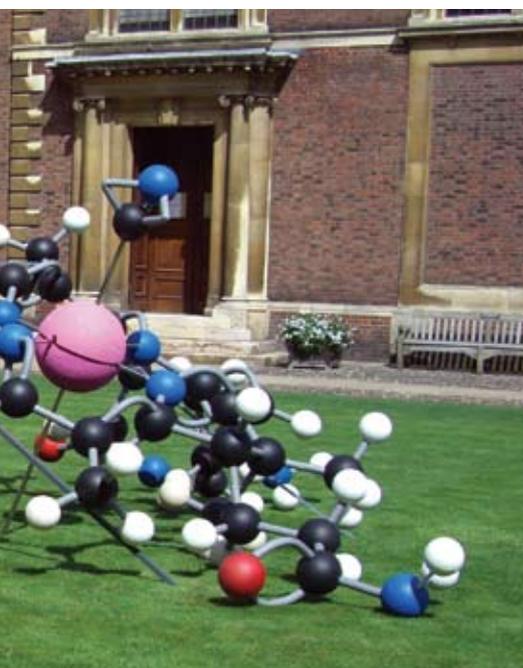


Sir Alan became Emeritus Professor in 1992 and continued experimental research and writing. Retirement also meant that he would have more time to devote to his other passion: mountains. He embarked on a series of treks in the Himalayas, Iceland, the Canadian Rockies and New Zealand, all of which he described in an excellent article in the 2009 College Magazine (p. 115). The College showed its regard for Sir Alan by electing him to an Honorary Fellowship in 2000.

Sir Alan's pioneering research has been recognised by his receiving several Honorary Degrees and through numerous awards, including the Roger Adams Award (1982), the Antonio Feltrinelli International Prize (1986), the Wolf Prize (1989) and the Robert A. Welch Award (2000). He has also been awarded the Davy (1977), Royal (1984) and Copley Medals (2000) from the Royal Society. The latter medal is the oldest medal still awarded by the Royal Society and Sir Alan is in good company – previous winners have included Benjamin Franklin (1753), James Cook (1776), Charles Darwin (1864), Ernest Rutherford (1922), Francis Crick (1975), Dorothy Hodgkin (1976) and Frederick Sanger (1977). He was made Knight Bachelor by the Queen in 1992.

See a podcast of Sir Alan's explanation of vitamin B12 on <http://pod.caths.cam.ac.uk>

*The picture shows Sir Alan on Main Court with a model of Vitamin B12.*



## Rowing, boats and boathouses

**St Catharine's rowers have** been busy on all fronts through 2009–10. Current crews have put in a good performance in the Lent Bumps and we expect great results in the Mays. Particular mention needs to go to the 1st Men's VIII who, after several years away from competition outside Cambridge, ventured to two head races: Kingston Head and Head of the River (which is rowed over the Boat Race course in the opposite direction). At Kingston, Catz men were the third fastest College crew; on the Tideway they were the second fastest College crew.

All University crews have employed Catz talent this year. Laura Bierer (2006; SCCBC Captain 2008–9) and Christopher Kerr (2005) were members of CUW and CU Lightweight crews respectively; Chris returned victorious from Henley.

We are particularly proud to note that our own George Nash, second year engineering student rowed in the 3 seat in this year's Blue Boat which put in a thrilling race to victory over Oxford.

George rowed in the 7 seat for Goldie in 2009 and competed in

the coxed four World Under 23 Championships in the same year. He won gold for GB in the coxless fours in the 2007 Junior World Championships and has ambitions to row in the Olympics. His promising performance in the national trials in March may win him a spot in the squad for this summer's World Championships. His aunt rowed for GB in the 1970s and George's grandfather was a rugby captain at Cambridge.

Finally, great plans are afoot to extend and refurbish the SCCBC boathouse: we intend to improve the heating, showers, lavatories and changing facilities and provide extra space for ergometers. Herb Bate (1963; Fellow Commoner) is spearheading the fundraising drive, stemming from his unwavering support for SCCBC.

Herb has been instrumental in arranging the long-standing sponsorship for the Club and most recently purchased the new men's VIII, which was named after his wife on 3 October 2010.

*The picture shows Herb Bate with his wife Carolyn.*



# St Catharine's at the BBC

Although St Catharine's is of course far more ancient than the BBC, indeed than any kind of broadcasting other than that of seed, Auntie remains a venerable institution and one with whom, for the past half-century at least, we have forged regular and strong links.

The current Alumni database shows that roughly half of those who have gone on to careers in the Beeb have done so having studied English, whilst the remainder cover a range of mostly (but not exclusively) humanistic disciplines.

Earliest of those recorded is the independent TV Producer Tim Slessor (1952), who cut his teeth at the BBC and whose 1973 documentary *Alistair Cooke's America* is still available on DVD. On the production and direction

side he was followed by such younger luminaries as Phil Craig (1978) of Furnace TV (who worked on *Panorama*, and now also writes popular history with Tim Clayton (1978), who was himself briefly with the Corporation) and Nick Catliff (1980), Managing Director of Lion TV (where Bill Locke (1980) also works as Head of History), once producer of BBC's *The Trial* and that perennial favourite, *Airport*. Both Phil and Nick won places on the BBC's prestigious Graduate Training Programme. Clare Sillery (1984) is Executive Producer of *House of Angels* and the intriguingly entitled *Dog Borstal*.

Writers associated with the BBC include Howard Brenton (1962), most recently for his *Spooks* scripts, which

won the BAFTA for Best Drama Series in 2003, and Paul Mayhew Archer (1972), co-writer of *The Vicar of Dibley* and at present Script Editor for much of the BBC Comedy output. In front of the microphone and camera in the reporting line are the generation of Nick Higham (1972), Media Correspondent, and Roger Harrabin (1973), Environment Analyst, together with erstwhile Philosopher Sue Littlemore (1980), Social Affairs Correspondent, whilst presenters are headed by Honorary Fellow Jeremy Paxman (1969), on whose *Newsnight* Kavita Puri (1992) is a Producer.

Writer-performers in an ostensibly more fictional vein include Steve Punt (1981) of *The Now Show* and Ben Miller (1985) of *The Armstrong and Miller Show*, whilst more recently actors Scott Handy (1987), Tessa Nicholson (1997), Izzy de Rosario (2005) and Sir Ian McKellen (1958) have been heard in Radio 4 drama. The music of Nigel Hess (1971) often graces BBC series, most memorably for me in the plaintive brass of *Hetty Wainthropp Investigates*, whilst Paul Watkins (1988) was principal 'cello of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, with whom he recorded the *Moeran Concerto*.

*Vivat* the St Catharine's Broadcasting Corporation.

*Paul Hartle, Senior Tutor (1971)*



## Career Link

Take a minute to register on the recently launched Career Link ([www.caths.cam.ac.uk/alumni/society](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/alumni/society)), a portal for career advice for current students.

# Lift up your hearts

*Sursum Corda* ("lift up your hearts") is both the title and the inspiration for a new opera by Ben Cox (2007), which was performed at West Road in January this year. Having last seen Ben on stage as a fine schoolboy soloist in Shostakovich's *2nd Piano Concerto*, I was greatly looking forward to hearing him conduct his own composition. I was not disappointed. *Sursum Corda* establishes him as a composer of real maturity and musical breadth in a work of considerable scale.

In his programme notes Ben sets out his objectives for the opera: "though the work can certainly fuel a wide variety of religions and beliefs, we always intended purely to convey a story – the legend of the Christian St Catherine". This, *Sursum Corda* does admirably. It recounts the story of Catherine, a young noblewoman of Alexandria, as she undergoes a miraculous conversion and embraces the Christian faith. This brings her to the attention of Maxentius (the Roman Emperor), who is captivated by her, fascinated by the intellectual power of her belief, but ultimately driven to try to dominate her and rob her of that faith. At its heart it is a simple story powerfully told. It engages at a number of levels: the battle of wills between

Catherine and Maxentius, the struggle of good and evil, the duel of the male and female psyche and the journey from paganism to Christian faith. These strands are woven into an elegant libretto by Edward Herring (2008), the musicality of whose words beautifully echoes Ben Cox's accomplished and sophisticated score.

Director Matt Lim underlines the powerful simplicity of the story and its message in his direction, and in the sparse set and staging. As Catherine undergoes imprisonment and torture for her faith a simple lighting effect of prison bars etches a shadow across the stage as a powerful metaphor. The ever-present physical threat of the crude wheel on which Maxentius is determined to break both the body and spirit of Catherine dominates the scene. Like all good opera it is the power of word and music to transcend and draw the audience into a story of beauty and poignancy that represents the real triumph of *Sursum Corda*.

A strong cast was led by Julian Chou-Lambert (Maxentius) and Danielle Rollet (Catherine) who together conveyed skilfully the physical, intellectual, and spiritual battle of wills. Ned Stuart-Smith and Joanne Harries (Catherine's parents) evoke the bafflement and terror of being

confronted with the transformation and jeopardy of their only child. Alexander Hurst (Porphyrius) and Clara Kanter (Queen) chart their progress from unquestioning acolytes to doubters and finally converts with subtlety and nuance. Special praise should be reserved for Danielle Rollet as Catherine, appearing in her first operatic role. She brought a simplicity and strength to the part which rendered the quiet conviction of Catherine all the more believable.

Final word must go to the composer Ben Cox. Prior to composing *Sursum Corda* Ben says that he had "only ever dealt with small compositional ideas – choral anthems, songs, string quartets, suites – and had never dared to explore the more expansive territory of symphony, opera and the like". I hope that the audience reaction to *Sursum Corda* will provide Ben with ample encouragement to go much further with works of this scale. *Sursum Corda* is a very considerable piece of new music and marks the arrival of a substantial talent. It is a piece of opera that deserves to be heard again, and by a wider audience. When the opportunity arises I would urge all readers of this piece to seize the chance to judge for themselves.

*Matthew Collins (1979)*



# Student profile: Kirsty Houston

**Kirsty Houston (2004)** is studying Medicine at St Catharine's and is profoundly deaf. In the first of our series of profiles of College members, we talk to Kirsty about her experiences.

## **When were you first diagnosed as deaf?**

I have been deaf since birth, but was only diagnosed at two years old. There was quite a bit of confusion about whether I might have glue ear or a learning difficulty. It was only when we moved up from London to Edinburgh that someone asked the right questions, and made the diagnosis of severe-profound hearing loss.

The diagnosis was probably quite a shock to Mum and Dad, as they had no experience of deafness. As a result of this, they made the decision to make my upbringing as 'normal' as possible: I attended hearing schools throughout and rely on lipreading rather than signing (with the help of a bit of speech therapy early on). It didn't make any improvement to my singing though!

## **Why Catz? Why medicine?**

Medicine was something I thought about occasionally through school. However, I only applied after A Levels, whilst on my gap year, and when I knew I had the results. I chose medicine because it is a great job for working with people, solving problems, the opportunity to travel and I wouldn't be stuck behind a desk.

When it came to choosing which college to apply to, Catz was suggested to me by a schoolteacher who knew of its small/medium size and friendly reputation. I confess there wasn't much else I knew about Catz, but I wasn't at all disappointed! Catz has been great in



terms of practical support; when I came up in my first year my room was already kitted out with aids such as a flashing light, vibrating pillow etc. for the fire alarm.

## **When did you begin talking publicly about being deaf?**

During my school years I was the recipient of the Millennium Award for Deaf People which took me on a leadership course to USA. On the completion of the course we had to return home and find a way of giving something back to the deaf community. I embarked on a series of talks with the audiences ranging from children in deaf

and hearing schools, to parents with children newly diagnosed with deafness. It was a great experience even if a little uncomfortable at times.

During my gap year, before coming up, I was approached by BBC Ouch! to write a diary of my early experiences of Cambridge life for their website: [tinyurl.com/37yj2ks](https://tinyurl.com/37yj2ks)

Following this, as a student, I was asked to speak at a conference about ensuring reasonable adjustments and equality for people with disabilities thinking about applying to medical school. I have also spoken at the General Medical Council (GMC) Education conference and participated

in the GMC Gateways guidance conference. This provided a source of information for organisations involved in medical training and prospective students ([tinyurl.com/37qscw4](https://tinyurl.com/37qscw4)).

Perhaps most difficult of all, was speaking to an entire year group of my peers with my Mum, about the more patient-related aspects of being deaf. It was surprising to discover (in a good way, probably) the number of people who had no idea about my deafness and what it involves day to day!

#### What were the challenges of being a medical student?

In lectures and exams I was always able to sit in the front and that made life much easier. I manage well lip-reading but, because deafness is invisible, people tend to forget. Back in my school years, I was never comfortable talking about being deaf and drawing attention to that aspect of myself. However, I have slowly learnt that, in some situations, you have to make people aware that you are not able to hear them, particularly if they are

behind you or turn their face away. It is difficult having to say 'I can't hear you' over and over again, and takes a certain amount of confidence and effort to explain. It can be exhausting.

There still are challenges in the course, for example, at ward rounds when everyone is trying hard to maintain confidentiality by speaking quietly, facing down and mumbling. Also, surgery is probably not the easiest option I could take because the face masks are a bit of a barrier to communication. I am currently hoping to specialise in paediatrics, but there are so many options.

I do have an adjusted electronic stethoscope which tunes into my hearing aids – the envy of many a consultant... unfortunately I don't have the model that tells me the answer... yet!

#### What are your interests outside medicine?

I am a relatively active person and love being outdoors. At Catz I rowed in the first boat, organised one of our annual ski trips, and managed to cross the finish line of the Rob Roy Challenge

in Scotland. I also spent quite a bit of my third year at Catz creating our Yearbook.

Although half my roots are in Scotland, my Mum's side of the family is in Kenya, which is where I spent my elective last year. Our family visits to Kenya have definitely given me the travel bug: in particular during my gap year. Before taking up my job this August and entering the real world I plan to explore Central America.

I've got some fantastic memories and made some brilliant friends, and after six years at Cambridge I will be sad to leave. However, I'm really looking forward to the experiences that my FY1 year holds in Glasgow!

*The picture shows Kirsty at her BA graduation.*

#### Latest news

Follow the latest news from the College on Facebook (St Catharine's College Cambridge) or Twitter (Catz\_Cambridge)

## Professor Sir John Baker

**On 24 November** – the eve of St Catharine's Day – Professor Sir John Baker delivered the biennial Maccabaeian Lecture in Jurisprudence at the British Academy on the subject of 'Our Unwritten Constitution'. Sir John's talk addressed the many significant – and largely piecemeal – changes in Britain's constitutional arrangements which have been introduced over the last decade, and the absence of effective constraints on the power of government. A podcast of the full lecture can be downloaded from the British Academy website: [tinyurl.com/3yevljn](https://tinyurl.com/3yevljn)

Sir John has lectured about these issues on several occasions over the past two years. In April he spoke at a pre-election conference at the Institute for Government which focused on the growing volume of often badly drafted legislation which is now enacted with minimal parliamentary scrutiny. The conference was organised by the



Better Government Initiative and the Constitution Society, whose Chair, Nat le Roux (1976), was – by his own

account – one of John's less satisfactory students more than thirty years ago.

*Nat le Roux (1976)*



# The environmental history of Madagascar's Avenue des Baobabs

*Ivan Scales, Fellow and DoS in Geography, writes...*

**The Avenue des Baobabs**, in the Menabe region of western Madagascar, is one of the country's most striking landscapes. Rows of Grandidier's baobab (*Adansonia grandidieri*) tower over 80 feet above lush paddy fields, and with their peculiar foot-like branches they seem to be growing upside-down. Many stories try to explain the appearance of these strange trees. One legend tells of renalia (the "queen of the forest" in Malagasy) who was once the most beautiful tree, but also the vainest. She would boast incessantly to the other creatures of the forest of her exquisite leaves and flowers, until one day god grew tired of her vanity. As punishment, god pulled renalia from the Earth, turned her upside down and buried her crown-first, leaving her bare roots stretching out into the sky. Science, on the other hand, provides us with a more mundane answer. Their thick trunks and spongy bark store water, whilst their minimal branches and leaves, which give the impression of being roots, reduce the water lost through evaporation and transpiration – vital adaptations for surviving in this semi-arid region where little or no rain falls for nine months of the year.

These extraordinary baobabs have become a symbol of Madagascar's amazing biodiversity, where over 80 per cent of species occur nowhere else on Earth, as well as a key part of a national strategy to promote tourism on the island. And in recent years the Avenue has indeed become a major tourist site, drawing tens of thousands of visitors

every year who come at dawn and dusk to photograph the dramatic landscape. But what the visitors' cameras don't capture is the conflict slowly building between the Malagasy government and local villagers. The troubles began several years ago when some of the older baobabs toppled over and died. Botanists and conservationists suggested water-logged soils were responsible for rotting the shallow roots of these dryland trees. The Malagasy government – eager to protect their valuable tourist attraction – were quick to point a finger of blame at local households who for decades have irrigated the land to grow rice.

Conservation organisations working in the area are now encouraging households to plant more baobabs to replace the fallen ones. There is talk of relocating the surrounding villages and creating a protected area. Many of the villagers are angered by the actions of both the government and the conservation organisations. Although the Avenue is a major tourist draw, local households see very little benefit from the trees. A few sell snacks and trinkets to passing tourists, and children ask for sweets and pens, but visits are fleeting. The bulk of tourist revenue goes to tour companies and foreign-owned hotels. During an interview I carried out the last time I visited the region, a village elder expressed his frustration: 'They want us to plant baobabs trees, but why should we plant more baobabs when the ones already here are causing us so many problems? We're not allowed to clear land and we're not allowed to grow rice. What are we supposed to do?'

As an environmental geographer problems like these form the core of my research. I study the political, economic and cultural factors that drive landscape change and the conflicts that result from contests over natural resources. In western Madagascar my research has focused on landscape change from 1896, when Madagascar first became a French colony, up to the present day. I have used a wide range of methods, from studying satellite imagery and aerial photos to collecting oral histories and material from archives, to shed some light on why the region's landscape looks the way it does. In the case of western Madagascar, and the Avenue des Baobabs, it is impossible to understand the terrain without understanding the radical political and economic changes that occurred during the colonial period. Whilst conservation organisations often portray poor rural households as the main cause of forest loss in Madagascar, an historical approach challenges many assumptions and casts the Avenue des Baobabs in a very different light.

Up until the end of the 19th century, the Avenue stood amidst a dense forest. But during the 20th century, the surrounding trees were burnt down to make way for agriculture, in response to colonial economic policy. The only reason the baobabs survived was because of their thick, fire-resistant bark. The government believed Menabe had the potential to become the wealthiest region in Madagascar and wanted the local population to switch from extensive pastoralism to the intensive cultivation of cash crops such as tobacco, cotton, maize and rice. In order to motivate – some might



say force – rural households to change, the authorities introduced a series of measures to try and speed up the transition. These included the imposition of taxes to encourage rural households to sell livestock and grow cash crops, a system of forced labour to help develop infrastructure, and the awarding of large land concessions to foreign individuals and companies.

These policies created an agricultural boom, attracting thousands of people into the region to work in the new concessions. Migrant households cleared land and grew crops, with landlords taking a fifty percent share of the harvest. This first wave of agriculture, based on the cultivation of maize, removed large areas of forest, leaving only baobab trees, including the Avenue des Baobabs. The maize boom was short-lived but the construction

of dams and irrigation canals, made possible by forced labour, led to the creation of rice paddies around the baobabs. The result was the iconic landscape we see today – the giant baobabs revealed, their bold and unusual shapes made all the more impressive by the verdant background of the rice paddies.

The Avenue des Baobabs is a site full of contradictions. It is an anthropogenic landscape, ultimately created by French colonial economic policy, that has become an important emblem for biodiversity conservation and Madagascar's nascent 'eco' tourism industry. And yet the Avenue is also a powerful symbol of the conflict between rural households and the *vazaha* (foreigners), whether they are Western conservation organisations or the bureaucrats in the capital. My

research suggests that the modern narrative blaming environmental degradation in Madagascar on poverty and population growth is overly simplistic and unhelpful. The clearance of forest and loss of biodiversity have often been underpinned by powerful political and economic forces. Large profits have been made from the landscape – by the French colonial government, concessions owners and more recently by the tourist industry – but rural households have often been excluded from economic growth. They are angry that they receive the smallest share of any benefits from tourism, and yet with the ban on rice cultivation around the Avenue and threat of eviction stand to bear the majority of the costs. The lesson is that those seeking both a more sustainable and more socially just landscape should pay careful attention to the region's environmental history.

### Keep in touch

We are continuously exploring ways to make keeping in touch with St Catharine's as simple as possible. If you recently moved, changed jobs or have exciting news to share, you may wish to do so via our website ([www.caths.cam.ac.uk](http://www.caths.cam.ac.uk)).

For the more business-minded, St Catharine's now runs a group on LinkedIn ([www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com): St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge)



## Economics at St Catharine's: Our vision for the future

**In recent years** Economics has flourished in St Catharine's, and it is now among the strongest of the large Tripos subjects, establishing the College as a centre of excellence for study of the discipline and as one of the top performers in Economics in the University. Our success lies in bringing together highly talented and motivated students and a team of fellows who are committed to both teaching and research. Our goal for the next few years is to build on this strong base and become the best college for economics in the University.

Our economics fellows divide their time between teaching and research. This offers the students the unique opportunity to interact directly with the people who are pushing the boundaries of the field, an experience available at very few other academic institutions. This emphasis on teaching keeps our fellows' research focused on real world issues and constantly reminds them of the need to communicate it to a wider audience.

This practical focus is reflected in the wide range of issues that are the subject of research by the fellows at St. Catharine's; recent topics include real estate and commodity markets, the incentives for research and innovation and its impact on growth, the role of religion on education, demography and other economic outcomes, and the impact of institutions on economic and political development. This research is characterised both by its interdisciplinary nature and by its use of rigorous mathematical and statistical tools to address real world issues, often resulting in a set of clear and practical policy prescriptions.

This excellence in research has translated into outstanding results in teaching. We were ranked among the top three Cambridge Colleges for economics in the period 2003-2010 based upon our Tripos examination results. Recent graduates have gone on to successful careers in government, academia and business: Sujit Kapadia (2000) topped the Economics Tripos in

2000 and is now a macroeconomist at the Bank of England; Bruce Chen (2006) was the first Cambridge economics graduate to be admitted to Harvard's PhD programme in ten years; Vinh Luong (2008) topped the Economics Tripos in 2008 and is now a real estate and property developer in Hong Kong.

We feel that our strength in the subject offers a unique opportunity to consolidate St. Catharine's position as a centre of excellence for the study and research of economics. As a first stage in this process we aim to endow our existing teaching positions. We hope that we can convey to you our enthusiasm for the future of economics at St. Catharine's, and that you will join us in our efforts to achieve this vision.

*Gabriel Leon, Bevil Mabey Fellow,  
College Lecturer & Director of Studies  
in Economics*  
*Sriya Iyer, Fellow, College Lecturer &  
Director of Studies in Economics*  
*Michael Kitson, Fellow & Director of  
Studies in Management Studies*  
*Peter Tyler, Professorial Fellow &*

## MA Congregation

Saturday 27 March 2010 saw the return of those who matriculated in 2003 for the MA congregation.





## List of the lost

As listed in the *Dates for your diary* on the inside front cover of the *Catharine Wheel*, reunion dinners are coming up for those who have matriculated in 1960–3, 1975–7 and 1984–6. Below is the list of all Members from those years with whom we have lost touch. We would like to enable as many of you as possible to attend the upcoming reunions so please do spread the word if you know the whereabouts of these 'losts'.

**1960:** Mr D J Jones, Mr P J Woods, Mr D Gaulton, Mr A P R Bowden, Mr A P Short, Mr A P Dutton, Mr M Kirkman, Mr J G P Campbell, Mr B Everitt, Mr S C Martin, Mr B Whitaker, Mr J Randle, Mr A Ray, Dr N T James, Mr A G Cox, Mr C K J Tsang, Mr I Majid, Mr D J S Cook, Mr C B Smith.

**1961:** Mr B H Riley, Mr P G Scott, Mr G Hughes, Mr J N D Ford, Mr P M Charlwood, Dr A B J Todesco, Dr N J Lawrence, Mr P R A Hammond, Mr S W D Cooper, Mr A B Bell, Mr C C Bell, Mr R Castleton, Mr M S Paget, Mr S Srivama Devan, Mr R P A Coles, Prof J G Brotherston, Mr K Lund, The Revd T J Knights, Mr M J Addison, Mr P R Lowman, Mr J R Hodson, Mr S G Peel, Mr D J Seaman, Mr J L Joy, Mr K J Ross.

**1962:** Mr R D Jones, Mr C R Bowdidge, Mr M J H Wyatt, Mr J Bradley, Mr J A Hartley, Mr D J Bunyon, Mr T W Ballantyne, Mr C W Martin, Mr C J W Martin-Murphy, Mr N N Spindel-Isserles, Mr A R Taylor, Mr A A A Demire, Mr I M Mathenge, Mr W Li, Mr J K Foulds, Dr D Chappell, Mr S Schwartz, Mr J D Sayers.

**1963:** Mr E J Lawson, Mr P Johnson, Mr P W Milne, Mr J R Castle, Mr D J Carter, Mr C M Hook, Mr K L Hood, Mr R Stephens, Dr J M Thomas, The Revd D T Thomas, Mr N V Reade, Mr S F Chen, Mr C J Stevens, Mr G Williams, Mr N Smith, Mr D Buxton, Mr R J Hewett, Mr T J J Babe, Mr H B Sanders, Mr J D Sankey, Mr C J Porritt, Mr D J Washington, Mr J A Hilton, Mr A D Lovibond, Mr A P G Russell.

**1975:** Mr A J Johnstone, Mr J A Vage, Mr N R Hendry, Mr D S Burns, Mr P G Pittet, Mr J D King, Dr M A Al-Abbasi, Mr A R H Welford, Mr E S Tan, Mr T M Taylor, Mr P S Fenwick, Mr R G Hutchinson, Mr M A Crimp, Mr I W Holt, Mr G Martin.

**1976:** Mr J M Pope, Mr J Tumbler, Mr M D Thomson, Mr P C Franklin, Mr J H Harris, Mr P Steinhausen, Mr P J Stephens, Mr R I Hudson, Mr C J Berger-North, Mr A Western, Mr R J McQuiston, Mr A R White, Mr C A Nicholson, Mr R J Kemp, Mr P L Shepherd.

**1977:** Mr M R Dudley, Mr J C Pfeil, Mr A R Cockshott, Mr S F Goodman, Mr S J Allen, Dr D S Greenwood, Dr R A Morris, Mr S M Horner, Mr D J N Stanton, Mr R G Pyle, Mr P B Samson-Roberts, Mr S W Chitty, Mr N T Stapleton, Mr J R Peto.

**1984:** Miss E J Darnell, Dr A M David, Dr R S Marshall, Dr J B Lunt, Mr R J Salmon, Miss L M Brown, Dr A S K Ghauri, Miss A J Edwards, Mr T M Aldrich, Miss J C Hollander, Mr D J Carter, Mr S K Jain, Mr M G Williams, Mr M A Williams, Dr E J Lee, Ms S F Brown, Ms J Middleton.

**1985:** Mr J D Rudolph, Mr D N Bosdet, Mr R N Morris, Miss R J Hammond, Mr A H D Hutchins Esq, Mr D R Clarke, Dr N J White, Dr A Jacobs, Mr D G Guest, Mr C E G Springate, Ms J J L Koos, Mr M I C Barker, Mr W Krohn, Miss C M Eddison, Mr K C Yoon, Mr N Walker, Dr T D Bray, Mrs A Woodburn, Mr I D Mansfield, Mr A Sestini, Mr N J Sex, Mr J J F Blood.

**1986:** Mr J R Wood, Mr R E Woodburn, Mr S E Robson, Mr A J Davies, Mr C A P Zetti, Mrs E J Salter, Mr A R Calver, Mr J Klinger, Mr L A Arnot, Mrs B Invinson, Dr J E Deverill, Mr E C Jesudason, Mr G J Williams, Mr C P Richardson, Miss H R Fox, Mr A M Leonard, Miss L C Murphy, Mr P S Beringer.

# St Catharine's College Society Dinner 2010

**The Society Dinner in 2009** was memorable for its high attendance – the fifth highest in the last 36 years and the best since 1998. 179 members with 54 partners and guests almost filled the Hall to capacity. We sincerely hope that we can match such numbers again this year. Please make every effort to book early. This not only greatly assists the organisation and planning, but also increases the possibility of your being able to stay in an en suite room. Inevitably, as bookings rise the prospect of getting the best College rooms decreases.

Ninety-one of those who attended

last year were “newcomers” – i.e. this was their first attendance for at least six years. We would like to see more “newcomers” this year, as well as strong representations from those who matriculated in years ending in “0” (1940, 1950, 1960 etc.). It is a great opportunity to arrange to meet up with some of your old College friends. It is likewise a splendid opportunity to enable your partner to share Caths hospitality and the delights of the Reunion; but remember, all accommodation is in single rooms.

Of course, with large numbers attending, Dinner can be a noisy

occasion. Happily, the College has recently taken steps to ease the acoustics problem by installing curtains in the Hall. In the longer term, with professional advice, we hope further improvements can be made.

Regarding costs, please note that there is an all round increase of 3% on last year. At the same time, the discount of 10% on the standard price for College functions has been maintained. We will make strenuous efforts to provide a high-class meal with excellent wines.

Whilst the Dinner, presided over this year by our President Tony Engel, remains the central feature of our Reunion, we hope that added attractions of a concert (with the performance by Peter Mallinson (2008) an outstanding viola player, currently studying at the Royal Academy of Music), the presence of the South Side Jazz Band and Choral Evensong in the refurbished Chapel, will irresistibly draw you back to Caths for the Society Reunion this year on 25 September.

Remember to book early and that you can visit [www.societydinner.stcatharinescollege.org](http://www.societydinner.stcatharinescollege.org) to book online. Please indicate on the booking form any preferences for sitting with particular friends or a group. We assume that members and their partners will sit together unless otherwise stated. We will do our best to accommodate everyone's wishes. Jo Cooney in the Alumni & Development Office is handling all bookings and queries. She can be contacted by email at [jlc47@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jlc47@cam.ac.uk) or by telephone on 01223 748164.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

*Hugh Searle, Secretary*





## Partners and the Society Dinner

On 11 December 2009, after more than two years of deliberation within the Society, the Committee voted 12 – 4 in favour of partners attending all future Society Dinners. This follows the initial debate at the Annual Meeting in 2007, attendance of some fifty partners at each of the dinners in 2008 and 2009, canvassing of views and analysis of the data that had been gathered.

Factors influencing the decision were the recent increase in the number of invitation (free) 'year group' dinners being offered to alumni by the College, and the encouraging number of women attendees and newcomers at the 2009 dinner.

However, the Committee fully appreciated that a significant minority of members wish to preserve the traditional character of the Dinner.

Consequently, members will always be able to express a preference as to those with whom they wish to sit, and those managing the seating plan will do their best to meet their requests.

More details about the decision will appear in the next issue of the Magazine. In the meantime, please send any comments or questions to [society.secretary@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:society.secretary@caths.cam.ac.uk).

*Hugh Searle, Secretary*

## Society Weekend programme (25–26 September 2010)

### Saturday

- 12.30pm Committee meeting, SCR
- 2.45pm Chamber Concert, Chapel
- 3.45pm Tea, Hall  
(South Side Jazz Band to play in Main Court if fine)
- 4.15pm Annual Meeting, Ramsden Room
- 5.15pm Choir Practice, Chapel
- 6pm Evensong, Chapel
- 7.15pm Drinks, SCR
- 7.45pm Dinner, Hall
- 10.15pm South Side Jazz Band, Bar

### Sunday

- 8–9.45am Breakfast, Hall
- 8.30am Holy Communion, Chapel
- 10.15– Branch Officers' Meeting, Alex Jacobson Room
- 11.15am
- 12:30– Buffet Lunch, Hall
- 1:30pm

If you would like to sing with the choir and therefore attend the practice session at 5.15pm, please register your interest with Jo Cooney ([jl47@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jl47@cam.ac.uk); 01223 748164).

The 82nd Annual Meeting of the St Catharine's Society will be held at the College on Saturday 25 September at 4.15pm to receive a report from the President and on the Accounts, elect Officers and Committee members, transact other business determined by the Committee or of which notice shall be given by any member to the Honorary Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the meeting.

# Booking form

## St Catharine's College Society Reunion weekend 2010 (25–26 September)

**Booking deadline: 17 September.** To book a place, please complete the form below, then send it with a cheque, made payable to 'St Catharine's College', to the Alumni & Development Office, St Catharine's College, Cambridge CB2 1RL, enclosing an SAE if receipt is required. Online booking is available at [www.societydinner.stcatharinescollege.org](http://www.societydinner.stcatharinescollege.org)

Name	
Matriculation year	Subject
Address	
Post code	
Email address	
Partner's name (if attending)	
Special dietary requirements	
Any seating preferences	
Names of friends	

I/We would like to attend/join  Concert  Annual Meeting  Alumni Choir

## Booking

<input type="checkbox"/>	Dinner on Saturday night (price includes wines) @ £46.35 pp
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single room(s) and breakfast for Friday night @ £27.30 pppn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single room(s) and breakfast for Saturday night @ £27.30 pppn
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buffet lunch on Sunday @ £12.70 pp

Total enclosed

We are unable to accommodate Members in specific rooms. A limited number of rooms on the ground floor are available for the less mobile; if you would like a ground floor room please tick here

For more information on the University Alumni Weekend, see [www.foundation.cam.ac.uk](http://www.foundation.cam.ac.uk)