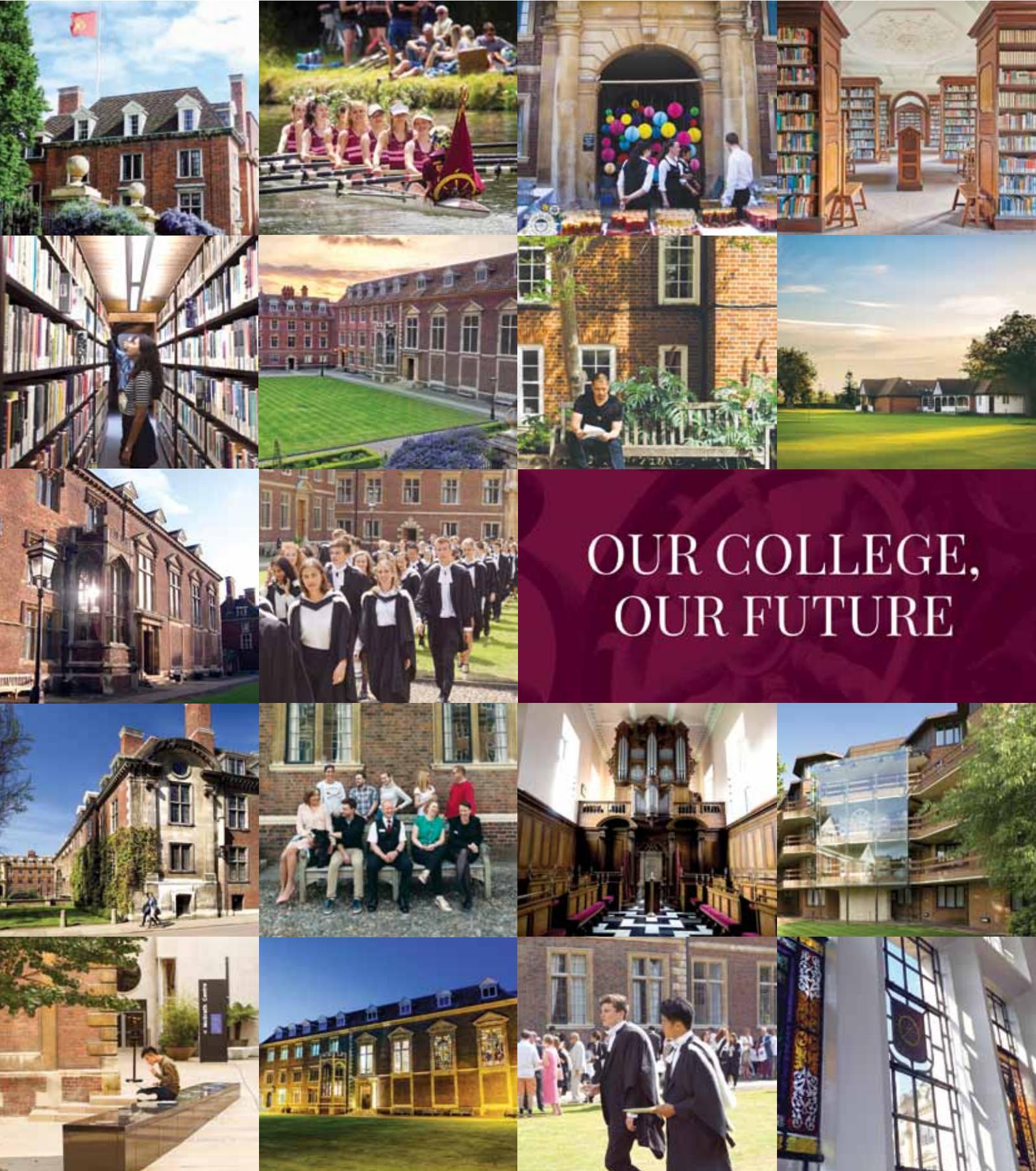




THE WHEEL

THE NEWSLETTER 2019 | ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE



OUR COLLEGE,
OUR FUTURE

WELCOME

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the latest edition of *The Wheel* at such a vibrant and exciting time for our College.

Since we sent you a summary of our strategic plans in January ('Our College, Our Future'), the Master, Professor Sir Mark Welland, and I have been meeting Members in College, across the UK and internationally, to share our aspirations for continuing to strengthen and sustain your College for generations of students to come.

Our latest campaign, on the back of 'Our College, Our Future', is to raise an initial £50 million for a number of strategic projects, which are described in later pages of this magazine.

The campaign got off to a flying start in January with an extraordinary, transformative £25 million donation from the David and Claudia Harding Foundation for postgraduate and undergraduate bursaries (see page 5).

Our latest campaign, on the back of 'Our College, Our Future', is to raise an initial £50 million for a number of strategic projects, which are described in later pages of this magazine.



Director of Development Deborah Loveluck with alumnus Professor David Cheung (1958) at the 'Dear World... Yours, Cambridge' event in Hong Kong, April 2019

This amazing gift allows the College to focus on raising funds for our three major building projects. The first of these, the remodelling and revitalising of the central spaces, has been facilitated by a generous lead gift from Peter (1974) and Christina Dawson (2016). The Dawsons are offering a very generous gift matching element to their donation to encourage support for this exciting £12 million project (see page 10).

Lastly, I joined St Catharine's twelve years ago, and throughout that time the support, generosity and kindness of alumni has made a deep and lasting impression on me. Your membership of St Catharine's is for life and I look forward to meeting many of you over the year to come.

DEBORAH LOVELUCK (2007)
Fellow and Director of Development

Environmental Audit Committee *takes evidence at St Catharine's*

On Tuesday 11 June, the Environmental Audit Committee took evidence at St Catharine's College as part of its inquiry into invasive species. Cross-party MPs questioned researchers from our BioRISC project (see page 7), as well as practitioners, NGOs, border authorities and trade associations.

Chair of the Environmental Audit Committee, Mary Creagh MP, said: "The threat from invasive species,



particularly in the UK and its overseas territories, is clear. Human activity is largely responsible, but climate change is making the problem worse.

Many non-natives are now able to travel further and survive in places that they could not before, causing significant biodiversity loss.

"I am grateful to St Catharine's College for hosting us and for the insight that researchers from the Biosecurity Research Initiative and our other witnesses will provide. This is a fascinating topic, and deserves priority so we can adapt and tackle the challenges faced."

College News



MASTER GIVES SCIENTIFIC KEYNOTE IN VIENNA

On Monday 24 June, Professor Sir Mark Welland, gave the scientific keynote at the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization's CTBT: Science and Technology Conference in Vienna. He followed the keynote address, given by Ban Ki-moon, the 8th Secretary General of the United Nations.

The event brought together around 1,000 scientists, technologists, academics, students, CTBTO policy makers, members of the media and representatives of organisations involved in research and development that is relevant to all aspects of Treaty verification.

THE COLLEGE BELL

On 30 April this year, the University of Cambridge launched a two-year enquiry into the historic links between the University and the slave trade. Following this announcement, St Catharine's undertook initial research into the bell hanging next to the Porters' Lodge. The research confirmed that the bell, which is inscribed "DE CATHARINA 1772", was found in the Demerara River, Guyana, adjacent to the historical location of the De Catharina slave plantation. Apart from its recovery and presentation by a former student,

there is no historical connection between the College and the bell. St Catharine's is establishing a research bursary for undergraduate and postgraduate students to undertake a research project over the summer vacation to investigate potential links that may exist between the College's history and the slave trade.

Once our research is complete, we will take further steps to ensure that the bell is displayed in an appropriate setting, with an appropriate explanation. Our responsibility as an academic community is always to question the way in which our past influences our present and future. We have embraced this opportunity for the College to learn more about our heritage and how we represent it as an outward-facing institution in the 21st century.



ST CATHARINE'S STUDENT JOINS TELEVISION PANEL

St Catharine's postgrad, L'myah Ross-Walcott (2018) is part of a panel for the new TV show, *The Ranganation*, hosted by Romesh Ranganathan. Alongside celebrity guests, L'myah makes up part of the 25-strong focus group of members of the public who take a funny, topical look at modern Britain. Going by the name

of 'Oxbridge' on the show, L'myah told us: "It's such a great experience to be part of *The Ranganation*! I'm a young working-class woman of black Caribbean heritage, so representing Oxbridge on the show challenges so many stereotypes. I hope that it generates a positive symbolic message for prospective students from similar backgrounds to me."

FIGGIS CONFERENCE

The College will be holding a one-day conference on Saturday 28 September, to mark the centenary of the death of historian, theologian and political theorist, John Neville Figgis (1866-1919). Following a stellar undergraduate career, Figgis, after whom the College History Prize is named, published a prize-winning essay on *The Divine Right of Kings* that was to make a lasting mark on the history of political thought. In advocating the devolution of power to units smaller than the nation-state, Figgis became a prominent participant in contemporary political debate; he has been described as "the leading pluralist of the early twentieth century".

The focus of the conference will be Figgis's contribution to the history of law and political thought. Further details will be available in due course.



John Neville Figgis

St Catharine's *Alchemy*

Peter Boizot MBE DL (1950)
Fellow Commoner (1996)

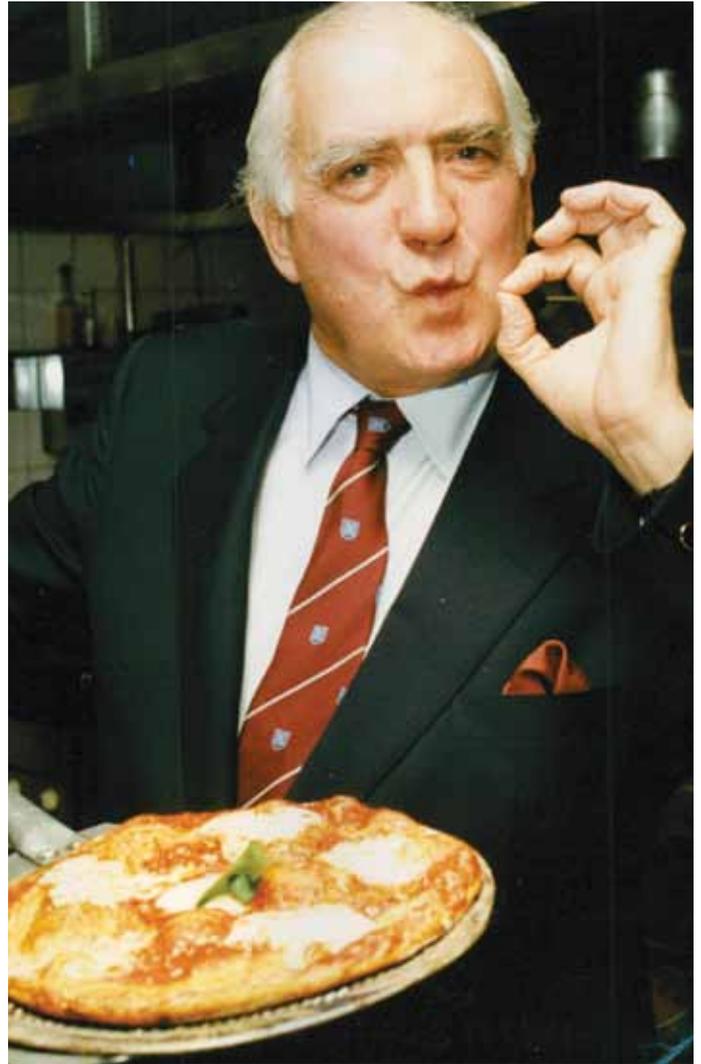
On Friday 8 February 2019, Peterborough Cathedral was filled with those paying tribute to Peter Boizot. Here is a report of the occasion.

Matthew Allen (1974) for the family welcomed those arriving. A life played out across a giant stage was reflected in the gathering of about 450, in the spectrum of organisations, interests and causes, in music, words and thoughts. It was there in the very fabric of the cathedral which Peter had loved and supported. There was an invitation to see his name, carved during his time as a chorister. As the rain pelted down 'Pb' was surely there in the roof lead sheltering us. With recent celebrations of the Periodic Table what greater evidence could there be for St Catharine's rare alchemy. Pb certainly delivered pure gold for the College again and again.

Majestically down the packed rows strode fellow Past-Presidents of the Society Geoffrey Stokell (1950), John Oakes (1961) and David Peace (1966), who is now the Society's Honorary Secretary and became a Fellow Commoner in 2014.

Music filled the space between cathedral floor and roof, echoing another of Peter's passions. The Society and its London Group have cause for thanks for decades of musical gatherings, Soho Jazz Festivals, Pizza Express gatherings including Pizza on the Park, Kettners and elsewhere.

With rows packed with striking blazers sport loomed large. In the tributes there were references to hockey and the generous support Peter had given to St Catharine's including the astro-turf pitch opened on 8 November 1995. College sports links were further reinforced by the presence of Dr Chris Thorne (Fellow 1963 & Emeritus 2002), Society Treasurer Dr John Little (1972, Fellow 1988 & Emeritus 2016) and Dr Peter Wothers (1988, Nat Sci, Fellow 1997) Treasurer of the Amalgamated Clubs.



Peter Boizot MBE DL (1950) founded Pizza Express in 1965

The Memorial Service and Peter's presence was visible way beyond the cathedral in TV and news reports. As people gathered in the city there were opportunities for further reflections and unexpected links to be discovered. The reception after the service may have set the record for the largest Pizza Express party. Peter would have been in his element.

Still more striking was that before and after the formal events commemorations played out across an extended landscape. Next to the Great Northern Hotel at Peterborough Railway Station and aboard trains perfect strangers sensed their common links. Platforms, carriages and journeys spontaneously hosted rememberings of shared acquaintances and occasions past. The memorial service offered the chance for a number of Peter's cherished links to St Catharine's to be passed to the College for safe keeping including some rare Society magazines, glittering awards and memorabilia.

LESTER HILLMAN (1970)

Building FINANCIAL SUPPORT *for* *our Students*

In January our strategic plans were shared with Members in the publication 'Our College, Our Future'. As we set the strategic direction for St Catharine's, our primary focus was student support. Our priority throughout the process has been to identify ways to strengthen and sustain student support for current and future generations of students, so that each of them can fulfil their academic potential.

In February, the receipt of an extraordinary gift from the David (1979) and Claudia Harding Foundation (DCHF), to endow PhD bursaries and help fund undergraduate student support at St Catharine's, set our campaign off to a flying start. The impact of this transformative gift of £25 million will be lasting and is part of a £100 million total gifted by the David and Claudia Harding Foundation to the University.

Speaking of the gift, the Master said: "The admirable philanthropy of David and Claudia Harding will have a tremendous and permanent impact on St Catharine's as

well as the University as a whole. We could not be more honoured to receive this gift."

Mohammed Khan, JCR President in 2018-19, reacted to the news: "As a former JCR President and recipient of undergraduate bursaries, I know how important financial support for alumni has been", he said. "Gifts which further secure access to a Cambridge education are absolutely vital and fully-funded postgraduate scholarships will now mean we have the option to continue our studies at St Catharine's."

The Master added: "While the exceptional generosity of the donation from the David and Claudia Harding Foundation makes a great difference to our students' experience of university life, the need for student support continues, and is an ever-growing area in these uncertain times. St Catharine's continues to welcome all donations towards this aspect of College life. As we focus on the future, the DCHF initiative enables the College to now move its campaign forward in other areas. Our major work now will be to deliver our buildings and spaces and College life projects within the campaign."

This unprecedented gift will transform our ability to support our best and brightest students. Fully-funded PhD scholarships will attract excellent doctoral students across all disciplines. Undergraduates will also benefit from the wider purposes of the donation providing support when and where it is most needed, further strengthening the College's commitment to promoting access and diversity.

DR MIRANDA GRIFFIN (2007)
Senior Tutor



L-R: L'myah Ross-Walcott (2018), Putu Khorisantono (2018) and Becky Eden (2017)

This unprecedented gift will transform our ability to support our best and brightest students.

Fellows in FOCUS

PROFESSOR JULIAN ALLWOOD FRENG (2018)

Dudley Robinson Fellow, Professor of Engineering and the Environment, Director of the Use Less Group

Climate change mitigation isn't making much progress. Social policies are growing while policy proposals continue placing their hope in novel technologies that might take the problem away. However, as global emissions rise, carbon capture and storage currently captures less than 0.1% of the world's greenhouse gases, and no energy technology has ever been deployed at a rate faster than 1% per year.

The only way we can mitigate climate change is to use less energy, so in the Use Less Group we explore what this means. We know how to use less energy in transport and buildings: we could make cars smaller and lighter, and we know how to make passive buildings. So we look to industry, which uses most of its energy to make bulk materials such as steel and paper. We invent new technologies to use less material – shaping metal more precisely, or un-printing to allow paper re-use; we look at building designs – we've shown that we could use half the material for twice as long in most construction; we look at manufacturing – we found that car manufacturers scrap half of all the sheet metal they buy, so we're working on design methods to reduce this; and we look at the commercial strategies and industrial policies which while aiming to use less, are in fact critical to prosperity in a resource-constrained future.

We're also celebrating Leonardo da Vinci's 500th anniversary by attempting to have 88 people play one piano, using incredible mechanical finger extensions invented by primary school children... but more of that anon. Read more at www.uselessgroup.org.



DR NIAMH GALLAGHER (2009; FELLOW 2018)

Lecturer in Modern British and Irish History



In June 2018, I was appointed Lecturer in Modern British and Irish History. From convening and lecturing on the Part I paper and providing feedback on third-year and MPhil dissertations, to co-convening the Modern Irish and Modern British History Seminars, the Faculty keeps me busy, but I continue to be involved in College life.

As an alumna, I was delighted to join St Catharine's as a Fellow. I threw myself into College life as a student, serving on the MCR committee and being persuaded to perform at College gatherings (I masquerade as a professional fiddler). I also worked behind the bar, so I've completed the Holy Trinity as a student, staff member and Fellow!

During my time so far, we have hosted the Ambassador of Ireland, Adrian O'Neill, who spoke on the future of Anglo-Irish relations, and I have appeared on *In Our Time* as part of a panel discussing the Great Irish Famine. My PhD research is the basis of my forthcoming monograph, *Ireland and the Great War: a social and political history*, to be published by Bloomsbury in November 2019. As Director of Studies for Part II I am also heavily involved in teaching for Catz, and I run Historical Argument and Practice classes, which reminds me just how good Catz historians are and what a privilege it is to teach them. It has been a busy eight months and I look forward to what comes next.

BioRISC

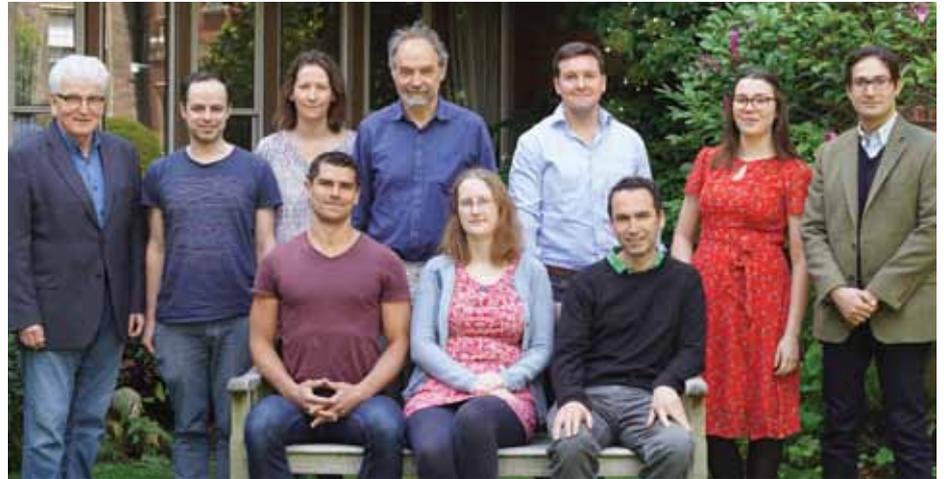
a new Biosecurity Research Initiative

St Catharine's College is building a world-class hub that will provide cutting-edge, evidence-based information about existing and emerging biological security risks and interventions.

led by St Catharine's Fellow, Professor William (Bill) Sutherland, and Honorary Fellow, Lord (Des) Browne, BioRISC (Biosecurity Research Initiative at St Catharine's) uses a broad version of the term "biosecurity", looking at areas such as conservation, environmental protection and naturally occurring biological threats alongside more traditional security concerns around deliberate use of biological agents, scientific knowledge and related technologies for harmful purposes.

Speaking of how they came to work on this project together, Bill says: "I'm a conservationist and Des has a background in the public policy space and was Secretary of State for Defence. We're coming at this from different perspectives but we're both interested in the middle ground, which is 'how do we improve the process of policy making and practice?'"

"In the UK, we don't plan ahead. We're not looking to see what might come up. What we'll be doing with BioRISC is horizon scanning, looking at issues that are likely to happen so that we can start planning for them. We can then collate the evidence in such a way that decisions can be made instantaneously. If the evidence is available so that you can make sense of it within hours, you can use it at the very beginning when devising policies, rather than having the policy first with the evidence coming long after the decision has been made.



Back row L-R: Lord (Des) Browne (2019), Dr Philip Martin, Dr Mairi Kilkenny (2016), Professor William Sutherland (2008), Dr Gorm Shackelford, Emma Collingbine, Dr Hazem Kandil (2012)
Front row L-R: Dr Luke Kemp, Dr Catherine Rhodes, Dr David Aldridge (1997)

"There have been some serious policy failures in the past. For example, just look at diseases such as BSE, foot and mouth or the tree disease chalara."

Des agrees. "The impact that chalara and foot and mouth had was huge and the failures of public policy to provide immediate resilience had a significant effect on our communities, not to mention an enormous cost to the public purse. You need the scientific tools to let politicians and public policy makers identify the point of failure. So whether we're looking at terrorism, new pathogens or invasive species, we have the same problem. Something arises and spreads between countries, so it makes sense to find common ways of tackling them."

This July, the BioRISC team will be leading a two-day conference. The first day will take place in Westminster where they will be launching the idea to a group of policy-makers. The second will take place at St Catharine's, where they will bring together 40 leading experts to identify the key 100 questions you would need to

answer to advance the agenda of the national security strategy.

Bill and Des know what they would like to see happening with BioRISC. "We're hopeful that by September we'll be able to report back that we have shifted the needle", says Des. "We want to show that we can deliver science and this sort of analysis into the public policy sphere to effect."

But how do you achieve this in a time when confidence in experts is low, and it's all too easy for people to get their information from unreliable online resources? Bill is unconcerned. "If it's a documented, understandable, obviously unbiased source of information it's much harder for people to fight against, and that's what we're interested in producing."

"We've not got any monetary interest in this", says Des. "We're just interested in getting it right."

Funding for BioRISC is provided by The David and Claudia Harding Foundation.

REFLECTIONS: The Quincentenary Appeal

“You will probably already have learned that a most important development is now taking place in the history of St Catharine’s College.”

– Professor E.E. Rich, 8 August 1966

So details a letter sent to alumni in continuation of the Quincentenary Appeal, which was first inaugurated in 1953, 20 years before the College would reach its half-millennium. It was launched with the aim of raising £100,000 by 1973; however, the trustees of the Appeal had “the discretion at any time during the continuance of the trust to make advances to the Governing Body for approved purposes”.

In 1958, the trustees felt they were “reaching a point where we could begin to consider the utilisation of some of the capital in connexion with any scheme or improvement which the Governing Body may care to undertake, and which the Trustees feel can be properly identified with the Fund”. In 1964, they reported on the College’s plans and undertook a joint project with King’s, out of which St Catharine’s would get “a new and commodious Hall, new kitchens and additional as well as replacement accommodation”. The “Appeal Committee” had readily agreed to the Master’s suggestion that, to avoid much duplication of effort, the Quincentenary Fund should become, in effect, the College building fund”. It was thought that “this substitution of a definite purpose for the rather vague intention of marking the Quincentenary of the College with a gift of ‘mere money’ would do much to enlarge the response to the Appeal”. A joint Quincentenary and Building Committee was set up.

The Master at the time, Professor E.E. Rich, sent a letter to all alumni stating that “this is the first time in living memory

that the College has appealed to its former Members. The new buildings... will be the most important addition to the College for three hundred years, and the Governing Body... feel that every former Member should be given the opportunity of being associated with this historic event.”

And many Members did choose to donate to the College a sum “according to his means”. As is still the case today, they were able to donate to causes close to their heart, whether that be by giving a sum to be used for the new Hall (opened in 1967), or for the Library extension or Muniments Room. ‘Younger’ Members of the College were even given the opportunity to donate to rooms named after their matriculation year, but the 1965, 1964 and 1963 rooms failed to materialise.

However, what did end up being built was momentous. Eighty-six new sets of rooms, the new Hall for 260 undergraduates and a High Table of 48, new and enlarged kitchens, restoration to the front of Bull, meeting rooms, a graduates’ parlour, car parking and more. As we look to improve some of these central spaces once more, the work of the late ‘60s to early ‘70s should not be overlooked. The 1977 version of the College magazine stated how “the College “in one respect resembles the Forth Bridge in that no sooner is one job finished than we have to start again at the beginning on another effort”, and this continues to be the case. Our plans are again ambitious, and we believe that they may even rival those of the 1960s.

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Our College, Our Future: OUR BUILDINGS & SPACES

As each generation balances the needs of maintaining a heritage site alongside developing spaces that reflect the needs of current students, Fellows and staff, a range of priorities present themselves.

The most recent strategic planning exercise, to define our College's priorities, established three essential areas to address in the next phase of its estate development. A body of work, requiring fundraising of £20 million, has been identified, and a fund has been set up to encourage donations for our future buildings projects.

Remodelling the central spaces of College life (see article on this project on page 10) and refurbishing College rooms, will be the first strategically important capital projects to be undertaken. Sherlock Court and Hobson's accommodation requires significant modernisation. Importantly, provision will be undertaken on the Island Site and at St Chad's to offer a small number of accessible rooms at ground floor level.

Sherlock Court rooms will be modernised on a rolling programme of refurbishment. A low interest rate bond has been taken out by the College to facilitate this work. We aim to raise funds to extend this work with plans to modernise Hobson's - relatively untouched since the 1930s.

More student rooms and improved social space at St Chad's are also a part of our campaign. When students look

back on their time at St Catharine's, their rooms provide the backdrop to some of their fondest memories. We must ensure our students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, have access to facilities that create a healthy living, learning and working environment, and it is our goal to do so in buildings entirely owned by St Catharine's, reducing the need to rent on the open market. We are also committed to increasing affordability and accessibility by improving the range of accommodation available in our buildings and halls.

Many alumni have fond memories of their time at Chad's, as it is an opportunity to live semi-independently in friendship groups, whilst still

maintaining close association with their year group and with the main College.

The College is currently in consultation with the planning authorities regarding the most sympathetic design for the site. Feedback from current students and the JCR committee has been sought and their comments are being reflected in the project design.

We plan to add 24 bedrooms, as well as generous communal study and social areas, to complement the existing and very popular second-year accommodation and green space. This project will deliver substantial benefits for students, with the additional benefit of significant rental income out of term time.





IMAGES COURTESY GORT SCOTT

Renewing Central Spaces

Major News for our Island Site

Since the issue of our publication 'Our College, Our Future' in January 2019, huge progress has been made, supported by a major pledge, to remodel central College spaces.

The importance of a College's social spaces cannot be underestimated. Places where Members of the College come together to study, eat and talk are a huge part of the University experience. But when these spaces become inefficient, and are no longer well-used (or indeed, well-loved), something needs to be done.

At the general meeting of the College Society in 1964, Dr Tom Henn declared that the College stood on the eve of a renaissance comparable with its rebuilding in the 17th and 18th centuries. Parts of the College were ailing, with

the staircase in Walnut Tree Court "crumbling beyond repair" and, as the College admitted more and more members, the social spaces were becoming unfit for purpose. There was great excitement at the College for this new project, with the general meeting closing with the following statement:

"So ended the most interesting A.G.M. since the war. Undoubtedly some have been more lively, others more serene. But never has there been one with so strong a sense of the occasion itself. Historic indeed! The chips are down, and the new Hall and Gallery will hold about 350."

On 1 July 1965, the building work started based on the plans designed by Fello Atkinson of the Cubitt partnership, and a formal opening took place on 3 October 1967.



More than 50 years later, the College stands on the eve of a new era. Thanks to some very generous donations that the College has already received, we have been able to begin the project to overhaul our central spaces, including the Hall, kitchens, buttery, as well as better access to the Sherlock Library and all associated areas.

A design competition to remodel these central spaces was launched in February 2019 and saw entries from more than 30 architectural firms. These were shortlisted to six, which were displayed in College for two weeks, allowing students, Fellows and staff to scrutinise the designs and leave thoughts on comment cards, with collation of the feedback by the selection committee overseeing the process.

There was almost unanimous agreement on the choice of architect – the firm of Gort Scott – whose architectural vision for a light-filled space, echoing key heritage features of the original Hall, met with overwhelming admiration. The committee felt it showed a coherent and logical plan between the individual spaces, and could be described as ‘timeless’, reflecting how it incorporated contemporary materials and finishes, whilst making clear references to the College’s history – demonstrated by the use of arches, known to be used in the design of the 19th century Hall.

Gort Scott proposed a Hall that is resized and reshaped to meet functional needs, whilst being reimagined to become a memorable space for dining. A new Atrium provides an elegant, light-filled means of connection, with accessibility

for all, with a new-step free route between Main Court and Chapel Court, in addition to a new access route to the Sherlock Library, with improved accessibility for all users.

Behind the scenes, enlarged and reconfigured catering areas facilitated improved food preparation in an upgraded working environment, with discreet movement and convenient serveries to ensure all dining rooms are serviceable.

It is hoped that the project will begin in summer 2020, with an anticipated working timeframe of 18 months.

GIFT MATCHING

A substantial lead gift of £4 million has been given by Christina (2016) and Peter Dawson (1974), meaning the project to refresh the College’s central spaces is much closer to being realised.

Furthermore, Peter and Christina are offering up to a further £4 million to match, pound for pound, all gifts made by other donors for the remodelling of these central spaces, with a cut-off date of June 2021.

Supporting KEY AREAS of College Life

Life at St Catharine's has been shaped by the contributions of key people, in posts that embody the College's ethos and character.

Enduring memories continue to be formed by experiencing the breadth of College life as much as through academic achievements. In developing our project priorities we conducted consultation events with a cross-section of our College community. We wanted to know what aspects of the St Catharine's experience should be protected and preserved with funding in perpetuity. The message was clear – that our values and ethos, embodied in these key areas of College life, should be our focus.

The feedback we received identified four key areas, which together help shape the College environment. The exceptional contributions of the Librarian, Chaplain and Director of Music, as well as the importance of College Sport, are key and we seek to secure the funds to protect their places forever, as part of our new campaign.

COLLEGE POSTS: £4.5 MILLION, COLLEGE SPORT: £3 MILLION



Music: Endowing the post and work of the Director of Music

DR EDWARD WICKHAM (2003), whose enormous contributions to College Music create a vibrant and uplifting atmosphere, recalls:

"It is always gratifying to receive enthusiastic reviews – the College and Girls' Choirs at St Catharine's have received quite a number in recent years for their recordings and performances. And the College can boast several alumni who have gone on to distinguished musical careers; for instance composers Nigel Hess (1971) and Robert Saxton (1972), singer David Wilson-Johnson (1970) and pianist Malcolm Martineau (1978). It is similarly gratifying to hear how music-making at Catz has enriched the lives of students in other fields of activity; such as the former vet student who wrote to us recently: 'I think back



at my time at Catz and am so thankful for the opportunity I had for great music-making; it got me through a tough Tripos and I made so many friends.' In an academic environment which is ever-more demanding, music – whether it be as participant or audience, as part of an international

tour, or an informal concert in our own Chapel – provides another dimension to the education we provide. It is something the College system does especially well, and to secure that provision in perpetuity represents an immeasurable gift to future generations of students."



Library: *Endowing the post and work of the Fellow Librarian*



DR COLIN HIGGINS (2018),

Fellow Librarian, explains:

"Libraries are crucibles of change, workshops for new knowledge. Filling them with collections of books – both utilitarian and remarkable – is the easy, and in many ways the most unimportant, part of librarianship. What matters, and what has always mattered, is a concern

for the teaching, learning and practical needs of our College community. The fresher reading for her first supervision, the finalist needing his thesis bound, the Fellow looking for holiday reading, the staff member using her lunchbreak to

work towards a professional qualification – they all need the support from the Librarian. Woodlark endowed his new foundation with one of the most significant libraries in the Collegiate University. Endowing the post of Librarian would be a commitment to this key academic support service, as vital to the College today as it was in 1473."

Important post holders include:

- Henry J. Chaytor (1921–33), subsequently Master (1933–46), whose important collection of Hispanic manuscripts were later bequeathed to the library.
- John R. Shakeshaft (1962–2004), radio astronomer and important collector of studio pottery, who was responsible for the construction of the New (now Shakeshaft) Library in 1986.



Chapel: *Endowing the post and work of the Chaplain*

Our community, like the wider society it reflects, is increasingly plural and secular; but our Chaplain has never been more important to us. The Chaplain has a dual role within the life of the College: as a spiritual leader they oversee the life of the College Chapel, help to encourage interfaith understanding, and provide opportunities to explore life's big questions; as part of the welfare team they are attentive to the wellbeing of the community as a whole and offer pastoral care to any and every Member who is in need of support.

"St Catharine's is a place in which our Members discover who they are, develop as human beings, and learn what it means to live well in an increasingly complex world. As Chaplain it's my privilege to walk alongside each and every person in this community, to care for them, support them, and encourage them on that journey."



THE REV'D ALLY BARRETT (2019),
Fellow and College Chaplain



Sport: *Strengthening our clubs by creating a dedicated fund*



College life is enriched by its sports clubs and societies. Participation in College sport is often a defining experience and provides powerful memories. Whether a member of the first VIII or fourth boat, a Blue or casual pool player in the College bar, sport provides many students with a necessary and treasured additional dimension to their Cambridge experience.

St Catharine's continues to enjoy a reputation for the sporting endeavours and enthusiasm of its students. The College routinely produces 30–40 Blues and Half Blues each year and is a perennial contender in many Cuppers competitions. But it is the extent of our students' participation in sport at *all* levels of competition – and the support that they show for each other from the sidelines and riverbanks – that helps to define, and perhaps best demonstrates, the character that makes our College community so special. The cry goes out, "For the Wheel!"

CatzConnect

The College's online community for alumni, students and Fellows launched in January 2019 with the support of donors to the Annual Fund. CatzConnect is a free social and professional networking platform that also enables alumni to provide current students and other alumni with valuable careers advice. Learn more about this new service, as well as how to sign up, below.

In their own words: *feedback from Members*

“Great mentors are crucial to a great career and having access to such people through Catz is fantastic.”

UNDERGRADUATE MENTEE

“I'm very supportive of schemes like this. They go a long way to promoting social mobility and access to the top professions for students of all backgrounds.”

ALUMNI MENTOR

“My mentor has been amazing. He has been very available and welcoming, offered good advice, and reviewed my CV and cover letter. He has also been checking with me from time to time to find out about my progress. I cannot praise him enough.”

GRADUATE MENTEE



Features and benefits

For alumni networking

- Reconnect with College friends
- Search for Members throughout the world and in all professions
- Get advice on your next career move

For alumni mentors

- Share your expertise and experiences
- Help someone to achieve their ambitions
- Improve your CV and log some volunteering hours

For alumni and student mentees

- Benefit from insights into possible career paths
- Receive personal support from an experienced professional
- Develop a network of contacts within your chosen industry

CatzConnect *in numbers*

- **734 Members** have signed up since January 2019
- Users live in **39 countries**
- Members span **74 matriculation years** and **40 subjects**
- More than **50 industry sectors** are represented
- **274 alumni** have volunteered to mentor students and other alumni

THANK YOU to everyone who has signed up and made use of CatzConnect over the past few months. We hope to see many more Members on the platform in the months ahead.

Getting started is easy and CatzConnect gives all users the option to pull across information from their LinkedIn profile.

Register now at www.caths.aluminate.net

Read more about CatzConnect on the College website: www.caths.cam.ac.uk/CatzConnect

Engineers *in* Conversation

"I think my first exam term at Cambridge was the most stressful time of my life, but it definitely gets better." So says St Catharine's alumna Nicola Grahamslaw (2004), who is speaking via Skype to our first year student, Nikita Kamath (2018), who is about to start her first exams at Cambridge. Nikita however, seems to be taking it all in her stride.

"I'm ready for May Week. That's something I haven't experienced yet!"

Nicola took time out of her busy schedule, as the Conservation Engineer on board the SS Great Britain, to speak with Nikita about how her engineering degree led her to be working on the ship that was built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel in the mid-19th century and is now in dry dock at Bristol. It's a role that saw her named by *The Telegraph* as one of its "Top 50 Women in Engineering" in 2018. Nikita herself has an interest in warfare machinery, having spent time working with the RAF, but will not be specialising until her third year. This suits her: "I quite like the choice you get until third year, and a lot of jobs require you to know elements of all of the fields".

Nicola is inclined to agree. "No one at my school knew much about engineering, but I ended up doing it because I was interested in both maths and science. My teachers persuaded me that it was a way of keeping my options open, due to the different careers you can access with an engineering degree. I chose the Cambridge course because I didn't know what I wanted to specialise in, but these days I'm glad to say I don't have to sit and solve differential equations! I definitely use the principles though, so it's

really cool to do a job where you get to use your degree that much."

When it comes to their time at College there are many similarities. They both

Nikita Kamath



Nicola Grahamslaw
© SS Great Britain Trust

received the now famous St Catharine's Engineering hard hats (although Nicola is not sure where hers is and has plans to check her parents' attic), and appreciated the proximity of the College to the Department (a seven minute walk on a good day). As for the engineering Fellows, Professor Michael Sutcliffe taught them both. Nicola remembers his fondness for aluminium foil as a teaching aid, whereas for Nikita, it's badminton rackets. "He always has broken badminton rackets in his office, and then he brings them to lectures to demonstrate fracture in materials. And Professor Julian Allwood stood on a bridge on a table that he made in our structures lecture to demonstrate the concept of stresses!"

Your time at Catz goes really fast. Make sure you enjoy it.

And as for the differences? "My exam term of my first year is when Facebook first arrived in the UK" remembers Nicola. "It made revising so much harder so I ended up having to ask someone to take my internet cable off me, so that I could focus on my revision. We didn't have WiFi or smart phones then!" Nikita copes slightly differently. "I've got an app that tells me how much time I've spent on my phone each day and it forces me to switch off!" And when it comes to food, Nicola was sad to hear of the demise of Nadia's sandwich shop and Sam Smiley's (now a souvenir shop), as Nikita and her friends now favour Wasabi and Franco Manca. One institution however, remains. "What about Gardies?" asks Nicola. "That's still there!"

As the conversation wraps up and Nikita makes plans to head back to her top floor room on Sherlock Court to continue studying (Nicola can sympathise with the stairs, having been on a top floor herself in her first year), Nicola has a few final words of advice for her: "Your time at Catz goes really fast. Make sure you enjoy it."



Outreach at St Catharine's College

People often ask me what my role as Schools Liaison Officer entails: "Surely Cambridge sells itself - you're not struggling for applications! Why are talks to schools necessary?" While my work does involve showing applicants that St Catharine's is a welcoming and supportive community, my role isn't simply to encourage Year 12s to choose the College in their Cambridge application, but to help young people of all ages and backgrounds make informed decisions about their futures. This means that outreach work is multifaceted: it's speaking to youngsters who had ruled out university as an option; it's broadening the horizons of children who had never travelled outside of their home county; it's helping teachers support their students; and it's demonstrating to parents and guardians that Oxbridge is an achievable goal for their children.

The majority of my work consists of giving talks in schools, especially those in our link areas of North Yorkshire, Rutland and Suffolk, or hosting students in St Catharine's. A typical visit to the College includes talks and workshops on Higher Education and Oxbridge, tours with our undergraduates (Catz Ambassadors), and lunch in Hall. Activities from this past year include: theatre workshops at the ADC; taster lectures by St Catharine's Fellows; interactive sessions at the University's museums; writing skills seminars by a local author; and mock supervisions led by Catz Ambassadors.

Recently, I've also had the pleasure of working with schools from outside our link areas through two fantastic



I am delighted to now be part of the invaluable outreach work which gave me the confidence to apply to Cambridge.

charities, The Access Project and The Brilliant Club. Their long-term programmes help young people from under-represented backgrounds progress to highly-selective universities and we host large groups of their target students each year. It's wonderful to see students and teachers feeling welcome and at ease in St Catharine's during trips to the College. They often arrive with misconceptions about Cambridge but remark that their visit has shown them that the University is an inclusive and accessible place for students of all backgrounds.

When going out into schools, I give talks and workshops on topics including: the benefits of Higher Education; subject choices; Oxbridge

and its application process; and student finance. As our North Yorkshire schools are further afield, I make several extended trips there each year, accompanied by the Schools Liaison Officer from their Oxford link College, Brasenose, and student ambassadors from both universities. Where possible, we invite Oxbridge students from North Yorkshire to join us in their old schools and their contributions prove to be inspirational for the pupils.

St Catharine's also holds Open Days and Subject Taster Days, in addition to our involvement in the University's Open Days. These events attract prospective applicants and offer them the chance to meet current students and Fellows, experience taster lectures, and listen to talks by Admissions Tutors. It is important to the College that students from across the UK are not discouraged from attending due to financial reasons and so we are able to offer financial support to those travelling long distances.

Coming from a school in north west Cumbria with little history of sending students to Oxbridge, I know first-hand some of the barriers faced by prospective students and I am delighted to now be part of the invaluable outreach work which gave me the confidence to apply to Cambridge. Outreach at St Catharine's is a team effort, with Admissions Tutors, Fellows, alumni and student ambassadors getting involved to ensure the College and the University attract bright and enthusiastic students, regardless of background.

KATHRYN SINGLETON
Schools Liaison Officer

A Birthday Party for Sir Ian McKellen



It's not every day that you get to sing happy birthday to Gandalf, Richard III, Romeo, Magneto and King Lear all at once, but that's exactly what 180 College Members got to do on 11 May when St Catharine's alumnus Sir Ian McKellen (1958) paid a visit.

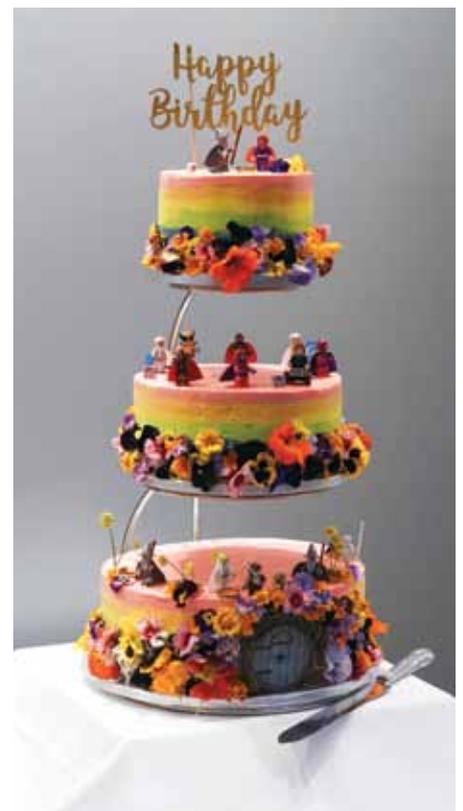
Two months into his 80-stage UK tour to celebrate his 80th birthday on 25 May, which is raising money for regional theatres, Sir Ian performed two shows at the Cambridge Arts Theatre before spending a Sunday afternoon with us in the McGrath Centre to enjoy afternoon tea, birthday cake, and conversation with a number of St Catharine's students.

After being introduced by Dr Hester Lees-Jeffries (2006) and students Benedict Clarke (2016) and Adrianna Hunt (2017), Sir Ian spoke fondly of his time at Cambridge. In particular, he remembered his interview with Fellow in English Dr Tom Henn, where he stood on a stool to deliver "Once more unto the breach, dear friends" from *Henry V*, earning himself an exhibition to read English. He then went on to take part in 21 productions during the

three years he was at St Catharine's, and often found himself having to climb the College gates when rehearsals or shows meant he missed the 10pm curfew, arriving, as he put it, "into the waiting arms of the Dean".

After the "formalities" had finished, Sir Ian cut his rainbow birthday cake, made by our pastry chef Nicola Wilkinson, and was the first to enjoy a slice before it was quickly shared by the rest of the party. As Sir Ian took his time working his way around the various groups in the room, everyone else enjoyed a display of Sir Ian's time in the College set up by the library team, and a slideshow of his greatest acting roles.

We are all incredibly grateful to Sir Ian for finding the time in his schedule to come back to St Catharine's and spend time talking to so many of our students, staff and Fellows.



Alumni Events



2008 matriculands

TEN YEARS ON

Ten years at once felt like a long time and no time at all. Coming back to Catz brought with it a lot of important questions for us alumni: Were there always these many tourists... *in February?! Is The Anchor a posh dining place now?! Where is the disco ball from the old bar? In fact, is the new bar too posh? As we pondered these questions, the frenzied responses from our fellow 2008 matriculands gave us the reassurance that literally nothing had changed. But of course, a lot has changed. A portrait of the Master from our time now watched over us in hall, Fellows who started out at Catz with us are now senior leaders, College has a new bar, conference centre and upgraded sports facilities, and around the world there are huge disruptions taking place; whether it be Brexit, climate change, or the rise of nationalism. But through all that, this one fantastic night was a chance for us to reflect, be inspired by each other and be reassured that the knowledge and connections we made during our time at Catz will undoubtedly prepare us to not just face but lead in the disruptions that lie ahead.*

Tushar Dabral (2008)

...this one fantastic night was a chance for us to reflect, be inspired by each other and be reassured that the knowledge and connections we made at our time at Catz will undoubtedly prepare us to not just face but lead in the disruptions that lie ahead.

COLLEGE DINNER: MATRICULATION YEARS 1956-62

This was, very definitely, an Old Members reunion, around 150 of us. Most were staying in College, and many of these on E Staircase. The old E Staircase came down in 1965, and with it the Bull Gate, over which no doubt all 150 of us had climbed in or out at some time.

Our reunion coincided with a fascinating exhibition mounted by the College to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Periodic Table.

We arrived to drinks in the McGrath Centre. During our undergraduate years we had got to know most of our contemporaries; it was a sobering but enriching experience to meet up with many of these a lifetime later.

Oculi omnium aspiciunt followed by an excellent dinner, so different from the fare of the '60s, not a sprout in sight. The Master brought us up to date with development objectives and College news; the College is obviously in good heart. Then back to the McGrath Centre for more drinks, and a final exchange of memories and email addresses.

Following breakfast in College, down to Fitzbillies for a supply of Chelsea buns, and a walk by the river. It was a lovely spring morning. Cambridge looked as wonderful as ever.

Jon Lewis (1962)



1956-62 matriculands



Sir Richard (1961) and Lady Dales with Rowing Coach and Boathouse Manager Carmen Failla

WOODLARK LUNCH 2018

Some 50 or so members of the Woodlark Society gathered in College on 1 December 2018 for the Society's Annual Lunch. Before going into Hall we were fortunate to have a presentation in the McGrath Centre by College Fellow Professor Jeff Dalley on his work with colleagues on 'The inflamed mind: new ideas on the puzzling relationship between stress and depression'. This was particularly timely in the light of the recent increase in awareness of the need to be more concerned about mental health issues generally. We learned that stress is also considered to be one cause of physical disease too.

As the excellent lunch drew to a close, the Master, Sir Mark Welland, introduced the assembled Members and guests to the strategic highlights of the exciting and ambitious new College project entitled 'Our College, Our Future' under the headings: Our Students, Our Teaching and Research, Our Buildings and Our People and College Life.

Derek Turnidge (1956)

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Society News

The St Catharine's College Society, of which all alumni of the College are members, is a social organisation governed and run by alumni themselves. It is distinct from the College but works closely with it to maintain a lifelong alumni community. Since 1923, and with Professor John Moverley (1968) as this year's president and Lilian Greenwood MP (1984) to be next year's from September, the Society continues to thrive. With over 8,000 Members, 11 branches throughout the UK and Ireland, and contacts worldwide, we organise events for Members, provide grants for students in need, and keep everyone in touch, especially via our website www.society.caths.cam.ac.uk

EVENTS: We held over 30 events in the UK last year, and we intend to do the same or more this year – see www.society.caths.cam.ac.uk/events. Members and guests are welcome at all branch events, including internationally, and should particularly look out for those in neighbouring branches. Our grand Annual Reunion in College will be on 21–22 September. Details are on the flyer inside this magazine.

GRANTS TO STUDENTS: Last year the Society awarded £1,300 to support music and theatrical activities, £3,250 for work experience, £600 to the Boat Club, and a total of £4,100 to 48 students to help with sports costs. In addition to the work being done by the Alumni & Development Office

on CatzConnect, we work with the Careers Society, JCR and MCR to encourage closer ties between alumni and students wherever possible. These grants are funded from our historic reserves since we don't actively fund-raise for the Society.

READ MORE: In November you will receive the annual St Catharine's Magazine, published by the Society, which contains both College and alumni news from the previous academic year. Full copies from 1927 onwards are also available on our website. They make fascinating reading.

David Peace (1966; Fellow Commoner, 2014) Secretary, St Catharine's College Society

And Finally

In June, Christina Dawson (2016), Honorary Fellow, made one of her regular visits from San Francisco for an update on the various areas of College life she is so generously supporting, and to attend the first Campaign Advisory Group meeting, of which she is a key member. During her stay, the Master, Professor Sir Mark Welland, persuaded Christina to don a beekeeping suit and take a look at the beehives which Sir Mark has established in the Master's garden at the College. The honey Sir Mark produces is held in high esteem, and is a popular raffle prize at events held at College throughout the year.



SPORTS RESULTS

ARCHERY

Eleanor Brug (2012) was the highest scoring archer in the whole recurve category at the Archery Varsity Match (906 Windsor), raising the club record by eight points.

ATHLETICS

At the Athletics Varsity Match this year, despite an overall loss to the Dark Blues, there were some standout performances by Catz students. Philip Crout (2013) placed second in the Blues 5000m (14:18.83), Lawrence Hopkins (2016) won the 2nd team 400m hurdles (59.33) and placed second in the 110m hurdles (18.59), and Harry Cox (2018) placed second in the Blues 800m (1:55.83). Chloe Billingham (2016) placed second in the Blues triple jump (10.23) and Alex Prickett (2018) and Noor Jafree (2017) were part of the second placed team in the 2nds 4x100m relay.

BASKETBALL

The basketball team achieved third place among 25 teams in the regular season of the College League, a feat made even more remarkable by the fact Catz had been in the bottom division just two years earlier.

ROWING

M1 had their best performance in the Lent Bumps since 1992 (the earliest records the boathouse holds).

RUGBY

In December, Cambridge won the women's Rugby Varsity Match, where St Catharine's was represented by Lucy Gimson (2013), Jenny Orriss (2015), Emma Pierce (2016). Henry King (2015) played in the men's match but sadly missed out on a victory.

SAILING

Bethan Matthew (2017) sailed on the Cambridge Blue team that finished second in the BUCS/BUSA Team Racing Championship in April; won the Cam Cup in February and won the Oxford Top Gun in February.



Philip Crout (centre) during the Blues 5000m race. Photo by Jose Gray

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER
Kittens & Alleycatz Reunion

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER
Members' Reunion 1988-90

SATURDAY 21 - SUNDAY
22 SEPTEMBER
Society Annual Reunion and Dinner

FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER
Kellaway Concert with
Baluji Shrivastav

SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER
Dinner to mark the retirement of
Dr Paul Hartle (1977), Senior Tutor
(2001-2018)

SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER
Modern and Medieval
Languages Dinner

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER
Catz40 Dinner

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Save the Date

Join us on 28 June 2020 for our
Catz40 Summer Party! Bookings
will open soon so keep an eye on
our website for further details.