

LADY MARGARET HALL

 **LMHA**  
for all LMH Alumni

# THE BROWN BOOK 2020



Lady Margaret Hall  
Oxford

# THE BROWN BOOK



2020

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## LMH AND THE PANDEMIC: A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

There was only one normal week of term. Societies were cancelled. There were no sporting events. The pandemic caused mayhem at LMH and throughout Oxford.

I was about to write a short account of how LMH has felt during the past month or so, when curiosity led me to consult *The Brown Book* to see how College coped with the last great pandemic to have seized Europe – just as the First World War was ending.

There – in 1918 and 1919 – are brief accounts of a community in lockdown. In November 1918 – nine days after the Armistice brought an end to the First World War – the then Principal, Henrietta Jex-Blake, wrote a short report of life at LMH. It recorded that, for the first time in LMH's history (it was then about 40 years old) an undergraduate had died. Her name was Joan Luard, and she had only been in residence for a brief period. She is buried in Birch, Essex. She is recorded by Jex-Blake as having died on 26 October 1918 (though *The Fritillary* – a magazine for the women-only colleges at the time – dates it as 26 April 1918).

A year later *The Brown Book* carries an 'Oxford Letter' which speaks of the Armistice having coincided with 'the end of our visitation by the influenza epidemic'. It records that:

influenza had thrown 67 of our household prostrate at different times during a long three weeks, had raged among the servants and still leaves us with a vista of days when rounds of trays, temperatures and bed-making never ceased and when work at books secured an interlude among the messages and house-work to those of us who were neither nursing nor stricken.

Then, as now, the College had a wonderful nurse: Miss Ewbank then, Anne Harpin today. And the same palpable sense of teamwork is evident across a century. Today, as then, we have been so fortunate in the way everyone – porters, cleaners, tutors, cooks, maintenance staff, junior welfare deans and many more – have pulled together to keep the community safe, fed, looked after, instructed and secure.

As I write there are about 80 students in College – mainly those who found a trip home impossible, for whatever reason. It is at times like these when the expansive gardens come especially into their own, with many students finding relaxation, open air, exercise and appropriately distanced company.

Tutors and students alike – including the wider cohort of students at home – are trying to work out the implications of distance learning and exams in Trinity Term. We are all becoming instant experts at Zooming, virtual whiteboards and Microsoft Teams.

I feel particularly sorry for finalists, who are having to adjust to a different idea of exams (and, in some subjects, different exams). Some may find it easy to work from home; others are less fortunate in having a quiet space to themselves or access to wifi. All feel sadness they won't have a final summer at Oxford – with all the post-exam euphoria that feels like a well-earned rite of passage.

As the services College requires for our diminished pool of students have lessened, we have taken advantage of the government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and 'furloughed' a great many support staff while we wait to learn how long we are to be bunkered down.

There is no disguising the grave financial implications for the College as we see our lucrative and important conference business vanishing into thin air. The value of our (modest) endowment is diminished. We cannot charge for accommodation with so many rooms empty – and we have no way of knowing whether we can attract graduate and visiting students for the 2020/21 academic year – assuming there is one! Our Treasurer, Andrew MacDonald, has been crunching the numbers and peering into an unknown future with not much more than a crystal ball to help him anticipate how this will all play out.

We are doing our best to keep in touch with the whole community. As ever, we are grateful for all thoughts, prayers and offers of help from the whole LMH brother-and-sisterhood. We know this is an anxious time for everyone. It will pass – and in 100 years' time our successors will be able turn to the record, including *The Brown Book*, to see a College facing adversity with love, support and fortitude.

*Alan Rusbridger*  
Principal



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## EDITORIAL

The *Brown Book* team are extremely pleased to be able to bring you *The Brown Book* this year, despite the strange and difficult times we find ourselves in. We were lucky that most of the material had already been submitted by March, although that does mean that some items of the *News* refer to events that are sadly now unlikely to take place. As the Gaudy and other alumni events have now been cancelled, we felt it particularly important to maintain contact between you and LMH and to be able to bring you news and images from happier times. Indeed, you will see that we have done a bit of a re-vamp, with colour-coded sections and more photos in this issue. We have also selected materials for the pages and cover that are fully recyclable.

This year marks 100 years of PPE in Oxford and 100 years of women being allowed to read law, so we are pleased that Gillian Peele and Helen Scott have written about the history of those two subjects. We have an international flavour with a biography from Irina Kirillova (1949 Russian and French), and an article from Rachel Cartland (Howard 1969 PPE) describing life in Hong Kong over the last 12 months. Last year, the Development Office's request for information prompted some alumni to send in memories of their time at College. We have included some of these among the articles, along with contributions from alumni who were in College either side of the introduction of men in 1979.

The obituaries this year are particularly poignant for me as we include tributes to Margery Ord, who was my moral tutor, and Chris Dobson, who was the tutor for chemistry when I did my DPhil. Sadly we also include an obituary for Fiona MacCarthy whose recent book on Walter Gropius is our lead review. The breadth of knowledge and the range of achievements of our alumni, as displayed in the various sections of *The Brown Book* each year, never fail to impress.

In addition to acknowledging the invaluable work of Alison and Judith, handling the Obituaries and Reviews, this year I would also like to thank Nicky Bull (Harper 1972 Biochemistry) who did some preliminary proof reading for me and saved the Committee's proof-reading team from having to spot the many mistakes I make transcribing the *News*! As always, the Development Office staff are there to forward your news and answer our questions, but we will miss working with Tim Pottle, as he heads off to pastures new, and we wish him well.

Carolyn Carr  
Editor

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## LADY MARGARET HALL ASSOCIATION

### COMMITTEE 2019–2020

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Ms Harriet Kemp

**Vice-Presidents:**

Miss Catherine Avent, OBE

Miss Elizabeth Mackenzie

**Hon Secretary**

Ms Alison Gomm

**Editor of *The Brown Book***

Dr Carolyn Carr

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Mr Bobby Seagull

*Retiring 2021:*

Ms Emma Ahmad-Neale

Ms Sophie Stead

Dr Grant Tapsell

Miss Judith Garner

*Retiring 2022:*

Miss Maya Evans

Dr Richard Lofthouse

Ms Joanna Godfrey

*Co-opted by the Committee for 2019–2020:*

Dr Helen Barr, Vice-Principal, Lady Margaret Hall

Mr Tim Pottle, Development Director, Lady Margaret Hall

Mrs Carrie Scott, Deputy Development Director, Lady Margaret Hall



# REPORTS

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# REPORTS

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am enormously pleased that despite all the uncertainty in the world at the moment, we have still been able to bring you this year's *Brown Book*. We debated whether it was an appropriate use of College funds at this difficult time, but we felt that staying in touch with all of you, the LMH Community, was essential this year, particularly as so many College events where alumni could get together, like the Gaudy, have had to be postponed or cancelled. We also know from the College archives that *The Brown Book* was published continuously through both the World Wars and the Spanish flu epidemic, so why not this year!

The timing of *The Brown Book's* production has meant that the Principal has been able to insert a note to update us on the impact of COVID-19 on College life and what it means for LMH, so far as we know at the moment. As Carolyn Carr has said in her editorial, we have chosen not to make any changes to the news alumni have submitted, though we are very conscious that plans will have changed. But we felt that this made *The Brown Book* a particularly important record of what we were all planning to do in 2020, some of which may still take place, and some of which will not.

This academic year, 2019–20, will go down in history as the year when final year students took their exams by Open Book for the first time, but it is also one full of anniversaries for both the University and College. In 1920 a milestone was reached for women studying at Oxford: it was the first year when they could graduate from the University and not have to take the steamboat to Ireland to graduate there. In the College's collection (it hangs above the door to Talbot Hall) there is a wonderful portrait of Evelyn Rodd



*Evelyn Rodd, portrait by Enrico Nardi, 1920*

(1917 Literae Humaniores) wearing an academic gown and modelling the cap which won a competition to choose the headgear to be worn by female graduates. In 1920, PPE was established as a degree subject and it was also the year when women were allowed to study for law degrees. We have marked both these events in this year's *Brown Book* with contributions from Gillian Peele and Helen Scott.

Naturally we cannot forget that 40 years ago, in October 1979, the first men arrived at College. In last year's *Brown Book*, we looked back at how the decision was made at Governing Body on 2 March 1978, the discussions that led up to it and the reactions to it. In this *Brown Book*, we have included reminiscences from those who were there at the time, both from someone in the cohort of 1978, whose all-female existence was disrupted, and from some of those first men. They make great reading and, since I am one of the women who matriculated in 1979, brought back many memories.



*An LMH gathering; photograph by Michhail Katsillis*

One of the great privileges of being President of the LMHA is the opportunities it has given me to meet alumni, to hear their memories of the College and to discover what they have achieved after graduating. I remain constantly touched by the warmth in which LMH is held and by the amazing things people have gone on to do. Typically, these opportunities are at College events, like the London dinner, the Principal's 'In Conversations' or the Gaudy, but occasionally they are in more personal settings. One such was when I had the wonderful chance to meet Anne Baker, who, at 105, is our oldest alumna. I met Anne at her home in Salisbury, where she was surrounded by photos of her family and beautiful vases of flowers, and we talked for nearly an hour about her life before LMH in Egypt and India, her memories of her time at LMH and what she did afterwards. It was



Anne Baker

fascinating, sitting with her looking at a photo of other alumnae she was up with, many of whom she remembered. After LMH, Anne went on to write four books (including one about her father, Geoffrey Salmond, who became the first professional head of the RAF), to raise a family and to be recognised as the NSPCC's oldest fundraiser.

You may also come across alumni unexpectedly. Having moved to Wiltshire recently, I joined a book club as a way to meet people, not expecting one of them to be an LMH alumna. A passing remark – 'I think Janey was at LMH' – followed by spotting a graduation photo was all

the confirmation needed. It has been fun getting to know Janey Wilks (Prior-Willeard 1977 English). The shared LMH bond has kickstarted a friendship – certainly unexpected, but great.

All these encounters, formal and informal, but particularly the conversation with Anne Baker, which was recorded, have led to the LMHA embarking on the creation of an oral history for the College, working with the Development Office and Oliver Mahony, the College Archivist. We have a great collection in the archives of journals, letters, newspapers and photos, but the reminiscences of our alumni add another dimension. I am very grateful to Cindy Bull (Harrison 1979 Chemistry) who has taken on the management of this project, and to Alison Gomm, Sophie Stead and Emma Ahmad-Neale, from the Committee, and, of course, to Olly and the Development Office for realising this idea. We are ensuring that we have permission from our interviewees and that the recordings are in a format that can be stored appropriately. We plan that our interviews will not just languish in the archives but will become a valuable social history record, available for research purposes and to be shared with alumni, undergraduates and others, supplementing the great paper and photographic archives we already have. Prior to the initial social distancing and then going into lockdown on 23 March, we had managed to do four interviews. We will pick the project back up again just as soon as we can.

I want to thank Tim Pottle for the contribution he made during his time as Development Director. We were sorry to see Tim go in March but wish him well in his new role. During his time as Development Director, Tim did much to help shape how we engage with our alumni and how this will support the College strategy. We look forward to welcoming Tim's replacement who we hope will be with us by the autumn.

Lastly, I want to wish all of you and your families well in these difficult times. However much we use social media, phone calls, Zoom etc., being separated physically from the ones we love is hard for everyone. We hope that this edition of *The Brown Book* will brighten these worrying days and give you strength in reminding you of the wider LMH family of which you are a part.

*Harriet Kemp*

*President*

*E-mail: harriekemp@gmail.com*

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee met for ordinary business in June, November and March. The 2019 social meeting of the LMHA was held on 26 October at Westminster Abbey, where more than 70 alumni enjoyed a musical tour of the otherwise empty abbey, with songs performed by the Purcell Club at various notable points. Tim Pottle says more about this in the Development Director's report.

The 2019 AGM of the Association took place on Sunday 30 June, during the Gaudy weekend. Harriet Kemp, President of the LMHA, welcomed members to the meeting and talked about the role of members of the Association in celebrating the ways in which LMH has been 'Leading Change' throughout its history.

Maya Evans (2003 History) and Richard Lofthouse (1990 History) were re-elected as ordinary members of the LMHA Committee for 3-year terms.

Joanna Godfrey (2003 History) was elected as a new ordinary member of the committee for a 3-year term.

*Alison Gomm*

*Hon Secretary*

## NEW MEMBER

### **Joanna Godfrey (2003 History)**

Joanna Godfrey studied History at LMH from 2003 to 2006. Since graduating, she has worked in publishing and is now Senior Commissioning Editor in Yale University Press's London office. She works on modern history and current affairs titles for general readers.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Are they all snowflakes? It's a charge that's quite frequently thrown at the current generation of young people. They are pampered and over protected. Their minds are coddled from anything that might cause offence. They're over-reliant on mental health services rather than standing on their own two feet.

In other words: buck up.

We've been thinking about this quite a lot at LMH in the past two terms. An explicit part of our strategy is Support (the other two being Include and Learn). It should be a fairly unexceptional aspiration: we want to give our students the best possible support in order to be able to thrive academically. That's the easy bit. But dealing with the multiple support needs of 600-odd undergraduates and graduates (not to mention those who teach them or work as staff at LMH) is much more complicated.

'Buck up' may work for a small number of students. But two reviews of our welfare arrangements have delved more deeply into how a college can adequately address the multiple emotional, mental health, disability and general wellbeing concerns of students.

The first, by Sarah d'Ambrumeni, Head of the Office of Student Conduct, Complaints and Appeals at the University of Cambridge, looked into our general processes and staffing and found a system that was working well.

The second, comprising a group of tutors (with input from students and those most directly involved in our welfare provision) looked at some knottier issues such as training, communications, confidentiality, competence and cost. We had interesting discussions about the term 'fitness to study' and how we could also develop programmes which might be thought of as 'support to study'. The Study Skills centre, led by Dr Margaret Coombe (Mallaband 1971 History and Modern Languages), is a key part of our ambition to support students academically.

We are very fortunate in having a highly committed and effective welfare team, led by Helen Barr, as Welfare Tutor. It includes a college welfare adviser/nurse, Anne Harpin; three welfare deans led by a trained clinical psychologist, Vania Pinto; the Chaplain; as well as trained peer supporters and all those around the College (including the Lodge team) who all play their part. The students who contributed to the review said they felt the current welfare arrangements were working very well.

But what's at the root of all this anxiety and stress? That, too, is hard to pin down: there seem to be many possible causes. There is no denying the strain that is being put on existing services – within the NHS at large as well as the University at individual colleges.

Oxford University Counselling Services (OUCS) reported a significant increase (+10.3 per cent) in student demand for counselling in academic year 2018/19. It anticipates a growth in demand for counselling of around 8 per cent per year.

This currently translates into around 11 per cent of Oxford students seeking counselling of some sort in 2018/19. If the same pattern were true of LMH we could expect more than 60 students to seek counselling in an academic year. Many more would see the Welfare Adviser, peer supporters or other members of the welfare team with specific issues.

This increase in demand is placing intolerable pressures on both the NHS and the OUCS. The latter's annual report for 2018/19 notes: 'Our concern is that, increasingly, we are underserving students at all levels of need. We believe that we are also placing excessive demands on our counsellors, who are working at an unsustainable level of intensity.'

The pressure to supply welfare support is thus being acutely felt at college level. Most colleges have moved away from a position in which the Senior Tutor or academic team is also responsible for student welfare. There is a range of other models, with welfare variously being led by a Tutor for Welfare, Dean, Chaplain, Welfare Dean or Welfare Officer. Fourteen colleges have decided to employ a college counsellor provided by the central service.

I asked Maureen Freed, deputy director of the OUCS, for her explanation of this rising demand. Among the reasons she listed were:

- *Increasing discontinuity between environment of school and environment of university*, and a lack of preparedness to self-direct and self-manage, and to negotiate with competing demands on their time. At school, nearly all challenges are now structured and stage-managed for the student. At university there is much less structure and often students are asked/invited to do much more than is possible, making it necessary for them to set their own aspiration level and be content with something less than perfection.
- *Lack of experience coping with failure/setbacks.*
- *Fragmentation of attention* ('too many tabs open in my brain') as a result of constant presence of digital devices. Many struggle to concentrate on academic work.
- *Effects of social media* (fear of missing out – FOMO – constant comparison of their lives with other people's, need to appear perfect, low self-esteem).
- *Challenge of navigating romantic/sexual/emotionally intimate relationships* in the age of Tinder.
- *Proliferation of gender and sexual identities and relationship models* (e.g. polyamory), leading to new challenges for adolescents exploring and establishing identity.
- *Inability to sleep* (even when they try).
- Established culture of heavy *drinking/drug use* becoming mainstream.
- Students receiving *less relaxed, open attention from adults* (parents and teachers), who have less time to offer and who themselves are very anxious and may struggle to offer a 'containing' response.
- *Individual life and family circumstances* (historic trauma, present trauma,

mental health problems, autism, difficulty transitioning from other countries, overcoming race, class and other barriers, lack of social or cultural 'capital').

- *Anxieties about the future* (Brexit, degradation of environment, bankruptcy of liberal political institutions, changing nature of work and consequences for employability, leaving university with substantial debt etc.).

In addition, there are the following developments:

- Decreased stigma associated with counselling in the UK and internationally.
- Much broader access to counselling in UK schools (leading to greater propensity to seek this kind of support at university).
- At university, more pressures on academic staff making them less available to provide personal and pastoral support to students and perhaps less able to contain student anxiety and distress.
- Impact of fees on student expectations of what should be provided to them ('students as consumers').

Maureen doesn't believe that either of the two dominant narratives about young people's mental health are sufficient: neither the 'snowflakes' story, nor its counterpart – that a high proportion of them suffer from mental illness requiring 'treatment'.

'They certainly are not snowflakes,' she says. 'The level of dysfunction and distress of students approaching our service is at least as high as it has ever been. But they also are not mentally ill. The great majority of students presenting to the counselling service are struggling with a range of developmental and life issues which can be responded to very effectively by a student counselling service, given adequate resources.'

LMH attaches the highest importance to student health and welfare. We do so because it is important in itself for our students but also, in the words of our strategy: 'The College recognises that academic excellence and student welfare are inextricably linked.'

We are committed to promoting the wellbeing and flourishing of all our students; encouraging and enabling them to find a strong sense of satisfaction in their studies and college life; to develop a sense of meaning or purpose; and the ability to manage stress.

Alan Rusbridger  
Principal

## FROM THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

2018–2019 has been full of terrific events attended by hundreds of our alumni. The range of events organised by Emma Farrant, our Alumni Engagement Officer, has been incredible. We've met alumni at LMH Locals from Edinburgh to Exeter and from Cardiff to Cambridge and, indeed, in Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong and the USA. Our LMH Local in Singapore was hosted by Mimi Somjee (1972 Physics) in her beautiful home, where 20 alumni, guests and parents gathered to chat and hear the Principal talk about the College's achievements and future. We held two 'In Conversation' events in London during the year, the first with Danny Cohen (1992 English), President of Access Entertainment and formerly Director of BBC Television, and the second with Jussi Pylkkänen (1982 English), Global President of Christie's auction house.

In May, we held a wonderful London Dinner in the awe-inspiring environs of the Houses of Parliament. Baroness Eliza Manningham-Buller (1972 English) captivated the gathered alumni and their guests with a wonderful after-dinner speech about her time as Director General of MI5 and her current role as Chair of the Wellcome Trust. In June (and in stark contrast, given the attire for the day was wellingtons and waterproofs), we visited Saulton Hall, home of the Ashtons (Tim Ashton 2005 Jurisprudence), where 40 alumni went on a farm walk and learned about the benefits of Tim's pioneering no-till farming. We were also privileged to visit the incredibly serene and beautiful Saulton Long Barrow, featured in *The Brown Book* in 2018 and the subject of a BBC 'Countryfile' episode in April 2019.

At my first LMHA Committee meeting in 2016, mention was made of a future event of which, at the time, I took almost no notice. Little did I know that this event was going to be one of my favourite College events of all time. One very dark, windy October evening, 70 of us, from all over the UK and from the four corners of the capital, traipsed in the driving rain to a warm and dimly lit Westminster Abbey for a private, out-of-hours tour led by members of the Purcell Club. Given there are only 10 such tours a year, I have a feeling it is likely to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for many of us. I for one will be forever grateful to Meg Rothwell (1957 Literae Humaniores) who first suggested that we join the three-year waiting list. The evening was one highlight after another, but walking past Lady Margaret Beaufort's tomb in the south aisle of Henry VII's chapel was a very special LMH moment.

There have been several important staff changes in the Development Office during the year. In the summer of 2019, Anna Bates joined us as the Associate Development Director. Anna lives in St Albans and visits alumni in London every week. She has also travelled across England and will be going to the USA in 2020 to visit alumni. Having reduced his hours last year and after almost ten years of service, Gus Bridges, our Database Officer, decided it was time to leave LMH. Kate Hall, our Development Assistant, was promoted to Development Officer

(donor relations) and Cath Bygrave joined us as our new Development Assistant.

Another change in the Development Team is that, after four years at LMH, I have decided to step down as Development Director and move to the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship as the Associate Director for Partnerships. I have enjoyed my time at LMH very much and have met so many incredible alumni. LMH is fortunate in having a terrific Development Team, part of a wonderful operational team, which supports the College so professionally and efficiently.

I am very grateful to the LMHA officers and committee for their commitment to the College and their hard work during the year, especially the work that goes into writing, compiling and editing *The Brown Book*. I am sure the oral history project (see *the President's Report*) will be a huge success and will provide a wonderful insight into many decades of LMH.

*Tim Pottle*

*Development Director*

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Oxford is one of those places in my life that keeps drawing me back, and so I was very excited and happy to start work as the new Chaplain at LMH in October last year. I was an undergraduate here reading Theology in the mid-1980s as part of my training for the ministry and returned, after serving a curacy at the Elephant and Castle, in the mid-1990s to be Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Oxford, Richard Harries. Those years were some of the happiest of my 30 years in ministry, and I have many warm memories of them. I look forward to laying down more here at LMH.

For most of my ministry I served in London, spending nearly 20 years in north-west London as vicar of two mixed inner-city parishes – St James, West Hampstead and St Mary's, Kilburn. They were busy places and during that time I was heavily involved in all the ways that clergy of the Church of England so often are in the life of the wider community, as well as seeking to build up the life of the two congregations. I loved West Hampstead and the work there. Being in one place for a long time meant I could put down deep roots and get to know the community well, baptising, marrying and burying, supporting individuals and community groups, and watching change through the noughties, the challenges of 7/7 and those following 2008. My congregations were in some of the most deprived areas of Camden and bordered on very disadvantaged areas of Brent and Westminster – life was rarely dull and often exciting in challenging ways. I miss it still. More widely, I was also active in other ways, as Area Dean,

serving on the Diocesan Board for schools, on the Diocesan Advisory Committee (for church buildings), and latterly on Diocesan Synod, Bishop's Council and General Synod. Those things I miss rather less.

My connection with LMH came about through Allan Doig, who knew me from our days at Cuddesdon together. When he took his sabbatical in 2018, I had recently taken early retirement from parish ministry in order to follow my husband's move to a new job in Manchester and was busy restoring an old vicarage in the heart of the Peak District. Allan rightly guessed that I might be missing active ministry and invited me to return to it here for Michaelmas term in 2018. I loved the openness and community here at LMH, meeting the students and staff, and the worship of the Chapel. It was a privilege to sit week by week experiencing the quality of music produced by our dedicated team with such professionalism and skill. I found myself wanting more and so applied for the post when Allan announced his retirement. I was delighted to be appointed



*LMH Chapel;  
photograph by  
John Cairns*

and to find myself back in College and Chapel again this year. Do remember that if ever you are in Oxford at the weekend in term time you would be warmly welcomed at the Sunday evening service at 5.30 pm to experience it yourself. It is a treat, and Choral Evensong is one of the glories of the Church and of English music, to be appreciated simply for itself even if you do not share the faith that motivates it. There is always a glass of wine afterwards and a chance to meet and chat with current undergrads and graduate members of the community here.

It will take me a while to settle into this place. Oxford reveals itself slowly, and in community life trust must be earned and connections slowly cultivated. My initial concern has been to listen, to watch and to learn as I find my way around the college, begin to understand more deeply the lives and experience of the students here, and to fully appreciate the hard work of both academics and support staff that makes this college the very special place that it undoubtedly is. Although the challenges and needs are in many ways very different from those of my parish days, I am delighted to be here under the leadership of Alan Rusbridger and to witness the inspirational vision he has for the College.

We have recently appointed an excellent new Director of Chapel Music – Paul Burke – and he has already made great strides with the music and the performance of the choir. I have made a few slight changes in the Chapel to introduce some space for personal prayer, focuses for devotion and ways to express faith beyond words. I am pleased to see the chapel well used and candles regularly lit by visitors. Over time I will see what else could be done to strengthen the spiritual life of the college, not just for those who share the Christian faith but for all the religious communities here.

I am also introducing opportunities for students to make connections with the wider community around LMH and to get out of their heads and books occasionally and into the life of the city all around them. Small groups of us are visiting a local care home, we are planning to help out at Summertown Community Centre at community events, and I am working on a connection with a Church on one of the estates around Oxford. I think it would be good for the youngsters here to see something of life beyond the dreaming spires and the spines of their books.

As a foundation for all this, the prayer in the Chapel continues as it did under Allan Doig, worship is offered in the week, and it remains open and accessible to all who want to find some peace and quiet. I look forward to meeting some of you when you come for a visit. Do drop me a note if you'd like a coffee and a chat.

*Fr Andrew Foreshew-Cain*  
Chaplain

## FROM THE LIBRARIAN

The library at Lady Margaret Hall is currently flourishing, despite the central libraries again going through large upheavals. The Radcliffe Science Library has now relocated for a year and a half to the Vere Harmsworth Library, while its building is renovated to create the new Parks College. It will eventually be returning to the old building, but it will only occupy the top floors rather than the whole space it used to: the collection on open shelves will shrink dramatically as a result, and large numbers of books have already been shipped out to the Bodleian's Book Storage Facility near Swindon. Meanwhile, the plans to create a new central humanities building at the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter site are starting to be developed: the fear is that, as has happened so many times in Oxford, this will result in a number of subject libraries being crammed together, in a building with less shelf space and fewer reader spaces than they had before. As mentioned in the last few library reports, these changes keep increasing the pressure on the college libraries, both to provide the books people want on open shelves and as a space for quiet study.

While students seem happy to read journal articles electronically, predictions that e-books will replace printed books currently seem to be premature – despite the Bodleian increasingly favouring e-books (most legal deposit books are now electronic not physical, and the core texts on reading lists are often being purchased as digital copies). At LMH library we are getting more and more requests for us to buy physical copies of books every year, often for books that the Bodleian only has as an e-book. College has increased our book purchasing budget to the median for a college of our size, and we have streamlined our processes for buying books: our turnaround from a book being requested to it being available for our students is often only a day or two (compared to weeks or months in the Bodleian). We have also emphasised to all students, especially post-graduates, that we are happy to buy the specialist books they need for their research that are not available elsewhere in Oxford, as well as core textbooks. The increase in student book requests has been dramatic: in the seven months to the end of February 2020 we bought over 850 books for £28.5k, compared to buying 575 books for £24.5k in the entire 2014–15 academic year and 722 for £25.5k in the entire 2015–16 academic year.

We've also been developing the physical infrastructure of the library, particularly focusing on making the space more accessible and user-friendly. The second batch of padded oak chairs has arrived, replacing the existing hard wooden chairs and making life more comfortable for students working long hours. Our sincere thanks to everyone who donated money to make this possible: our students greatly appreciate it. In addition, there are now powered doors on the ground floor, for readers with mobility impairments (although not, as yet, a lift to the other two floors – but options are currently being investigated). We

have also installed two height-adjustable desks on the ground floor, which are easier for wheelchair users to use, as well as proving popular with students who prefer standing desks. Emmy Ingle, Senior Library Assistant, has run a project to make sure we have a wide selection of study aids, from coloured overlays for dyslexia, to magnifiers, to book and laptop stands, after studying examples of best practice across Oxford libraries. Finally, the security system has been updated, with a new self-service terminal allowing students to return books as well as check them out. This saves staff time and means that if a student returns a book out of staffed hours it is available for other students to use straight away (rather than their having to wait until we empty the book returns bin).



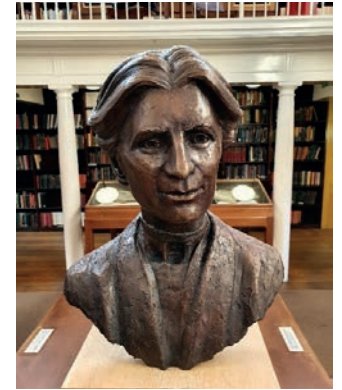
The *Flora Danica*: volume one before repair, and volume three in the Flora & Fauna exhibition

Our rare books collection continues to grow thanks to kind donations. The most noteworthy addition is a wonderful collection of first editions of Thomas Hardy novels, including magazine editions (which often differ from the collected editions), thanks to Mary Jacobus. Julian Wedgwood also made a fascinating donation, of early editions of works by his aunt, the noted LMH historian C. V. Wedgwood. Finally, Hazel Archer Sanger (1959 PPE) kindly made a donation of funds to enable us to conserve volume one of the *Flora Danica*, one of the greatest treasures of our collection, a beautiful six-volume set of hand-coloured plates depicting all the plants that grow in Denmark. It was originally given to LMH in our earliest days, by John Ruskin, and I'm delighted that it is now being repaired so it can last another century. Of course, it is not our only rare book that needs some attention from professional conservators, and we hope that future donations will enable us to look after more of them – if you are interested in donating to help repair a rare book, please do get in touch with the Development Office.

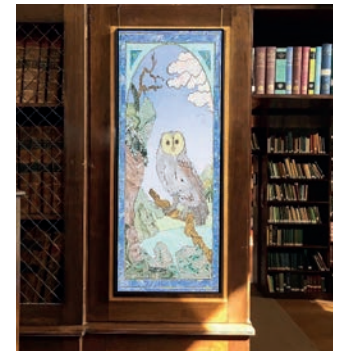
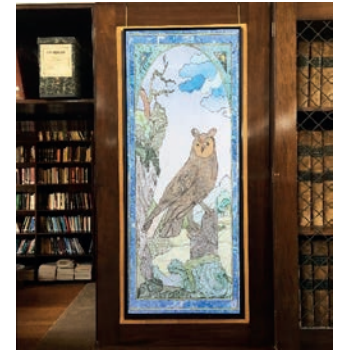
We have put on several exhibitions over the year, showing off our rare books and archives. Our exhibition on LMH alumna Eglantyne Jebb (1895 History) proved very popular and featured at a special event in College for the worldwide

heads of Save the Children, celebrating the 100th anniversary of her founding the charity. They kindly donated a bust of Jebb to the college, and it now stands in pride of place in the library. Emmy Ingle, last year's Graduate Trainee Library Assistant, stayed here this year as a Senior Library Assistant, and her solo exhibition on 'Storied Maps' was seen by many visitors during the 2019 Gaudy Garden Party and Oxford Open Doors. The library is currently hosting an art installation, by LMH alumna Erin Hughes (2009 Fine Art), called 'Hoot Hoot, Hoot Hoot'. Erin has been working on *pietre dure*-inspired marble paper collages, and for this space created four stunning pictures of owls, drawing inspiration from the marbled papers used in bookbinding and the illustrations in our copy of Grave's *British Ornithology*. She situated them in the four corners of the upstairs gallery floor, from where they have been looking down on our students working in the main central area, and brightening the entire space. To tie in with this installation, our current exhibition is 'Flora and Fauna' – from archival material about LMH's gardens to beautiful plates in our rare books showing how advances in printing changed the way plants and animals were depicted.

Thank you so much to everyone who has given us modern books over the year, including Jo Begbie, Neta Bodmer, Sanja Bogojevic, Roberta Brandter, the British Society for the Philosophy of Religion, Michael Broers, Garry Brown, Jane Bwyne, Frances Carey, Rachel Cartland, Alexine Crawford, Pip Cull, Jean D'Costa, Allan Doig, Isla Duporge, Cal Flynn, Freddie Gent, Vincent Gillespie, Rose Guok, Karen Heath, Jemima Hubberstey, Kate Hunt, Toyin Ihinmikalu, Richard Jenkyns, Helen Kaufmann, Hamid Khandahari, William Klemperer, Margaret Lloyd, Catherine Lomax, Fiona MacCarthy, Ewan McKendrick, Janet Momsen, Paul Musselwhite, Patricia Neate,



The new bust of Eglantyne Jebb



Parts of 'Hoot Hoot, Hoot Hoot' by Erin Hughes

Ann Nevill, Slađana Nina Perković, Dominic Scott, Christine Shaw, Jan Shirley, Bella Smith, Antonia Southern, Grant Tapsell, Gillian Tindall, Marina Warner, Guy Westwood, and Wright & Wright. Particular thanks to people who have given us copies of books they have written – future librarians and scholars will be very glad we have got them, as a wonderful way of telling the history of the college and its members. We keep all antiquarian items, all books by or about LMH alumni, and all books that complement areas we have particular strengths in or that we think will be used by our students, and are happy to discuss with donors what will happen to any donated books that we do not have room for (giving them away to our students, for example).

If you are ever visiting Oxford, please visit the library to see our current exhibitions and displays (and, if you are at the Gaudy Garden Party, do remember to come up to see us). We are also open for alumni to visit us for research, especially during vacations. Do not hesitate to contact me to make an appointment to visit, via [librarian@lmh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:librarian@lmh.ox.ac.uk) or 01865 274361.

*James Fishwick*  
Librarian

## GAUDY REPORT 2019

The Gaudy Weekend, 29–30 June, was a succession of very special moments celebrating major events in the history of LMH. Almost 400 alumni attended over the course of the weekend, with a unifying theme of 'Leading Change'. The changes being celebrated were ground-breaking in their day, and still stand out as major shifts in society. The founding of LMH in 1879, 140 years ago, saw its first cohort of nine students becoming the first women to attend Oxford University. Then in 1979, 100 years after the foundation of the college, we saw the first men admitted to LMH in its transition to 'going mixed'. In addition, this year, we were also proudly celebrating the successful admission of three cohorts of students to the Foundation Year.

Various reunions on Saturday brought together alumni celebrating 40, 50 and 60 years since matriculation. The gatherings were very relaxed and enjoyable; it was clear that those attending relished meeting up with friends. Helen Barr, Vice Principal, spoke about the importance of alumni's contributions to College: enabling the Foundation Year to be set up and funded; helping recently graduated students in the search for employment; and contributing to welfare and support. A fascinating display had been set up in the Deneke corridor, taken from the LMH archive, of photographs, newspaper articles and other artefacts. It was also continued in the Lannon quad outside, with illustrations hanging from

the trees! These artefacts brought home the shift in attitudes towards women and their entitlement to education, the expectations of women and their role in society, and the changing ways that 'gender politics' are reported in the media. The first women students in 1879 were required to adhere to a list of stringent, restrictive inter-collegiate rules for women, including being chaperoned in all lectures and tutorials. A university education in those times gave access to the only white-collar careers open to women, of teacher, governess or secretary. Those of us who have followed owe a huge debt of gratitude to Elizabeth Wordsworth and the nine students of 1879 for their pioneering spirit!

The move towards going mixed in 1979 saw LMH again unafraid to embrace change. It unearthed a peculiar mix of stereotypes and prejudices in the reporting, which would now be regarded as shocking and misogynistic (I hope). There were reports that former women's colleges were concerned that they would see a fall in their popularity and standards relative to the mixed colleges; and the former men-only colleges feared their standards would fall on admitting women, with students being more focused on the social benefits. Other predicted impacts of going mixed were that the former men's colleges would 'grab' the best girls in their admissions, while the male applicants to former women's colleges would be second-rate. And yet it was also acknowledged in print that women were often out-performing the men academically and in exams, with women described as 'beastly swotters'!

Aside from changing attitudes, there are clearly huge changes to the appearance of LMH since 1979, when I matriculated. The new buildings enhance College enormously and provide much-needed expansion in the accommodation available, all rooms with en-suite shower rooms. Such luxury! Perhaps a more subtle change, is the beautiful wildflower display in the Wolfson quad, with specially mown paths among the flowers. These act like a magnet to everyone coming into College: over the weekend I noticed many people posing with friends for photographs.

Another obvious change compared with my experience in 1979 is the very high standard of the food now served in hall. The menus provided over the course of the weekend were outstanding, with delicious food, beautifully served. In her address welcoming us to the dinner on Saturday evening, Harriet Kemp, President of the LMH Alumni Association, complimented the catering staff on the very high standards they maintain in the food they prepare and serve, and we applauded appreciatively. Harriet introduced our guest speaker, Evie Dunmore (St Antony's 2008). Evie was anticipating the publication of *Bringing Down the Duke*, the first book in her planned trilogy of historical romances. She explained that her central character is modelled on the first cohort of students admitted to LMH, acknowledging their bravery and resourcefulness in accessing higher education, with the ambition of increasing their financial independence.

In his speech, the Principal, Alan Rusbridger, recognised the contribution to College life of the Chaplain, Allan Doig, who was retiring that year. Sincere



*Delicious desserts at the Garden Party*

thanks and warm wishes were noted. The Principal then further expanded on the Leading Change theme, setting the scene for the initial founding of the College back in 1879, against a backdrop of controversy around the campaign for Universal Suffrage and the spectrum of attitudes in society toward the concept of women obtaining higher education. The momentous decision first announced in 1977, to admit men in 1979, marked another huge change, again with LMH in the vanguard, although other Oxford colleges were also taking the plunge to co-residence around that time. Forty years on, and LMH has initiated another major change with the launch of the Foundation Year. The first cohort of ten students arrived in 2016 and all went on to join undergraduate courses at LMH, at other Oxford colleges, or at other Russell Group universities. The LMH Foundation Year model is to be adopted by the University as a whole, to enable inclusion and a wider diversity among student admissions, with an initial cohort of 30 students planned for Michaelmas Term 2022. I felt proud that LMH was the catalyst for this move.

As ever, a full programme of events was planned for the Sunday. The Principal outlined the newly adopted strategic goals of LMH, of 'Include, Support: Learn', elucidating the meaning and thinking behind these aims. Some striking new additional resources include collaborative working spaces provided in College (although the library is still a very popular haunt for solo study) and plans to develop the boathouse as a sport and leisure centre. We then enjoyed two very interesting lectures, always popular features of Gaudy Sunday. The first 'Leading Change and the Historical Record', given by Olly Mahony, the LMH Archivist, highlighted some of the fascinating artefacts which had been on display over

the weekend. At the time of the founding of the college, opinion was divided as to the desirability of allowing girls to learn Latin and Greek as it decreased the time available to pursue supposedly more acceptable feminine pursuits. A strategy of 'quiet gradualism' was adopted to move forward to counter the negative attitudes towards women's education which persisted for at least 100 years. The second lecture by Peter Thonemann (1997 Classics and 2003 Ancient History) was introduced by Allan Doig, our retiring Chaplain and former Tutor for Graduates and Fine Art. Peter started his talk by paying tribute to Allan on his retirement, and also by congratulating LMH on the progressive, game-changing and innovative outlook of the college. Peter's lecture, 'A Crown of Thorns: Ancient History at LMH and the Trial of Jesus of Nazareth', was very engaging and interesting, and it concluded the 'business' of the Gaudy weekend.

The finale for the weekend was the Garden Party, with delightful sunshine and a delicious buffet lunch. The Gaudy weekend provides an enjoyable mix of activities each year. In this year, I felt particularly proud of our college, with the celebrations highlighting our history of thought-leading developments in access to education, and the capacity of LMH for driving the University as a whole forward.

*Cindy Bull  
(Harrison 1979 Chemistry)*



*Relaxing in the gardens*



John Cairns

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# ARTICLES

## CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF PPE

1920 was a momentous year for Oxford as the University granted women full university membership and the right to take degrees. 1920 also saw the founding of a new undergraduate degree, Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) known then as Modern Greats. There had been interest in promoting the study of subjects of relevance to the modern world since the turn of the twentieth century; but Oxford had lagged behind Cambridge (which had initiated its economics tripos in 1903) although it had established a diploma in economics in 1903. PPE was intended to provide the understanding of the modern world that *Literae Humaniores* or Greats did for the ancient world. The creation of a new undergraduate course was, at the time, a highly unusual development for a university which had up until that point been extremely conservative in the degrees which it offered; and indeed it was not until ten years later that another new degree course, geography, was initiated. Part of the explanation for this conservatism was the dominance of Greats in terms of prestige and the numbers taking it. Pressure for a new degree course had been mounting in the period immediately prior to the First World War, when radical change (including the demand for a Commission of Inquiry into Oxford) was in the air. Among the advocates of new approaches to Oxford were A. L. (Sandy) Lindsay, a fellow and later Master of Balliol, and W. S. G. (George) Adams, holder of the newly founded Gladstone Chair of Political Theory and Institutions and later Warden of All Souls. Other combinations of subjects were canvassed by the small group of reforming dons and professors known as 'the Club' who were urging structural change on Oxford. There was thus interest in a combination of philosophy and natural science, in Greats without Greek and in a combination of economics and politics; but PPE or Modern Greats was the only proposal that was carried forward.

The vision was of a broad degree which would offer an education relevant to contemporary civilisation through three branches of knowledge – economics, political science and philosophy. Although philosophy was already a well-established part of the Honours School of *Literae Humaniores*, politics and economics were not at that point available as major component parts of any degree at undergraduate level. However, chairs and dedicated posts in economics

and politics had been established in the early part of the twentieth century, including a University Lectureship in Political Theory and Institutions which was swiftly converted into a Chichele Readership in 1910 and then absorbed into the newly founded Gladstone Chair in 1912 at All Souls College. George Adams, who successively held all three posts, was not merely instrumental in creating the new PPE degree but also active in promoting social and economic studies at Oxford. This included the foundation in 1915 of Barnett House as a centre for the study of social and economic problems and for training social workers. Before PPE was established as a degree course, economics and politics were both taught as part of the special diplomas offered by the university. And there was also a good deal of interest in providing tuition in contemporary subjects through the Workers Educational Association, which was strongly supported by Sandy Lindsay and George Adams as well as by Lynda Grier.

The first PPE students arrived in 1920 and were examined in 1924. The new degree course was not well endowed with resources, apart from philosophers, and relied heavily on history fellows and philosophers to cover much of the syllabus. Although in 1923–24 PPE accounted for a relatively small proportion (5 per cent) of those taking finals, by 1938–39 that percentage had risen to 10.3 per cent, overtaking Greats and Languages and equalling English. History at that point was the largest honours school and PPE did not overtake it until 1970.

LMH took students in PPE from the beginning. Thus *The Brown Book* in 1920–21 reported that it had two students studying PPE, a number which rose to three in 1921–22 and to 7 in 1924–5. In 1923–24 *The Brown Book* reported that one student (a Miss E. G. Wilson) had been awarded the prestigious George Webb Junior Scholarship in Economics. In 1924–25 she was awarded a first-class degree in 'Modern Greats', winning the George Webb Senior Scholarship. *The Brown Book* recorded that she went on to study currency stabilisation at the LSE. PPE at LMH fluctuated numerically over the next 45 years. In 1970, the year it became the largest degree course in the University (apart from medicine), only five students were admitted to read PPE at LMH. From the mid-1970s, however, the number increased to eight in 1976 and in 1979, when the college's first cohort of male undergraduates arrived, the number reading PPE at LMH was ten, including two Rhodes scholars. The 'normal' intake of undergraduates has remained largely stable at eight since then, although the number has sometimes been increased by senior status students (such as Rhodes scholars) and transfers in from other subjects.

It was not perhaps surprising that LMH should have been supportive of the new degree. Lynda Grier, who became Principal in 1921, was herself an economist with interests in developing the subject both to regular university students and to extramural ones. During the First World War she had been a lecturer at Girton College, Cambridge and had then taken over the work of Professor D. H. Macgregor at Leeds before returning to Newnham, Cambridge as a fellow. Certainly, Lynda Grier played an active role in developing interest

in social studies. Her lectures on economics attracted students from across the university. Janet Spens in her 1921–22 'Oxford Letter' for *The Brown Book* related that Miss Grier had given two courses of lectures in the year and these were heard to be 'much appreciated by those reading for the new School of Modern Greats'. She was also active in helping to found Nuffield College as a dedicated centre for postgraduate study of the social sciences.

By the late 1930s, PPE was well established throughout the University. The first dedicated politics tutor was appointed in 1929. This was John Maud, who remained teaching the subject at University College until 1939 and who later returned to University College as Master. A Politics Sub-Faculty was established within the Social Studies Faculty in 1934.

The period after 1945 saw a growth in PPE's popularity. It was also a time of rapid change for all three PPE subjects, although critics often accused Oxford of imposing its own particular intellectual traditions on the subjects, emphasising a historical approach in politics and economics and the ordinary language philosophy associated with J. L. Austin and P. F. Strawson among others. Postgraduate degrees were established in each branch of the subject and rapidly began to attract both British and international applicants. Graduate colleges specialising in the social sciences opened their doors. Nuffield, which was founded in 1937, took its first students in 1945 while St Antony's, which focused on international history, politics, economics and area studies, was founded in 1950.

From the early days, the women's colleges had to a large extent lagged behind the men's colleges in their provision of permanent tutors across the three branches of PPE, as in the natural sciences. Thus there was a good deal of dependence on exchanges of pupils between colleges, part-time appointments and of course central provision through university lectures and classes. PPE teaching at LMH could draw on its own philosophers for in-house philosophy teaching but for economics and politics teaching it was much more reliant on exchange teaching and lecturers. However, in 1957 LMH appointed Anne Martin to a fellowship with responsibility for the economics teaching. She was succeeded in 1969 by Margaret Paul, who took up a full-time post as Official Tutor in Economics until her retirement in 1983. The coverage of politics was in the hands of lecturers until a new politics post was created in 1974 and I was fortunate enough to be appointed to it.

From the 1970s there were numerous changes to the structure of PPE. In 1970 there was syllabus reform to allow students to drop one of the three subjects after the Preliminary first-year examination. This so-called 'bipartite option' allowed students to specialise more but it also, of course, represented a move away from the original conception of a broad-based degree which integrated the three subjects. In 1971 the syllabus was further reformed by requiring students studying politics to take two compulsory core papers of 'Political Institutions' and either 'British Politics and Government Since 1865' or 'Theory of Politics'.

A thesis option was introduced in 1974 and thereafter a range of new options was added, including 'the Politics of the European Union', 'the Politics of Japan', 'the Politics of China', 'Comparative Political Economy', 'Theories of Justice' and 'International Security and Conflict'. Not all survived and there will doubtless be further changes reflecting the availability of teaching, undergraduate interest and changing political circumstances. Brexit, for example, may reduce the interest in the European Union. The survival of PPE as a single degree was also severely challenged by the expansion of the subject matter of the various options and the growing emphasis in each of the three sub-branches for ever more specialisation. There has been frequent argument for a single honours degree in economics. External reviewers and internal critics have urged a single honours degree in politics comparable to those available at many other universities. In the early days, tutors taught large parts of the syllabus in their own discipline and sometimes across disciplines. This practice had become increasingly rare by the late 1970s and the intense pressures on academic appointees to undertake research and to publish began to put a strain on the tutorial model because of its heavy demands on teaching resources.

PPE was intended to provide a broad educational foundation for understanding the dynamics of the modern world. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that so many of its graduates have achieved distinction in public life, both in this country and in others. In addition to those who have made major contributions to political life, including three prime ministers, PPE has also produced large numbers of senior civil servants and diplomats, broadcasters and journalists, as well as senior figures in business and finance. LMH can of course celebrate its share of the numerous distinguished PPE graduates in the public and private sectors. Although the two LMH cabinet ministers in the current government (Michael Gove and Dominic Raab) did not read PPE, but English and law respectively, a PPE alumna, Helen Whately, has been appointed to the Department of Health and Social Care as Minister of State with responsibility for social care, arguably one of the most challenging problems which this government must address.

*Gillian Peele*

*(Emeritus Fellow; Fellow in Politics 1975–2016)*

## LMH'S FIRST PPE STUDENTS

With thanks to Oliver Mahony, the LMH Archivist, and the LMH *Register*, we have gathered some information about the women who took on the new subject of PPE, 'the Modern Greats', in the 1920s. The inaugural student studying PPE at LMH was Margaret Du Buisson. *The Register* reports that she went into teaching and did voluntary work at the LMH Settlement until she married James, Lord Clyde, in 1928. She had two children and did voluntary work in Scotland.

More is known about the second student, Anne Nichols, who matriculated in 1921 to study English but then switched to PPE. Her obituary says that 'LMH gave her a stimulus and freedom that was almost magical' and she seems to have pursued a love of the arts during and beyond her time there. Oxford 'drew out her intellectual zest and gave chances for her gift for amateur acting'. In addition to her studies, she played the roles of Mercutio, Benedick, Mr Darcy and William Shakespeare. She went on to the Royal College of Art in South Kensington, learning silversmithing and sculpture, and to work in alabaster, bronze and wood, which became a life-long activity. In 1927 she married Henry Strauss, a lawyer and later a Member of Parliament. Anne was said to be shy, and to have put up with the duties of an MP's wife, rather than to have enjoyed them. The war brought about changes for Anne, who was in charge of an ambulance station during the Blitz and then became WREN education officer in London. An active individual, she climbed the Matterhorn in her sixties, and often went on adventurous travels. She died in 1988 at the age of 86.

By 1922, LMH had four students studying PPE. Katharine Jones had a very varied career. On leaving LMH she became a political organiser for two years and then a journalist with the *Yorkshire Post*. From 1932 to 1939, *The Register* lists her as a singer and during the early years of the war she was a WAAF Flight Officer. She married Wing Commander Bentley Beauman in 1940 and did voluntary work until 1957. She then worked at the WRVS for ten years and was Chairman of the LMH Settlement from 1969 to 1973. In addition, she wrote a number of books about her various experiences, including *Wings on Her Shoulders*, published in 1945, *Partners in Blue: Story of Women's Service with the Royal Air Force* in 1971, *Green Sleeves: The Story of WVS-WRVS* in 1977, and *Women and the Settlement Movement* in 1996. Evelyn Martelli is listed as doing some lecturing, journalism and voluntary church work. She married Sir Alfred le Maitre in 1931 and had two sons. Evelyn Wilson went on to do a PhD at the London School of Economics and attained a Fellowship in the US. She was a Fellow and Tutor at St Hilda's College from 1929 until 1936 when she married W. R. Rutland.

Mary Guillan Smieton had a successful career in the Civil Service, having passed the exacting selection process in 1925, when women were first allowed to enter the administrative class that led to the highest positions. Mary started as an Assistant Keeper in the Public Record Office and, according to

her obituary, was not content with dealing with paperwork. Three years in, she was transferred to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, which was a more people-focused role. In 1938 Mary was seconded to the Home Office for two years as General Secretary of the new organisation the Women's (Royal) Voluntary Service. On returning to her department she was made responsible for recruiting women for certain types of war work. In 1946 Mary was seconded to the new offices of the United Nations in New York, to work as Director of Personnel, where she spent two years. On her return to the UK she joined the Ministry of Education as Deputy Secretary and then, in 1959, was made the first woman Personal Secretary of the Ministry of Education. During this time major initiatives included the youth service, comprehensive schools, new universities, improved teacher training and expanding adult education. In addition to her impressive career, Mary was a trustee of the British Museum, member of the Standing Committee on Museums and Galleries, a UK representative on the Executive Board of UNESCO and a member of the Council of the Girls (Public) Day School Trust. She was appointed a Dame of the Order of the British Empire and an Honorary Fellow of LMH. When asked about what was of most value from her experience at LMH, Mary wrote: 'Being taught to think clearly, to meet deadlines and to take personal responsibility for organising my life to profit by what the college offered, and rub along with other members of the community.' She described her time at LMH as 'enjoyable' and 'stimulating', writing, the 'atmosphere provided an excellent mix of individual freedom and responsibility against a backdrop of support from the academic and non-academic staff. They treated us all as individuals whose general welfare and academic performance was of importance to them'. Reflecting on how college life had changed while she was there, Mary noted, 'Miss Greer was in her first year as Principal and with her, and the development of PPE, the college became increasingly outward looking and attuned to the modern world.'

Emma Neale  
(1994 PPE)

Carolyn Carr  
(Jones 1977 Chemistry)

## THE SEX DISQUALIFICATION (REMOVAL) ACT 1919: MARKING 100 YEARS OF WOMEN IN LAW

A person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from the exercise of any public function, or from being appointed to or holding any civil or judicial office or post, or from entering or assuming or carrying on any civil profession or vocation, or for admission to any incorporated society (whether incorporated by Royal Charter or otherwise), and a person shall not be exempted by sex or marriage from the liability to serve as a juror . . .

A woman shall be entitled to be admitted and enrolled as a solicitor after serving under articles for three years only if either she has taken such a university degree as would have so entitled her had she been a man, or if she has been admitted to and passed the final examination and kept, under the conditions required of women by the university, the period of residence necessary for a man to obtain a degree at any university which did not at the time the examination was passed admit women to degrees.

Nothing in the statutes or charter of any university shall be deemed to preclude the authorities of such university from making such provision as they shall think fit for the admission of women to membership thereof, or to any degree, right, or privilege therein or in connection therewith.

At a stroke these short passages – sections 1–3 of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919 – fundamentally transformed British women’s relationship to the legal profession. The effect of section 3 was to admit women to British universities as full members and to permit them to graduate as men did: Oxford awarded its first degrees to women in 1920. This meant, of course, that women began to take law degrees, although it was not until 1965 that LMH acquired its first law fellow in the form of the formidable and distinguished Elizabeth Thorneycroft, herself one of LMH’s first law graduates. Sections 1 and 2 allowed women access to the legal profession as barristers and solicitors and – ultimately – judges, a development vividly illustrated at the level of individual experience by the life of Rose Heilbron, honorary fellow of the College: having achieved a first-class degree at the University of Liverpool, she became the first woman to take silk, the first female senior judge when she became a Recorder, and only the second to be appointed a High Court judge in 1974. More recently, LMH has been responsible for educating many leading female members of the legal profession, both in this country and elsewhere.

This remarkable transformation and the statute which initiated it was celebrated at an event held at the Holborn offices of DLA Piper in February this year. Hosted by alumnus Mark Dwyer, the event was entitled ‘2 out of 12 at 100: Marking 100 Years of Women in Law’: although LMH has produced more than its fair share of female High Court judges, it is a fact that following Baroness Hale’s retirement at the end of 2019 there are only two women on the Supreme Court, namely Lady Black and Lady Arden. Its aim was to learn from our five panellists – all alumnae of the College – about making your way as a woman in the legal profession today: about challenges surmounted, and challenges yet to be overcome.

The first of our speakers, Hilary Heilbron (1967 Jurisprudence), is a QC who now focuses principally on international arbitration, although her background is in commercial litigation. She spoke about the obstacles her mother Rose had faced during her long legal career; about how the position had changed by the time Hilary herself came to the Bar over 30 years later; and about the lessons that today’s women barristers can take from Rose’s experiences. We were gripped in particular by Hilary’s account of her mother’s complex relationship with the press, fascinated as the public were by what was then a unique combination of femininity – Rose was young and beautiful – and the mental toughness necessary to run some of the most famous criminal trials of the mid-twentieth century (she also acted for the cricketer Learie Constantine in the famous anti-discrimination case *Constantine v Imperial Hotels*).

Our second speaker, Charlotte Boaitey-Kwarteng (Boaitey 1980 Dip Social Anthropology), is Head of 12 Old Square Chambers and a member of both the London and Ghana Bars, having joined the former 38 years ago. She told us about her journey to the Bar as a black woman in the Britain of the 1980s and about her experiences since then as a criminal defence barrister; about overcoming prejudice on the Bench and among members of the legal profession through sheer ability, perseverance, and hard work: in her words, people stopped caring about her gender and her colour once she started winning cases! She also spoke movingly about Mavis Gibson, a Zimbabwean barrister whose response to the difficulties she encountered in getting tenancy at the London Bar was to found her own chambers. When Zimbabwe received its independence in 1980 Mrs Gibson was appointed a High Court judge in that country, and Charlotte took over as Head of Chambers.

Our third speaker, Evelien Visser (1999 DPhil Law), is senior legal counsel at Lloyds Bank; before moving in-house in 2010 she practised as an *advocaat* in the Netherlands and London. I asked her how this move had affected her day-to-day experiences as a legal practitioner who is also a mother, and whether this was a move which she would particularly recommend to young women starting out in law. Her answer was a resounding yes: she shared with us some critical moments on her path to her current role, spoke warmly of the support she had received from colleagues, and stressed the importance of positive energy and self-confidence in navigating male-dominated environments.

Our fourth speaker, Judith Gleeson (Coomber 1974 Jurisprudence), is a Judge of the Upper Tribunal and the Senior President's Lead Judge for IT and for International Activities, having begun her judicial career in 1995 when her son was born. She took a career break during his early childhood, and has held a 90 per cent judicial appointment since 2007, something which has not prevented her from taking up several leadership positions. I asked her how important she thought flexible working hours had been in the development of her own career as a judge, and whether more could be done to support women judges in this way. Her answer – echoing the remarks of Charlotte and Evelien – was that resistance to flexible working practices could often be overcome through a combination of competence and confidence. Their stories of combining motherhood with high-octane legal careers will have inspired many younger women in the room.

Our final speaker, Nina Goolamali (1991 Jurisprudence), is a QC specialising in catastrophic personal injury and sports law. I asked her what she thought could be done to increase the pipeline of women from the lower echelons of the Bar to Silk, the High Court and – ultimately – the Supreme Court, thus bringing us back to the evening's theme. She told us about her experience of balancing significant caring responsibilities with the demanding life of a barrister: it is undoubtedly the case that responsibilities of this kind – disproportionately borne by women – represent a brake on their progress towards the commanding heights of Bar and Bench. More generally, she spoke of the importance of personal authenticity, of toughness and resilience, and of taking a realistic approach to the intense competition and even isolation of life at the Bar.

It is not difficult to spot the common themes here. All our speakers emphasised pragmatism – the importance of picking your battles; several stressed that it was helpful to keep a relatively clear separation between family- and work-life; and almost all spoke of the importance of cultivating positive relationships with colleagues. Other powerful themes were the absolute necessity of self-confidence; the critical role of mentoring by other women; and a strong sense that the legal profession is essentially meritocratic – ultimately, talent and hard work are rewarded. With its emphasis on female dignity and agency, this is a deeply empowering narrative, and one with which I find myself identifying strongly. But at the same time, as I listened to our speakers, I could not help wondering how the next generation of women lawyers might seek to reshape it. One question asked by a current LMH graduate student at February's event pertained to how women in law might go about challenging institutional sexism; how they might dismantle the structures that hold women back. The inter-generational shift in attitude which this question discloses is clearly linked to wider debates about systematic inequality; and to the rise of a new intersectional feminism which demands the inclusion of women from low-income backgrounds, women of colour, women with disabilities, women with children or other dependants, and women of various sexualities. As gender ratios tip towards 50/50, young women may increasingly demand that the legal profession accommodate them,

rather than the other way around. I look forward very much to watching this next generation of female lawyers in action.

*Helen Scott*  
Fellow and Tutor in Law

*We are grateful to Anne Kennedy for her help in reconstructing the early history of law at LMH.*

## FROM LMH, VIA TEACHING, TO INTERPRETING THROUGH GLASNOST AND PERESTROIKA

I came up to LMH in 1949, the daughter of White Russian *émigrés* who, like many others, had to leave Russia in 1917 because of the Bolshevik revolution. We considered ourselves loyal subjects of the Crown, rather than citizens, with a profound conviction that it was our duty to repay the country which had received us 'by making a useful contribution to English life'. I was culturally Russian, so needed to know and better understand the country to whose life I longed to contribute. What LMH gave me, academically and socially, was immensely important in my life as director of the English part of the French Lycée in London, as a university lecturer in Cambridge and as Russian interpreter for members of the Royal Family, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

I came down from Oxford and took the Foreign Office exam. The FCO liked what I had to offer but turned me down because some of my parents' friends were thought to be 'too interested in cultural contacts in the Soviet Union'. If only I had waited a year or so, for Stalin to die and the West to welcome the Khrushchev thaw. Teaching was next on the list. The French Lycée's deputy director (a friend of my parents) offered me a temporary post, which grew into one of 17 years! I learnt a great deal about human nature, national characteristics and social mobility. I saw original sin on display in the playground; the subtle elegant cruelty used against an unpopular teacher; the extraordinary effect of a remarkable orator and leader, General de Gaulle, on French student expatriates; and the personal authority of a great, wise and humane headmaster, with a female deputy who had fought and killed in the Resistance. The Lycée had no means of enforcing punishment for student misdemeanour, so relied entirely on the personal authority of each teacher to maintain discipline. When I succeeded

a charming Englishman as head of the Lycée's large English sector, I was set to stay, but then I was invited to meet the head of the Slavonic department at Cambridge, a Catherine-the-Great quasi-imperial figure. She needed a native speaker with a British university degree as a lecturer, to avoid getting a Soviet lecturer who would come with 'KGB strings attached'.

At Oxford, I had been taught my Russian papers by fellow old White *émigrés*, anxious to preserve and pass on the Russian culture, which was being crushed or distorted by the Soviet regime. At Cambridge, my new colleagues in the Slavonic department were all English. I learnt a great deal about what attracted the sophisticated English student and reader to Russian literature and language, and therefore how I could contribute to that interest. When the university introduced a 'modern' paper of twentieth-century literature, which for us meant Soviet literature, nobody wanted to teach it! I volunteered but insisted on calling my lectures 'Russian literature in the Soviet period', an approach which earned me prolonged applause from the lecturers of a Russian pedagogical university in the 1990s, after the implosion of the Soviet Union.

In the mid-1980s, when Mikhail Gorbachev introduced 'perestroika' in the sclerotic Soviet Union, Mrs Thatcher decided she 'could do business' with him, and invited him on an official visit, an invitation eagerly accepted. However, in the hope of much-needed Western business, President Gorbachev decided to bring a large group of businessmen. The British government had only one official interpreter and so the FCO began recruiting university language teachers to help. The visit was a great success, with the Gorbachevs, to the dismay of security officials, going on enthusiastic walkabouts and with further contacts following in quick succession. We discovered that the Soviet interpreters were all future diplomats, with excellent knowledge, not only of the English language but also of British politicians! I was given some useful tips on how to interpret Neil Kinnock, who never stopped for the interpreter to translate him!

Mrs Thatcher found Mr Gorbachev easy and sympathetic to deal with. John Major found Boris Yeltsin even more anxious for business and cultural contact but rather less easy to deal with. By then I was regularly summoned to help with interpretation. I formed something of a bond with Mr Yeltsin, who felt that a White Russian *émigré* understood him better than either his Soviet officials or the British politicians he wanted to do business with. Gorbachev was essentially a conventional Social Democrat; Yeltsin was a new phenomenon for us, a pro-Western Russian nationalist.

In the mid-1990s we were actively helping the new Russian regime in its efforts to turn a vast conscript army into a much smaller, but more efficient, professional contract force. I found myself interpreting at meetings between British and Russian military teams, who frequently needed not only translation but mutual cultural elucidation. Interestingly, the fact that both my father and my grandfather had served in the pre-1917 Russian Imperial Army gave me considerable leverage with the Russian army officers, and I even recognised

certain traditional attitudes. The climax of my interpreting, in that period of frequent and productive British–Russian meetings, was the honour of being invited to act as Russian interpreter to members of the Royal Family. I accompanied the Prince of Wales, first to Saint Petersburg and subsequently to the newly independent states of Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. In 1997, I was invited to go as interpreter on the historic royal visit to Russia. I accompanied Prince Michael of Kent on numerous visits, including to the children's hospital of which he was royal patron. His extraordinary resemblance to Nicholas II, the last Emperor of Russia, always drew attention and in Saint Petersburg the usual gaggle of old women beggars outside the great naval church decided that they had been granted a vision of the resurrected Emperor! Whether in Russia or interpreting for the FCO or the MoD at home, I was always impressed by the warmth shown to me, from modern post-Soviet Russians, as a descendant of the White Russian *émigrés* who couldn't accept the 1917 revolution.

Alongside interpreting for the FCO and the MoD, I also interpreted for the Russian Orthodox Church, at the request of the World Council of Churches which it had joined in 1961. By then the Church was the only force of ideological opposition tolerated *de facto*, although not *de jure* by the Soviet state. The young theologians and clergy were my first contact with ideological opposition thinkers who were not political dissidents. They were keen to talk to us of the constant harassment and occasional persecution which they rightly suspected the West did not know of or did not want to know of. They trusted me and our London *émigré* Russian bishop and mistrusted my fellow interpreter, a French travelling intellectual. One senior churchman told me of the mass graves of the Soviet garrison who refused to shoot Hungarian rebels in 1956, and another warned us against idealistic clergy who believed that Soviet socialism was transformative Christianity for twentieth-century society!

In 2011 a pulmonary embolism nearly made me face my maker and I retired from interpreting. However, in 1990, I had met the English-speaking director of the Moscow State Library of Foreign Literature. She was the Soviet specialist on James Joyce (the most 'un-Soviet writer' she could find as a postgraduate student) who came to London to arrange the forthcoming visit of Father Alexander Men, a remarkable Russian priest with Jewish roots, who was known as 'the evangelist of the Soviet intelligentsia'. Sadly he never made it to London as he was killed, though probably not by the KGB. My new friend had followed an established tradition at the library and maintained its role as a leading centre of liberal thought, which meant keeping open contact with Western European and American universities and libraries. The Director of the Library of Congress was a friend and willing colleague. She organised a Board of Foreign Consultants, of which I became a member, together with American, French, German and lots of other colleagues. This gave me the opportunity of lecturing on my special field and favourite writer, Dostoevsky, in distant provincial libraries and colleges, for

whom a Russian literature specialist from Cambridge was a fascinating novelty. It gave me a unique opportunity to experience the complexity of the grafting of Soviet ideology on to Russian culture in its widest sense. Sadly, my friend the director died in 2015 but I remain a member of the Library's board and continue speaking in Russia on our Western Russian *émigré* view of modern culture and in the UK on contemporary Russian interest in Western culture and ideas.

*Irina Kirillova*  
(1949 Russian and French)

## A YEAR OF TURMOIL IN HONG KONG

When I left LMH in 1972, I immediately joined the administrative service of the Hong Kong government, where I worked until 2006, thereafter retiring in Hong Kong and keeping busy with some writing and broadcasting and a lot of voluntary work. My husband and I are heavily invested in the place: we live in a self-owned flat, and our two children and three grandchildren are settled here. Over the past year, we have been inundated with enquiries, 'Are you all right? What on earth is happening in Hong Kong?' The answer to the first is, 'Yes, thank you for asking.' The second takes a bit longer.

By 1860, as a result of the Opium Wars, the British Empire had wrested Hong Kong Island and the Kowloon Peninsula, located on the edge of the South China Sea, from the Chinese. In 1898, the British obtained from China the hinterland of the New Territories, on the basis of a lease expiring on 1 July 1997. Hong Kong could not function without that hinterland and so from the late 1970s there began a period of negotiation as to the territory's future. The formula that settled this was 'One Country, Two Systems', which meant that China regained sovereignty of the entirety but that, at least until 2047, Hong Kong would retain its capitalist system with liberal values and human rights, ruled by the Common Law. 'Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong' was a guideline for the executive-led future government, since democracy would be severely limited, although promised for a vague long term. A cadre of civil servants originally recruited and trained in British colonial times would provide the manpower for the system. Two of the four chief executives since the handover have also been drawn from this background, while the remainder have been local businessmen. In March 2017 Mrs Carrie Lam, a career civil servant, was elected chief executive in a process largely controlled by the Chinese authorities.

By the beginning of 2019, there were serious if hidden strains caused by Hong Kongers' identification of themselves as such, more than as Chinese citizens. In this there was a gulf between the people and the Hong Kong government, a

trend which had been observable since perhaps about 2010. Local people were aggrieved by the rush for tourist dollars that turned over neighbourhood shops to goods that appealed to mainlanders. In parallel, social needs, especially for affordable housing, were not being met. Glittering infrastructure projects for bridges and railway systems linking Hong Kong and mainland China exacerbated discontent rather than mitigating it.

Nonetheless, at the beginning of 2019, democratic parties looked in bad shape, performing limply in local elections. Then into the smouldering embers was flung the blazing brand of the amendment to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance (the extradition bill). A Hong Kong citizen was alleged to have murdered his girlfriend, another Hong Konger, in Taiwan in 2018. However, due to the lack of an extradition agreement, he could not be sent to stand trial there. The government's bill, introduced in April 2019, would have made case-by-case extradition possible not only to Taiwan but also to Macao and mainland China and it was this last that outraged first the business and legal sectors and soon the vast majority of Hong Kongers. Despite the government's promises of safeguards, they felt that the mainland's legal system is too opaque, too open to manipulation and too unlike Hong Kong's for these measures to be anything other than an intolerable threat to innocent Hong Kongers. I shared the anxieties and used any platform that I had to criticise the bill.

On 9 June 2019 a massive peaceful march, with more than a million participants claimed, opposed the extradition bill. Looking back to 2003 when a smaller march had taken place and controversial security legislation had been dropped, the expectation was that this would be the end of the matter. Once I was no longer a civil servant, I had participated in protest marches but gave this one a miss as I knew what an ordeal it was to wait for hours even to start walking. However, this time the tactic did not succeed, and Carrie Lam's government resumed the second reading of the bill on 12 June. That day, a large group of black-clad protesters tried to storm the legislative council and engaged in a violent confrontation with police who used tear gas and pepper spray. The sitting was suspended and on 15 June it was announced that action on the extradition bill would also be suspended.

Shortly thereafter, the 'five demands' of the protesters emerged: withdrawal of the extradition bill; a Commission of Inquiry into police brutality on 12 June; to stop describing the events of 12 June as a riot; an amnesty for actions of 12 June protesters; and that Carrie Lam step down as chief executive. As time went by and the government took no action, the references to 12 June were dropped and the demand that Mrs Lam resign was replaced by one for full universal suffrage. The international media was enthralled by these photogenic events taking place in an international city but tended to simplify matters by referring only to the first and fifth demands or simply describing these as 'pro-democracy' protests, as they skated over the niceties of Hong Kong's constitutional arrangements and incidentally exaggerated the likelihood of military intervention by Beijing. Around 12 June there might have been a chance of negotiating a settlement

between the protesters and the Hong Kong government, but as time went by this became less likely, especially as the protest movement was leaderless, with decisions being made by protesters using secure internet communications. The government formally withdrew the extradition bill on 23 October but there have been no moves to the protesters' satisfaction on the other items.

From early July onwards the protesters deployed more and more vandalism, although without looting. Government buildings including police stations were obvious targets as well as Chinese-owned banks. The Mass Transit Railway was considered to be colluding with the government by shutting down stations in response to protests and certain businesses were marked out as unsympathetic. Disruption was quite severe but mainly confined to weekends and we learned to live around it. A couple of times I was out on the streets when the immense flood of protesters, vastly outnumbering the police, appeared; I didn't take sides but speedily shuffled home by another way, taking advantage of Hong Kong's compact size and walkability. The international airport was closed down for a couple of days but that was not repeated. At the other end of the spectrum, some companies were the subject of pressure, being perceived as too friendly to the protest movement.

Public support for the protests, both tacit and explicit, was widespread, with disapproval of the government running at up to 80 per cent. The police were the only visible government presence on the streets and they bore the brunt of public antipathy with a dramatic collapse in trust of a force formerly held in high regard. Lurid rumours circulated on social media about deaths and injuries ascribed to police action and there was no widely accepted mechanism to assure accountability. I have great respect for our police, born of years of working relationships, and feel sure that much of what is believed is, to use a technical term, utterly bonkers and yet, in an undoubtedly fraught situation, the force does seem to have lost some of its expected professionalism and expertise.

On 8 November, a university student died from a fall in a car park in a protest area and, although the circumstances were not clear, the death generated enormous emotion among the protest movement. Trouble erupted in several university campuses which were soon centres for blocking neighbouring roads, while two of them were actually occupied, becoming factories for petrol bombs as well as strategically located citadels from which it proved possible to fire arrows at besieging police officers and to paralyse Hong Kong's transport and communications. I have a weekly radio broadcast commitment and found that a 25-minute underground railway journey from the studio had become two hours and was complicated by massive crowds on the platforms. Every aspect of daily life was affected, and schools were suspended. This apparently stunning success was, however, an overreach. Cracks began to show in the public's support, supplies in the 'citadels' ran low and the police regained control of the occupied campuses.

The protesters declared an unofficial but largely effective truce in the days leading up to the district council elections, held on 24 November. The echo

chamber of the establishment was convinced that the disruption caused by the protests as well as the violence they had inflicted on those who seemed opposed to them would ensure that voters would turn against the pro-democracy candidates. The queues to vote were so long that I, like many others, had to give up and return later. Not to vote at all at this juncture would have seemed unthinkable.

The results showed that although there might have been some reduction in sympathy for the protests it was outweighed by an unabated anger at the government. Pro-Beijing candidates' votes were decimated and democrats gained control of 17 out of the 18 councils. A short period of calm ensued but protests resumed after a couple of weeks and now police were also discovering caches of deadlier weapons, including homemade bombs. The familiar slogan of 'Five demands, not one less' echoed in the streets again. The protests were somewhat smaller in scale and new police tactics favoured earlier intervention. Damage was mostly repaired and normal life possible. The tourist industry was devastated and shops and restaurants hurting, but Hong Kong's status as an international financial centre was resilient and its deep financial reserves meant that the government had ample funds for rebuilding. There was not, however, a true resolution of the tensions. Many of the protesters' attitudes were naïve and irrational, some of their actions totally deplorable, yet their defiance of too big a tilt towards Beijing resonated with a majority of the community.

This was the uneasy situation as we moved into the new year and a new decade. Then, towards the end of January, there was a twist that would have strained credulity if this had been a work of fiction. A novel coronavirus, originating in Wuhan in Hubei province, threatened Hong Kong and, indeed, the whole world. Memories of the SARS epidemic in 2003 were stirred, especially among those of us who had been part of the government effort to combat it. We remembered how it felt to be confronted by a completely unknown sickness sweeping through our population and the early days when it did not seem overly melodramatic to consider the possibility of dying in the line of duty. We now have the advantage of the knowledge gained from that experience, but we never 'step into the same river twice' and this disease seems to have different characteristics. At the time that I write this we do not know how long or hard this battle will be but it already feels as if all those events and facilities that were not touched by the protests have now been cancelled and closed in the effort to cut off an epidemic. We are again compelled to hunker down, hope for the best and rely on the virtues that this community has developed during a history of challenges.

Hong Kong, fascinating and loveable city state, has become my home. I am grateful to LMH for many things and particularly for opening the door that has made it possible for me to make a life here.

*Rachel Cartland*  
(Howard 1969 PPE)



## MEMORIES OF LIFE AT LMH

### *Elspeth Morley (Hutchinson 1952 PPE)*

My memories of LMH include one of being rusticated in May 1953, in my first summer term, after being caught climbing in through my window in Old Hall at 4am, on my return from the Eights Week Ball at Queen's College. A porter had been asked to watch all night and caught two of us. Twelve others, who either stayed out all night or came back by punt and climbed in at the back of the college, escaped capture. LMH rules in the 1950s were so antiquated that even to come back by 9pm required a prior signature of intent, and by 11pm a half-crown permit must be bought from the Bursar before 9am. A visit by a man in your room was only permitted between 12 noon and 5pm. (I recall an occasion when my ebullient dog-collared paternal vicar uncle could be heard bellowing at the wretched woman at the LMH Lodge impeding his attempt to visit me at 11am!) The only night when it was permitted to buy a pass to come back to College after 11pm was the last night of term, when it was possible to attend a named men's college ball.

My mother (Margaret Owen Jones 1925 PPE), who got her 2nd class Hons PPE degree at LMH in 1928, was also caught climbing into college, after spending the night out with a young man at Oriel College, also working for his PPE degree (3rd class). She subsequently embarked in 1929 on a blissful marriage with said young man, producing four children, of whom only their first child, my older sister, had the audacity to decline working to get a PPE degree at LMH (or Oriel for our two brothers). But my mother was not rusticated. On the contrary, she was embraced by the Principal who said, 'Oh my dear, you should have told us you were meeting that lovely young man.' My mother did not even have to confess that her absence had interrupted her daily habit of 'signing in', before breakfast, the initials of all her friends, as was an additional requirement at LMH in 1928. But she had wisely fulfilled the LMH rule that she had taken with her a 'suitably qualified female companion' when meeting with my father at Oriel, with the recent relaxation of the requirement that 'suitably qualified' could mean a fellow woman undergraduate, rather than only an older LMH staff member.

But 24 years later, in 1953, my own crime of climbing in was punished, not only by rustication, but by having to pay again to return to college in the summer vacation to make up the missed three weeks of term. This was already recognised as a draconian penalty, so that an audacious male undergraduate discovered that he could sell the story of my rustication to some nine daily newspapers (including even the *South African Times*), two of which made it front page news

(alongside the Coronation and a report of the first climbing of Mount Everest, which happened in the same week). My father (R. C. Hutchinson) was by this time a successful novelist, and his press-cutting agency sent him copies of every newspaper report. When the headmistress of the country grammar school I had left the previous year read these reports, she wrote to me to say what a shock it was to learn of this disgraceful behaviour of a previous head girl, setting an unforgivably bad example to the younger girls at the school, and that I must not ever revisit the school. But when my father said that, in that case, he would not fulfil the previously agreed task of speaking and giving prizes at the imminent school Speech Day, she decided to withdraw her decision to ostracise me.

You can see why I found it hard to choose just three words to describe my experience of my time at LMH and why I rejoice in the total transformation of the college in the last 70 years!

### *Angela Robinson (Pedlar 1957 History and 1968 Theology)*

I was at LMH twice, for two undergraduate degrees (history and then theology) and a Diploma of Education after my history degree. For the second degree, I lived on a farm at Eaton and commuted in my car, bearing the farmer's eldest son who went to the Dragon School – that is how I earned my keep!

What was conveyed at LMH – but not actually talked about – was that, unless we got 'good' degrees, there was not much point in being there as we had to prove we were better than the men in order to justify the women's colleges existing! There was little appreciation of the other things one was doing with one's time to contribute to university life generally. Drama was disapproved of, but that was the world I got involved with, along with the Congregational Society centred on Mansfield College.

We were transported along our way by the exhilaration of being at LMH in Oxford! The honour and glory of it never failed to amaze, as I was the first in my family to achieve such a thing. I made friends at LMH that have lasted my lifetime and our life together was lovely. Most of the others were sons and daughters of high-school teachers and we met over coffee and talked and talked. I had three of my May birthdays as breakfast punt parties – bliss!

It was the age of respect for one's teachers – calling them by their first names was unthinkable – but then they showed their respect for us by calling us Miss (whatever), which made us feel an inch taller. Miss Hurnard and I did not have much in common except affection for her muscular Staffie 'Benjy'. Her voice could be often heard over the Parks, when walking with this undisciplined hound, 'Benjy, come here!' Anne Whiteman was thrilling on my beloved seventeenth-century English history period. She also told me that interpreting photos over the desert in the Second World War was difficult as, from a plane, a camel could look very like a tank!

When it came to asking permission for leave, the attitudes were so strict that one could cave in when one should have stood up for oneself. I asked permission to go home for my grandfather's funeral in Southport and stay overnight. He was the real patriarch of the family and everyone was turning up. I was asked whether I could go up north and return on the same day and I worked out that I could *just* do it if I caught every connection. In the event I missed one and was in floods of tears to miss such a significant occasion and be the only grandchild not to be there. But most of us were not brought up to understand when it was okay to defy authority or question its suggestions.

My room, for all three years, was in Old Hall and in my first year I had a coal fire. I was given a small bucket of coal for two days which usually lasted one evening – when I would put a notice on the door inviting people in to share the warmth. Otherwise, I would sit in my school cloak or go into someone else's room or a library. In my third year in residence, the cherry trees opposite Old Hall were cut down in full bloom to make way for the library. The previous 'library' was situated here and there, and its rules were strictly kept and all were quiet places. When I returned in 1968, I was appalled at the noise that was tolerated and the breakdown of the old trust that allowed one to handle books of all kinds and to take most of them 'out' just by signing for them.

The value I have also been left with is a profound respect for the intellectual approach to more or less everything. The importance of not only thinking about things but putting them into words in order to think more widely and deeply and effectively. Life is not all about feelings, however important – and even feelings have to be thought about and discussed in order to survive the damage they can do if one just 'goes with the flow' without mindfulness and its disciplines.

The total experience of Oxford has enriched my whole life – its beauty and historicity. I think of many things: the outdoor productions, 'exit, pursued by a bear' through the woods of Magdalen College, *Love's Labour's Lost* in the Trinity lime grove, and being in Ken Loach's one-act version of *I Am a Camera* in his first term and in review with Esther Rantzen; then there was the setting of some great college halls, with the dons of the past gazing down upon us; the voices of lecturers ringing, their character lighting up the words presenting the fruits of their scholarship and demanding a response in their student hearers; the Bach Choir in the Sheldonian; and cycling, in long, warm skirts and thick stockings, criss-crossing the city. There is no one single memory – it is a collage!

### **Susanna Todd (Hillyard 1978 English)**

I went up to LMH in October 1978, the last year before it went mixed, in many ways the last year of the old Oxford, before most colleges were mixed, when the female:male ratio was much lower. It was a privileged time: it always is, to be at Oxford, but it seemed especially so. As women we were always noticeable, in

demand for plays, to supplement *ad hoc* choral performances, or as arm candy (I was useless) – not that we called it that.

LMH had been my mother's college. My father (Exeter) had always been impressed by the family nature of the Gaudies – things for small children to do – and by the charm and sophistication of my mother's friends. Far from rescuing her from a grim women's college as he thought he'd done, he found wit and scholarship to equal his. We therefore went to the Gaudies, when back on leave, and when my mother kindly drove me up, that first October, I recalled being a small child in the garden with bubbles.

So it seemed vaguely familiar.

I was fortunate enough to have a room on the second floor of one of the Deneke buildings. Especially fortunate because there were two second years (Eva Korytko and Rosemary Atkinson) who had stayed on, feeling that they might as well since they were bottom of the room ballot. They made our lives much easier as we learned to orient ourselves. It was very relaxed. Horizontal, perhaps. We dropped in on each other for coffee, the one lump or two of powdered milk or milk kept on the windowsill – the fridge was always overburdened. Our wonderful Irish scout Pat would implore the aid of St Anthony, on her knees, if we had failed to find something – a hairbrush, say. St Anthony provided without fail.

We learned the ropes, went to formal hall to eat something called Chicken Coq au Vin. There was no vegan 'meat' then, so this was a bit perplexing, but it gave a clue to the general standard of LMH's catering, notorious among the colleges. Merton for a good meal, LMH for the reverse. So we cooked on the two-ring cookers. Maggie Colquhoun was famed for her Yorkshire baking. I made and lived off lentil soup. And breakfast. Breakfast was one of LMH's least worst meals. There wasn't a lot that could go wrong. It was included in the termly fees. Most important of all, you could go in your dressing gown. So we did. Only those who had early tutorials or had been on the river tended to be dressed. It wasn't quite *comme il faut* to arrive in floaty lingerie. Most of us had warm dressing gowns to fend off the draughts and supplement the low-level central heating. It was the slippers that distinguished between *femme fatale* and Nice Girl. The former wore fluffy *pantoufles* with kitten heels, in baby pink. Nice Girls didn't.

But with the turn of the next year and the arrival of male students, dressing gowns vanished, banished from the scene. Or at any rate breakfast. A mixed generation had arisen that expressed caustically its views on the need for night attire but especially the warm, comfy, cosy, granny-style dressing gown. A few hardy souls tried to keep the tradition going but it was doomed from the start. The lazy, like me, eschewed breakfast for ever.

Also doomed was the attempt to expel intruders after the curfew hours. All the time that my mother had spent inducting me into the handholds and footholds of various college walls including LMH's, wasted. After all, who was to

tell these days if the voice emanating through the thin walls was a member of college or not?

The other immediately noticeable change was the mud. Mud everywhere. Tracked in clumps. It was quite extraordinary, the difference: worthy of a DPhil. The delightful Lodge ladies who sold single crumpets and eggs (usually for supper; see LMH cooking *supra*) not infrequently despaired. And it was felt that they needed a Lodge man, rather to their distress.

And a male Principal. *Pace* previous and existing holders of the position, and whatever the merits individually, this was the unkindest cut of all. We felt it an insult to both sexes, that it might seem that a male Principal would be needed to control unruly young men. Anyone who had been cut down to size by the withering eye of a tough-minded female don had no doubt that it would work on either sex. And we were worried about the number of top jobs for women.

It was a shock to the system.

As the year went on, further changes emerged. The JCR became more political, with a small p. Some people clearly wanted to use it to further their careers, unthinkable hitherto. A now well-known financier became Washing Machine Rep, a post that generations of women had tried to avoid. The parties were noisier. The Chapel choir gained: more mixed voices ('join the LMH choir with dinner afterwards' had had limited appeal), and more excellent organ scholars. I had founded a small debating society, 'The Incoherents', and it definitely gained from a more dialectic approach, less consensual, although I gather it finally foundered after my time when dialectic broke into a fight. There was less consensus, too, in Judith Ingham's 'Odds, Sods and Heretics' group for the Christian Union, where a now well-known headmaster challenged evangelical Protestant thinking. No fights there; Judith's fruit cake soothed all souls.

Our year didn't notice a difference academically. We were still the minority. We had tutorials with male and female tutors in college or outside as ever. We just continued. We had no worries about gender disparity in particular subjects: we were used to that in the university as a whole and we trusted the tutors and the application processes. We did worry that LMH might become the dumping ground of those who couldn't get in elsewhere, but that would be after our time.

But it felt as though, slowly, there was a wider social spectrum. The grammar and independent schools still provided the majority of students. But now there was a freshness coming through, from schools that had obviously never been represented before, state and private. What had been a high-powered (certainly in English) but comfortable club atmosphere, with quite a few unstated rules and understated behaviour, was open – had opened itself – to challenge. We welcomed much of this, while still concerned that there should be bolt holes for the shy, for those whose backgrounds might mean an all-female environment was the right step at this point.

Some people have asked whether it felt claustrophobic as a women's college. No, because we were rarely there, save to work. It was more like home. Social

life was generally outside. That assumption started to break down as we saw relationships starting within the college. We feared it would become more, rather than less, isolated.

Was going mixed good or bad? It was as it was. We were a compliant generation, less likely to take to protest than our predecessors or successors. The unemployment issues of the 1970s, affecting our parents, cast a long shadow. We accepted change, with some concerns and some appreciation.

Cooking has emerged as a common theme in this piece. In my second year, friends and I had rooms on the same main ground-floor corridor. Tani Nath's superb cooking scented the corridors with Indian savours. In my third year, that had gone. But instead pheasant hung, gently ripening, in the kitchen.

### **Jonathan Hoare (1979 Theology)**

*What's it like to be a man at LMH?* This question was asked of me three times, as far as I can recall: twice early in my first term at the college and once in my third year in an interview for my first job. There was, of course, understandable curiosity from people who had known LMH before 1979. The first time I was asked the question seriously was by the boyfriend of a girl in the year above who had regularly visited the college the year before and who was concerned to check that I was a rational human being.

LMH had, of course, embraced the change that admitting men would bring about. After careful analysis of the habits of men in other colleges, LMH concluded that the one thing that was lacking, and that would be essential in a new mixed environment, was a college bar serving good beer. The college also recognised its lack of sporting facilities for what were, in those days, more traditional male sports such as football and rugby and entered into a one-year arrangement with Magdalen College, to share sports pitches and run mixed teams. The second time that I was asked what it was like to be a man at LMH was by the Magdalen rugby captain immediately prior to a trial for what was intended to be a joint team. Without waiting for a response, he told me that Magdalen already had far too many people in my position (second row forward) and that if I wanted a trial I would have to play on the wing. Neither the trial nor the sharing arrangements were a success but all credit to LMH for trying to put something in place. By my second year, LMH was able to field a seven-a-side team for the annual cuppers competition (losing narrowly to the eventual winners), and by my third year a full team of 15 was playing. Rugby's loss was rowing's gain. LMH already had joint use of a boathouse and fielded a number of strong women's eights. A men's crew was able to form immediately with all of us taking up the sport for the first time and trained by excellent women coaches from the years above.

LMH was my first-choice college, chosen partly because it was unusual in having a tutor in both law and theology (I was initially undecided as to what

subject to read) but also because of the extensive discussions that I had with the law tutor, Ann Kennedy, at an open day the year before I applied. Ann outlined the positive steps that the college was taking to ensure that it would be fully mixed as quickly as possible (and I expect she mentioned the bar!) and convinced me that all students would be treated as individuals regardless of whether they were male or female. This proved to be correct – I read theology at LMH but Ann Kennedy kept in touch throughout my three years at the college and, indeed, helped me to apply to train as a solicitor after graduating.

There were some opponents to the college admitting men and I recall a frosty response in my first term from a small number of girls in the third year, and from one or two tutors, but I suspect my recollections of this may derive as much from my nervousness at having been at Oxford at all at that stage in life, as opposed to being at LMH specifically.

Having been at an all-boys grammar school and having no sisters at home, I found the sight of a dining room full of girls in their dressing gowns at breakfast in the first few days/weeks a little daunting. This tradition didn't last and by my third year most people seemed to dress for breakfast. It also seemed strange to be housed in Deneke in my first year where all the rooms had narrow beds on wheels and wide doors. This was, we were told, because in previous years an undergraduate would have to wheel her bed into the corridor prior to entertaining a man for tea in her room! Men at LMH caused a new problem for the night porter, Mr Phipps. It was common to hear him knocking on a door after ten o'clock to enquire of a mixed group of undergraduates, 'Are all the gentlemen in this room members of the college?' The answer given was always 'Yes' which seemed to satisfy him and no further questions were ever asked.

The college becoming mixed also had an impact on the highly polished parquet flooring in the dining room and on Deneke corridor. When I arrived at LMH in 1979 it almost seemed a shame to walk on the surface, let alone run, but by the time I left, three years later, the impact of college discos in the dining room and a less deferential approach to using the corridors had taken its toll and the floors had far less of a showroom look to them.

As with all undergraduates, my time at LMH passed far too quickly and in the last year I applied for a job. At interview I was again asked by the interviewer, a senior partner in a City of London law firm, what it was like to be a man at LMH. This time, however, the interviewer wasn't really interested in my answer and just wanted to tell me about the number of times he had been forced to climb out of LMH when he was an undergraduate. The LMH that he described bore no resemblance to the mixed college that I remembered.

## **Andy Beckingham (1981 Engineering Science)**

I arrived at LMH for the Michaelmas term of 1981 expecting to face a fearsome academic challenge and, perhaps more worryingly, the prospect of living and studying alongside women. Quite an adjustment from my rather insular boys-only school in South Wales. Although by this time the majority of Oxford colleges were admitting both men and women, I had made LMH my first-choice college having been impressed by Duncan Stewart's insistence that the gender balance of the undergraduate intake in that and subsequent years would be carefully managed in order to facilitate both the academic and social agenda. And so it proved.

I was fortunate enough to meet Alison Woodcock, who represented the third generation of women in her family to study at LMH, at a freshers' cheese and wine party held in Talbot JCR in the first few days of term. Upon our introduction, Alison made it perfectly clear that her intention was to avoid any privately educated Christian men, but we nevertheless married shortly after graduation and one of our daughters, Kate, is now also an LMH senior member and thus represents a fourth generation.

Not that undergraduate life at that time was all about tutorials and relationships. One of the most exhilarating features of LMH in the early 1980s was the real sense of opportunity, encouraged by visionary elements within the SCR, to instigate some new traditions to complement the best of the college's rich heritage. Not so much a battle of the sexes as a race to spend sports and social funding with creativity and enthusiasm. The introduction of a college scone was, I recall, a step too far for the JCR of the day, but we achieved more success in opening up some of the other traditional male pursuits for all to enjoy.

The newly formed LMH rugby club was facing a dilemma. It could not secure competitive fixtures without first being accredited by the Rugby Football Union (RFU), but could not achieve that accreditation without having first played some matches. With a view to breaching the impasse, a series of tentative fixtures against other colleges was arranged alongside a contemporaneous application to Twickenham. With a very small contingent of talent drawn from some of the finest rugby-playing schools in the country, and a much larger contingent drawn from elsewhere, some purposeful training and selection sessions were held on the water-logged and mud-drenched hockey pitch by the Cherwell. That mud made quite an impact within the once-fragrant bathrooms on a number of corridors.

Early results were mixed. Thrashed to nil in the opening fixture by the Hilarians (one of Teddy Hall's reserve sides which was as famous for its hard partying as for its sporting prowess), we were fearful of further humiliation at the players' reception afterwards. Thankfully, however, with the support of Kath, the bar manager, and the encouragement of the omnipresent Space Invaders, we managed to give such a solid account of ourselves in the hitherto decorous

college bar, and later in Uddins Manzil Tandoori at the bottom of Little Clarendon Street, that LMH was duly installed by the Hilarians, and subsequently by other rival college teams, as a favoured location for post-match mixed-gender frivolity.

Approval of our RFU membership application swiftly followed and rugby at LMH was secure. Too late for some to overcome the initial prejudice of those within the OURFC fraternity who found it inexplicable, not to say a source of great amusement, that triallists might arrive at Iffley Road claiming to be from what was still thought to be a ladies' college, but some firm foundations were laid and change soon arrived. It has subsequently been a joy to note a number of Blues and first-class playing careers among both men and women who have passed through the club's ranks since those pioneering early days.

### **Richard Meares (1982 French and Russian)**

Leaving home for university – and not just any university! – was a monumental life change. The fact that my college used to be for women only was a mere footnote. LMH had welcomed its first male students in its 101st year in 1979, so when I arrived in 1982, the college was just getting used to a fully mixed undergraduate life. My tutors in College were all women, and the halls were hung with portraits of influential women from the college's past, but female and male students were already pretty even in number. At those men's colleges which had also just gone mixed, a strong gender imbalance still persisted for quite a while. Women's colleges had gone mixed far more quickly and only a few single-sex colleges remained, such as Oriel.

There were, though, a few times when I was aware of being a little part of history. The most annoying was when, at one or other social event far away from Oxford, I'd meet some man who had studied there decades before and was delighted to meet a fellow Oxonian.

'Oh marvellous, what college are you at?'

'Lady Margaret Hall.'

'But, but . . . but that's a ladies' college!' he would say with a disbelieving frown.

There were advantages, too, and the main one was to be part of a well-mixed, relaxed community. Another plus for the newly arrived men was the ease of sporting victory, in rowing at least. The men's first VIII had had to start right off the bottom of Division 99, or whatever the lowest rung of rowing was, and slowly work its way up, term by term. So defeating rivals (Oriel's tenth VIII or whomever) was assured for quite some years. Well, more or less . . . there was the time we crashed into the bank, I think . . .

## **DOROTHY AND LUCY BRADBY, 1879 AND 1892**

The Editor apologises for an error in the 2019 edition of *The Brown Book*. In the article about the first students at LMH, we referred to Dorothy Bradbury when her surname was, in fact, Bradby. She was the eldest daughter of Edward Henry Bradby, headmaster of Haileybury, and his wife Ellen Sarah (*née* Johnson).

The friend of an alumna spotted this error as he had been cataloguing an archive which included some early LMH students. He told us that the Bradby family papers are held in Hampshire Record Office and that the family were all great correspondents. They kept many of the letters, including those written by Dorothy which give a good indication of the things she was involved in during her life. Several date from her time at LMH and talk about daily life and problems at the college and also relations with the students at Somerville. The archive also includes essays and notes she made while at LMH.

Dorothy's youngest sister, Lucy Barbara Bradby, always known as Barbara, also went to LMH, and there are letters from her in the archive. She was the first woman student at Oxford to use a bicycle and was also head of the college's boat club, captain of the hockey team and a tennis champion. She further distinguished herself by being the first woman to take a double-first in Classical Moderations and Greats. In 1901 Barbara married John Lawrence Le Breton Hammond. The Hammonds were influential social historians and wrote eight books together between 1911 and 1934. They are best known for their trilogy, *The Village Labourer* (1911), *The Town Labourer* (1917) and *The Skilled Labourer* (1919), which presented the Industrial Revolution as a disaster. She was awarded a DLitt in 1933 and there is a portrait of her in College.



Barbara Bradby, painted by William Rothenstein, 1908



# NEWS

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# PERSONAL AND CAREER NEWS FROM ALUMNI

Items of news can be sent to the Editor directly or via the Development Office, by post or by email, at any time of the year. Please include your date of, and your name at, matriculation. We do not publish personal email addresses, but the Development Office is always happy to facilitate contact between alumni. Women members are listed by their surnames at the time of entry to LMH; married names, if used, are placed in brackets afterwards.

Alumni started sending us their news towards the end of 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic. Sadly and inevitably, some of the future events that they mention and were looking forward to will have been cancelled or at least postponed. We have chosen not to alter the text we were sent.

## 1950

**ANTONIA PAKENHAM** (Fraser) enjoyed a week of unparalleled pleasure in October 2019. Her latest publication *The King and the Catholics: The Fight for Rights 1829* (2018) won the first *Catholic Herald* History Prize and within seven days her *Marie Antoinette: The Journey* (2001) was selected by Elton John as one of his favourite books for the *New York Times*.

**ALEXINE STROVER** (Crawford) writes that her second seventeenth-century historical novel *Charity's Choice* was published in September and is being well received.

## 1952

**BARBARA BUCKNELL** reports that she has had an academic career teaching French and specialising in Marcel Proust at the University of Illinois, USA, and Brock University, Canada. Her *Proust Revisited* is still in print after nearly 30 years. Since she retired in 1993, she has been devoting herself to art and poetry. She has been encouraged in her art by her brother, Malcolm Roderick Bucknall, who is a well-known artist in Austin, Texas, and her sister, Annabel Spielman, who teaches art to the tourists on Hawaii. In 2019 she held three art shows, one in March together with Lynne Mawson to celebrate International Women's Day, one in May showing some recent work at the Niagara Artists' Centre, and a show

of 'Goddesses' in September. At the same time in September, she held a book launch for the second edition of her *Witch Poems*, a book of humorous poems illustrated by her, which she is pleased to say was a success. She adds that, since she is old and frail, she lives with a caregiver, Andrew Pylypiv, a Canadian of Ukrainian origin, whom she got to know because he lived in a rooming house next door to her. He takes good care of her and her two cats.

**ELSPETH HUTCHINSON** (Morley) followed her Oxford PPE BA with a Social Science Diploma at LSE for work as a probation officer and, later, Tavistock Couple Psychotherapy and British Association of Psychotherapy training, leading to 50 years of work as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist with couples and individual adults. She has published papers on her particular focus, which is the way our first attachment relationship is influenced hugely by our position in the family, with our siblings, and their effect on our unconscious adult couple choice, an area remaining strangely neglected by psychoanalytic therapists.

**ANTONIA McANDREW** (Southern) is working on a book, *Courtly Love: A Once-fashionable Idea: Studies in the Writings of Chaucer, Malory, Spenser and Others*, and comments that this subject seems relevant in this feminist age.

## 1953

**SONIA MARY MACFARLANE** (Haslett) writes that they went to Florida this year for the wedding of Michael's eldest grandson. She adds that it was a three-day affair, starting with a welcome barbecue on the white sands of the main beach, looking out over the dark blue Atlantic Ocean. The wedding was the following day in a little chapel, followed by cocktails and dinner, and the brunch on the third day was a civilised affair, not too early. Every guest received a souvenir magazine on the lines of *Hello*, with the bride and groom looking very glamorous on the front cover. After all this excitement, she and Michael were very happy to relax by the pool and watch the palm trees waving gently against a bright blue sky, which she suggests was a striking contrast with November in Lancashire.

## 1955

**YOMA CROSFIELD** (Margaret Yoma Ullman) writes that, after many years of intense photography, she collected some two hundred of her best photographs and, with the aid of an editor, made a book of them primarily for family and friends. One of Yoma's daughters is an adjunct professor at Columbia University in New York. Of her children, one graduated from Princeton University last year and is now in graduate school at Columbia in neuroscience. His twin graduated from Harvard and is teaching in the programme 'Teach for America'. Their younger sister is in her last year at Princeton and headed for medical school.

Yoma's other daughter lives in London and, after ten years as director of Battersea Park, became a temporary trustee at Kew Gardens, went on the board of the RSPB and currently is associated with the National Trust.

**SUSAN GLADSTONE** (Meads) writes that, having stayed in the same village, in almost exactly the same place, for 57 years, it is hard to identify and report her many changes, but here are a few: arrived as a university bride; produced two sons; started a playgroup; elected first to the Parish Council then to the District Council; separated, then divorced; enrolled as a solicitor; practised family and probate law and became senior partner in the oldest firm in Exeter; lost District Council seat (after 34 years as an Independent) and promptly became an Honorary Alderman; retired; after many happy holidays in family home in North Cornwall (and elsewhere) sold the said home and went round the world on QM2. She is now happily living in Cheriton Fitzpaine, Devon and approaching the fiftieth anniversary of her election as a Parish Councillor. She finishes that this is not as boring as it may sound; around her, the village has changed a lot.

**CHRISTINE MASON** (Thetis Sutherland) has been busy selling houses and moving this year, so has not done any scholarly work or volunteer teaching. She hopes to get back to it next year. Her son Richard Sutherland is on a year's sabbatical leave from Mount Royal University where he is an Associate Professor. His son Joel has just begun his studies for a PhD in Film Studies at the University of Chicago. Her granddaughter Aphra has just won a prize for an essay on the gothic novel at the University of Calgary.

**ANNE HOWETT WORSTER** has now been at Arundel for over a year and continues to enjoy the change greatly. She says that this community of Poor Clares is very different from the one in which she lived from 1975. It is much larger and is more focused on its Franciscan identity. More surprising, in this day and age, is that they have three people in formation and others interested. It also has a wonderfully large and varied library in which she has been working. They have just finished cataloguing the poetry and literature section and she is hoping to be let loose on the history books soon. The community has several talented singers which allows them to have a vibrant as well as a prayerful liturgy. They are currently in the process of making a recording for Decca. She has been learning the treble recorder and is now allowed to join the little consort they have on Sundays. Another joy for her is that she is near enough to London for friends to visit, which was much more difficult when she lived in north Devon. There is a capacious guest house when visitors or family want to come for a longer stay and a mobile home which is really comfortable for families or guests wanting a quieter time. She says she feels blessed.

## 1956

**JEANETTE SCOTT** (Beer) published her latest book, *A Companion to Medieval Translation*, last year and St Hilda's College gave a book launch for it on 24 October 2019. The Principal, Sir Gordon Duff, welcomed the guests and invited the guest of honour, Vincent Gillespie, Tolkien Professor of English, to introduce the book and the author, who then talked briefly about the book.

**GILLIAN TINDALL** writes that her latest book, *The Pulse Glass, and the Beat of Other Hearts*, was published in late October and was the book of the week on Radio 4 in late November.

## 1957

**ANGELA PEDLAR** (Robinson) reports that she went to Bangladesh in January 2020. She stayed with a friend and met up with ex-pupils and teachers and friends, including her friend, named Lenin, who was the Superintendent of the British School while she was Principal. She went up north to the St Andrew's Mission High School in Haluaghat, staying with the Taize Brothers at Mymensingh on the way. The school laid on a festive lunch and presented her with an amazing plaque with flowery expressions of appreciation for her two and a half years there. There was no piped water in those days – just tube wells and buckets and jugs and she was the only resident foreigner for miles around. Excitingly, when she was having a posh dinner with Lenin at the American Club she suddenly heard 'Mrs Robinson!' from behind the bar and there were two Garo (tribal) young men who recognised her from the Mission School in Haluaghat 20 years ago! She flew south to Barisal to stay with the finest priest in the Church of Bangladesh, who has been elected a Bishop, and his wife – a wonderful couple. Accompanying them to two church services, she was as impressed as ever with the love of God and devotion to their church, expressed in their joyful and passionate worship. As she heard about what challenges the church was facing, she could not but think how often it was that God was OK and his people were OK, but the other bit – the CHURCH – really can be a pain. While she was there, the police kept an eye on her. She had to give her passport to them at the local airport and, after the evening service in a church, their car escorted her car to see her safely home. She adds that this was very different from trotting off on her own, as she did when she was there from 1999 to 2013.

## 1958

**ELIZABETH BURNSIDE** (Lisa Parkinson) writes that the UK's departure from the EU seems to her like tearing a page out of a book. The page and the book are both damaged and a loose page carries little weight. Members of her immediate



family speak English, French and Portuguese as first languages and they all see international cooperation as having the greatest importance in every field – including action on climate change, the economy, and in the academic world. Her son is an environmental engineering consultant specialising in water and sanitation. He is currently working on a project in Myanmar. During the summer she visited family and friends in France, and in October she was in Florence (for the eleventh time!) to give training for Italian mediators. Next March she has been invited to give a week's mediation training in the Ukraine. Maintaining international connections is so valuable and sharing experience and ideas is also very enjoyable. Her family enquire when she is retiring and she tries to convince them that she is winding down, as indeed she feels that she is. She adds that a family history project is on the cards, as her great-grandfather travelled very widely in the 1840s and 50s. On his third voyage up the Nile he met her future great-grandmother, who came from Northern Ireland. She was travelling up the Nile with her father and sister. It is quite a romantic story!

## 1959

**CATHERINE DELANO SMITH** continues working in retirement from university teaching. Her Oxford degrees were all in geography, but she is now affiliated to the Institute of Historical Research, University of London. She is Editor of *Imago Mundi*, the flagship periodical for the history of non-current maps and mapping from earliest times anywhere in the world, and struggles to find time to keep up her own writing on a number of map-related fronts, medieval and early modern. She writes to say that recently she has been taking a fresh look at one of the Bodleian Library's most treasured manuscript maps, the medieval map of Britain known as the Gough Map after Richard Gough, Director of the Society of Antiquaries, who purchased it in 1774 when it came to light after centuries of obscurity. The very worn, metre-long document depicting the island of Britain with a perhaps surprising number of surrounding islands, is packed with more than 660 pictorial place-signs, 800 toponyms or brief inscriptions, a dense river network, and some (widely misunderstood) lines giving distances between a few places. Uncompleted drawings in the North Sea portray a shipwreck, a man in a boat and three large fish. The map's date, maker, original owner and function have never been satisfactorily established and the initial informal group project initiated in 2012 was an attempt to revisit these matters and correct the literature as necessary. The outcome was sufficiently path-breaking to justify the award of a three-year grant from the Leverhulme Trust which supports an ambitious multi-disciplinary investigation into the document in all its scientific and historical aspects. No less important a concern is the compilation of a comprehensive gazetteer of the place-names of England, Scotland and Wales, thus making the Gough Map's toponymy available to place-name researchers for the first time. Their revisionary discoveries to date are that the document was

created and used as a working document (to be laid on the table, consulted, and constantly amended in small ways); that the manuscript thus comprises effectively not one but three maps; and the use of pricking with pins through an unknown, and now lost, pre-existing map to make a copy to indicate the precise nature of the place-sign to be drawn and not merely its location. An interactive and fully updated website on the Bodleian's server and a scholarly book (Bodleian Library Publishing) are in active preparation. She says, give them another four years or so and then watch this space!

**CATHERINE WARBURTON** (Lomax, now Jarman) was married on 30 March 2019, to Reverend Christopher (Kit) Jarman, in LMH Chapel, by the Right Reverend Martin Shaw, formerly Bishop of Argyll and The Isles. She is very grateful for the wonderful way they were looked after by Honor and the LMH events team.

## 1960

**GILLIAN BUTT** (Mawrey) continues to work for the Historic Gardens Foundation which she founded 25 years ago to share information about historic parks and gardens. She hopes its worldwide network ([www.historicgardens.org](http://www.historicgardens.org)) has enough impetus to keep going so that she might soon be able to hand over to others and find time to see more of her friends and grandchildren.

**JANE HUTCHINS** (McLaughlin) continues to write and publish short stories and poetry. Her short story 'Trio for Four Voices' which appeared in *Best British Short Stories 2018* (Salt Publishing) has been made into a short film.

**CHRIS MANEY** (Considine) writes that her fifth poetry collection, *Seeing Eye*, was published in spring 2019. (See *Reviews*.)

**JILL WILLIAMS** (Healey) reports that their eldest grandson went up to Univ this year – 60 years after his grandfather!

## 1961

**MARILYN COX** (Frampton) is still a Governor of their local Foundation Trust hospital and an associate member of their local GP Practice Patient Participation Group. She continues to attend/contribute to an advanced French class at the *Institut Français* in South Kensington.

**CHRISTINE METCALFE** (Nicholls) reports that, after several years' work, a database of 25,000 people of European origin who lived and worked in East Africa before 1939 is now complete and appears on her website, [www.csnicholls.co.uk](http://www.csnicholls.co.uk). She adds that this has been a huge effort and labour of love, in collaboration

with Peter Ayre, who sadly died. The grandchildren of these people, now spread all over the world, will be able to access information about their forebears, and the site will also be of use to scholars.

**WENDY STALLWORTHY** (Jennings) has written a book, *Coming, Not Going. A Search for God Away from the Church*, published in September 2019, which began as something intensely personal. The death of her husband, a Church of England priest, jolted her into recognising that the belonging she'd always assumed she had inside traditional Church doctrine and liturgy wasn't there; instead, deadening distance. Urgent for understanding of her own, and with her back to the Church door, she found herself focusing on creativity: on the description of a creator God making man a creator in his image. That set her searching the work and words of some of the greatest human creators in the arts and sciences for clues to the possibility – or not – of something more than human: an all-encompassing creativity. What she found so astonished her that she wanted to share it.

## 1962

**ELISABETH ROBSON** (Robson Elliot) was invited, in June 2019, to take part in a big BBC project, in preparation for the BBC's centenary celebrations in 2022. A large oral history archive is planned under the rubric 'Connected Histories of the BBC: One Hundred Voices that Made the BBC'. A team of three came to interview her, armed with cameras and recording equipment, and she talked through her times at the BBC, starting as a programme assistant and ending as head of the Russian Service, spanning 1969–2004, in three sections. The whole will be transcribed and made available also as a film, extracts from which have appeared on the BBC website in its history section.

## 1963

**JACKIE HARVEY** (Keirs) has been working on a book describing the 21-year history of her theatre company, Oxford Dance Theatre, later ODT Productions, formed in 1987. Casts included a blend of university students, many of whom have since gone on to successful careers in the profession, and members of the local community. Performances ranged from *West Side Story* and Pink Floyd's *The Wall* to plays by Shakespeare, Samuel Beckett and Bertolt Brecht. The creative activity and positive interaction involved provided a welcome distraction from Jackie's severe neuropathic pain, which she has suffered since a road traffic accident in 1978 when a lorry jack-knifed and landed on top of her car.

**ELIZABETH PRICE** (Danson) writes that during 2019 she had a second book of poems published by the Ragged Sky Press. The first one was *The Luxury of*

*Obstacles*, which came out in 2006, and the recent one is entitled *Look Again*. She has been writing poetry, as well as prose, for several decades. Publication on both sides of the Atlantic has included a poem in *The New Yorker*, and another in *Anon One*. When she was at LMH, she attended a writing group that met at Christ Church and included Marina Warner (1964). She says she has often thought that part of the reason she was admitted to Oxford was the fact that in her entrance exam she wrote a Shakespearean sonnet 'on [my] mistress' eyebrow'. She adds that she only wishes she could recall one line of it!

## 1964

**SARAH BOYD-CARPENTER** (Hogg) reports that, as well as joining the Board of the Royal Mail in 2019, and continuing to be Senior Independent Director of the Financial Conduct Authority, she branched out and wrote an historical novel, based on three years' research, which was published in the summer. (See *Reviews*.) It is her first book since (with Jonathan Hill) she wrote an account of her time as Head of the Policy Unit in No. 10 Downing Street, published in 1995.

**WENDY DOBSON** (Warr) is proud to have been selected by the American Chemical Society Division of Chemical Information to receive the 2020 Herman Skolnik Award for her contributions to the fields of chemical information, the top award in her discipline.

**SARAH PROBY** (Mills) reports that they moved from London to Yorkshire, near Leeds, two years ago and have settled into village life. They are helping their daughter (a paediatrician) and her engineer husband with their two small children. They still have time to visit their flat in London regularly and see their two sons and families. Their grandchildren range in age from 15 down to nearly four, so life can be busy!

**MARINA WARNER** became President of the Royal Society of Literature in 2018 and has been elected a Distinguished Fellow at All Souls. She adds that she also managed to deliver her book, *Inventory of a Life Mislaid*, an 'unreliable memoir' of her parents' life in Cairo, 1947–1952.

**SUSAN YARKER** (Tyson) has started writing poetry and has had a number of poems published, one by *Orbis*, a quarterly international literary journal, and several by *The Dawntreader*, a small literary magazine.

## 1965

**HELEN MIDDLETON** (Griffiths) writes that old friends may remember last year's entry, which recorded their golden wedding celebrations. She and Michael (St

Catherine's 1965) noted how much planning had been involved and joked that they might begin work on their diamond anniversary celebrations at once. Alas for hubris and optimism! Although her spinal surgery that she mentioned last year was a success, Michael began to experience a high degree of pain in his back. Tests in May produced a grim verdict of inoperable and indeed untreatable lung cancer which had spread throughout his body. He was given months to live but, in the event, died less than a month later, on 10 June – peacefully and at home with his family and close friends nearby. She was very touched by the number of old Oxford friends who came to the funeral and have kept in touch.

**CATHERINE NEVILLE-ROLFE** (Brooks-Baker) writes that, after her husband Harold Brooks-Baker (of Debretts, and later the Publishing Director of Burke's Peerage) died, she trained as an ESOL teacher which kept her busy in Argentina and Paris, in English language schools, and as a trainer at London South Bank University. She stopped teaching after ten years and is currently working on a screenplay about the American painter, James McNeill Whistler, with particular focus on the women who modelled for him. She also works as an assistant on an academic symposium about the war between Poland and the Soviets – the centenary occurs in 2020 – that might be reconvened in the UK. Over ten years she has contributed numerous profile pieces on the lives of artists and historical characters associated with the area of South London in which she resides.

**RUTH PADEL** published her new book, *Beethoven Variations, A Life in Poems*, in January 2020. It is a poetic journey into the mind and heart of a musical genius.

**SUSAN SHANNON** (Weingarten) reports that her husband Michael (Micky) (Merton 1965) died of cancer in February 2018, shortly after they had moved to Jerusalem to be near the children. She adds that fortunately she now has 15 grandchildren to distract her.

**ANNE SHAW** (Morris) and her husband Geoff celebrated their golden wedding in 2019. On 9 August over 60 family and friends joined them in Coventry Cathedral (where they were married) for a communion service followed by a buffet lunch nearby. Among the guests were two LMH friends, Jenny Mann (Callum) and Sue Hockey (Petty) and her husband Martin. She comments that, despite the train chaos, it was a very happy day and at least this time the rain held off!

**HELEN WILSON** (Tarnoy) has recently been appointed non-executive chairman of Gridworks, a new venture set up by the British government to invest in power transmission and distribution projects in, primarily, sub-Saharan Africa and also south Asia. She says that millions of people in those parts of the world do not have access to electricity and even when power plants have been built (often by the private sector), the infrastructure to deliver the electricity to the customers is

not there. Gridworks aims to help fill that void. She comments that she got into the power business thanks to her modern languages degree!

## 1966

**JOANNA PRICE** (Lane) has been campaigning since her son Christopher's suicide in 2008 for greater awareness of a common effect of brain injury which robs people of their fertility, sex drive and energy, and leaves them at risk of suicidal depression, as described in her book, *Mother of a Suicide*. This condition, post-traumatic hypopituitarism (PTHP), requires expensive life-long treatment, and it may be for this reason that the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) has refused to include it – for 14 years – in its head injury guidelines. Its omission, of course, is a significant factor in its under-diagnosis. There are believed to be around half a million patients currently unaware of what lies behind their symptoms, their broken careers and relationships, and their depression, and who do not know that they could be helped. The good news is that in January this year, thanks to pressure from Royal Colleges and other stakeholder organisations, NICE has at last given a public undertaking to include the information. No date has yet been given, but she hopes that if the stakeholders keep up the pressure, NICE will eventually vouchsafe one. There may be some alumni with experience of PTHP, and now would be an excellent time for them to write to NICE!

## 1967

**HILARY HEILBRON** is pleased to report that, to coincide with the centenary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919, which permitted women to enter the professions for the first time, the biography she wrote of her mother, Dame Rose Heilbron, a former Honorary Fellow of LMH, and her remarkable story, has been re-issued in paperback under the title *Rose QC*. Her mother was a trailblazer and legal icon, being, among a string of other firsts, the joint first female King's (later Queen's) Counsel and the first female senior judge. She is also the face of the 100 Years' Project relating to women in the law: <https://first100years.org.uk/>. Hilary continues in full-time practice as a barrister, focusing on international arbitration, and mostly sits as an international arbitrator.

**JESSICA KEMBALL-COOK** (Yates) spoke at the Redemption media convention in Sheffield in January 2019, on 'Penguin science fiction in the 1950s'. At Eastercon, the annual convention of the British science fiction world, she gave a talk on 'Shape-shifting in Disney movies'. Finally, at the Tolkien 2019 conference in Birmingham she spoke about a disputed reading in *The Fellowship of the Ring*, aiming to make her talk entertaining as well as academic.

**JANET KEYTE** (Stevens) was prompted by the article about LMH University Challenge teams in the 2018 edition of *The Brown Book* to send in her memories of representing the College in 1969/70. The team also comprised June Rodgers, Griselda Pollock and Jessie Kemball-Cook. The programme was recorded at the Granada studios in Manchester in December 1969 and shown by ITV London on 28 March 1970 – her 22nd birthday. She remembers that the team was picked on the basis of audition by Sarah Davies, mandated by the JCR Committee, and comments that nowadays one would not go into this competition with a team consisting of two historians and two English literature specialists (one of whom had, admittedly, switched to undergraduate law). They fell at the first hurdle, against a Caius College Cambridge team which had already won twice and was fractionally quicker on the buzzer. They did, she recalls, give them quite a good run for their money in a close match and went for a companionable drink with them afterwards. She remembers that she managed to nail one starter by being able to blurt out ‘D. W. Griffith’ before the quiz-master had got as far as *Intolerance* or *Birth of a Nation*; and that Griselda dealt very competently with a series of photos of culinary dishes which were still exotic at the time and generated a general laugh by stuttering over ‘rat-at-at-touille’. Like at least one other of her contemporaries (from another institution), she retains no impression whatsoever of Bamber Gascoigne, but does well remember the producer, Douglas Terry, who kindly wished her well for Finals, with the somewhat alarming aside that clever young ladies who appeared on his programme had a nasty tendency to end up with 2:2s!

## 1968

**FEROZE RASHID** (Al-Qu’aiti) has been running her charity Friends of Hadhramaut ([www.hadhramaut.co.uk](http://www.hadhramaut.co.uk)) for 22 years, providing humanitarian aid to the people of Hadhramaut, in the Republic of Yemen.

## 1969

**PATRICIA HACKFORTH** (Wilks) retired from teaching in July and is now a governor of the school she attended, Queen’s College, Harley Street. She is enjoying spending time with her children and grandchildren and hopes to get involved with voluntary reading work in local schools.

**CAROLINE JACKSON-HOULSTON** has emerged from retirement once more with a part-time Senior Research Fellowship at Oxford Brookes for a year, till autumn 2020. Her monograph, *Gendering Walter Scott: Sex, Violence and Romantic Period Writing*, was published by Routledge in 2017. After giving a paper on ‘Auld Alliance Brexit? Scott and the Moral Legitimacy of Post-1603 Monarchs’ at the 11th Quadrennial International Scott Conference in Paris in

2017, she has moved back to other research interests in Pre-Raphaelite ballad imitation, and John Clare and natural history writing. She is also writing poetry herself on ecological themes, though only just dipping a toe in the water of publication. However, a poem on the commercial exploitation of pangolins did feature in a sermon by her husband, Andy Gosler (zoology professor and non-stipendiary curate), on World Pangolin Day 2019, complete with a life-size pangolin soft toy.

**MAGGY TOOHEY** (Pigott) writes that 2019 was exciting and active, the most unexpected event being the publication of her first book, with 50 per cent of her royalties going to Open Age, where she is now Vice Chair. *How to Age Joyfully: Eight Steps to a Happier, Fuller Life* is a research-based, positive, gift-style book full of practical tips, inspiring quotations and role models, including Dame Judi Dench, who has written the Foreword. She is thrilled, not only by Dame Judi’s generosity, but also that the book has received endorsements from health and ageing experts, won a Health and Wellbeing Award, and is available as far afield as Australia, as well as the USA and Canada. Also in 2019, she was delighted to be appointed an Independent Member of the Public Service Honours Committee and elected an FRSA. She still loves performing in the Sage Dance Company at festivals and in theatres (their next London show is on 7 April 2020). She and Tim are much enjoying retirement, seeing more of family and friends, and a high point of 2019 was being reunited with so many contemporaries at the wonderful LMH 50-year Gaudy in the summer.

**DEBORAH (POLLY) WICKS** (Grice) reports that, following completion of her DPhil, she has now had her book, *Church, Society and University: the Paris condemnation of 1241/4*, published. It forms part of the Routledge series ‘Studies in Medieval History and Culture’. She is continuing her research as an independent researcher, looking in particular at academic heresy in Paris in the first half of the thirteenth century. She now has four grandchildren, between one and four years old, with two of them living in Cornwall and the other two in Baltimore, as well as a somewhat neurotic, very long-haired cat.

**ANN WIDDECOMBE** writes that it has been quite a year. In April 2019 she re-entered politics after nine years of retirement to join Nigel Farage’s Brexit Party and a few weeks later found herself elected to the EU parliament.

## 1970

**ELIZABETH MILLS** retired in November 2019 after 38 years of very interesting and rewarding work at Cambridge Assessment. For the past 20 years she focused on working with government educational organisations in South-east Asia and Southern Africa. She managed projects to support a number of

countries in developing new examinations to reflect changes in their secondary education curricula, together with the ongoing provision of these examinations in collaboration with the local organisations concerned.

**JUDITH SIMPSON** sends two pieces of news. First, she has completed her Durham MA (through St Mellitus College London) in Theology, Ministry and Mission. Second, she and her husband spent much of September and most of October walking the Camino de Santiago from St-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France to Santiago de Compostella in northern Spain – a distance of approximately 500 miles. They achieved their objectives for the pilgrimage by walking every step of the way, and by carrying their backpacks for the whole distance. Basically, everything – both on the path and what they had left behind at home – went without a hitch. They do quite a lot of walking holidays, but they have now got the bug for backpacking, as opposed to having their bags carried for them. So she says some shorter walks beckon this year; she doubts if they will ever again do anything so demanding.

**RUTH WALTERS** (Mastenbroek) is excited to report that she gained a fifth grandchild in 2019 – Reuben Harry Roy (Roy after her father, about which she is thrilled). In early 2020, she and her good friend Phyl Carvosso (Jones 1970), with their husbands, visited Jane Rodriguez (Broadbent 1970) in Valencia – 50 years after meeting at LMH. This summer she and her husband will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary at their house in Italy with all the children and grandchildren . . . special times! She also launched the fifth fragrance in her range of *Eau de Parfum*, which is now available at Fortnum & Mason and elsewhere. Her new fragrance is called Dagian, meaning 'dawn' in Old English: which she says is a Mojito (lime, mint and rum) on the beach at dawn . . . an optimistic fragrance just when we need it in this year of Brexit! Her son Nic has masterminded the move of their perfumery business out of the family home to proper business premises, so at 67 instead of sliding down the banister into work she is commuting again!

## 1971

**ELIZABETH COHEN** (Croft) writes that 2018 was a difficult year for her family as her husband, Frederick (Jesus 1970), died after a two-year fight against cancer. However, it was also the year in which her eldest son, James, married his partner, Kolten Frey, in St Louis, Missouri. In 2019, her daughter, Emma, became engaged to Martin and has plans to marry in July in the Netherlands, where they live. Her middle son, Peter, left Blizzard Entertainment but still lives and works in Cork. She adds that she has moved from her house of 40 years, but only a quarter of a mile to Kew, nearer the Gardens and in the heart of the village, which is proving a very positive experience! She retired from teaching English in 2017,

but still tutors. Under the name Liz Croft, she has now written ten guides to the poetry on the GCSE and A level syllabi of various exam boards, available through Amazon, and she has a further two planned, once she has settled in her new home.

**PAULA GRAYSON** writes, as a public governor for a mental health and community services NHS Foundation Trust, that they have retained their 'Good' rating from the Care Quality Commission, two years after merger, with aspects of some services deemed 'Outstanding'. As chair of her LEADER Local Action Group she saw the funding of: environmentally innovative direct drills for seeds (no ploughing); reducing the carbon footprint for a farm butcher's shop; and a children's nursery which will offer a genuine rural experience. She is also Chairman of the local Rural Communities Charity and reports that 60 bottles of their sparkling wine were produced by 188 volunteers and it was chosen by a major bank for its charities event. Volunteers worked with young people with learning disabilities in the vineyard. In addition, their Social Prescribers reduced the isolation of referred patients for many of the county's GP surgeries. She is still paid to provide personnel support to several small organisations and a very busy government department, as well as lecturing to full-time HR professionals studying for a part-time PgDip in HRM with dual CIPD accreditation. As an Enterprise Adviser and assisting other schools, she has carried out mock interviews and put schools in touch with local businesses to improve career aspirations.

**JOY HENDRY** writes that her textbook, *Understanding Japanese Society*, has just gone into a fifth (and probably last) edition, to coincide with the enthronement of the new Emperor of Japan, who happened, as Crown Prince, to be a student in Oxford when she was preparing the first edition! She has also recently received funding from the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation to return to the village in Japan where she has been working over a period of nearly 45 years to hand over family trees she made of every household and their internal relations when she was first there in 1975–6.

## 1972

**NICKY HARPER** (Bull) and her husband George (St Edmund Hall 1972) are delighted to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Samuel Pieter Bönisch, on 1 November 2019 in Heidelberg.

**ROSALIND MARSH** writes that last year was a complex and confusing year for her, as for Europe and the world. She has enjoyed the anthropological seminars held at the International Gender Studies Centre, which has been based at LMH since 1983, and in 2019 she gave three of her books on Russian women, women

writers and historical fiction to the LMH Library (*Women in Russia and Ukraine, Gender and Russian Literature: New Perspectives* and *Women and Russian Culture: Projections and Self-perceptions*). She was, therefore, upset when the Centre closed, as the seminars were not only academic occasions, but also stimulating social occasions. Later she was deeply saddened to hear of the death of Dr Janette Davies, who had introduced her to the Centre and suggested that she do some teaching in women's studies. She very much hopes that LMH staff and students will continue to incorporate gender issues and insights into their research and publications. Inspired by her mentoring of the IGS Research Fellow, Salome Tsopurashvili from Georgia, who was in LMH in 2018–19 studying the representation of female characters in silent Georgian film, she went on her first trip to beautiful Georgia in May 2019. Pursuing her resolution to go to countries of the former Soviet Union that she has never had time to visit during her working life at the University of Bath, she also spent some time in Estonia and Latvia. Her one publication in 2019 was an 'Afterword' to the first English translation of the first novel by her friend Elena Chizhova, *Kroshki Tsakhes* (in English, *Little Zinnobers*). She first met Elena in the 1970s, when she was a talented young poet, and Elena subsequently came to world public attention in 2007 when she won the Russian Booker Prize for her novel *Vremia Zhenshchin*. The curious title *Little Zinnobers* draws on E. T. A. Hoffman's disturbing fairy story of 1819, 'Little Zaches, Great Zinnober'. Rosalind's article, entitled 'Elena Chizhova's *Little Zinnobers* in the Context of English, Russian and World Culture and History', aims to demonstrate the importance of Shakespeare, other British, Russian and European writers, composers and film directors to the Russian intelligentsia in the Brezhnev era and beyond. It also suggests that Chizhova's work goes beyond Russian history and politics to treat universal themes such as love, friendship, education, memory, and individual and cultural freedoms. In this new decade, Rosalind is attempting to continue her research into contemporary Russian literature, history and politics, although present circumstances make this an increasingly difficult project to pursue. She is also hoping to meet many old friends, including some LMH alumni, at quite an important birthday celebration this year.

## 1973

**LINDSAY GEE** writes that, after a year at Princeton, she returned to LMH and did a DPhil on the history of Lydia. She qualified as a solicitor and then spent her working life with the one firm, in London and, for the last couple of years for family reasons, in Leeds. Its clients were the NHS and private healthcare providers, and she specialised in community care and mental health law, till retirement in 2018. Nowadays she lives in a village in North Yorkshire with a retired greyhound and a fishpond. She busies herself with the WI and U3A. She adds that one of the benefits of an Oxford education has been lasting friendship with several other alumnae.

**HASHIMA HASAN** writes that 2019 was an exciting year. At NASA they weathered a partial government shutdown, and then went full speed ahead. She took under her wing the Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR) mission, which continues to do spectacular science. She visited Edinburgh in the summer for a Science Working Group meeting of the James Webb Space Telescope, which has now completed integration and looked majestic when the sunshield was fully deployed in October. She adds that, although she couldn't visit Oxford, the nostalgia of being in the old country gripped her and brought her back to her student days in Oxford. She received her 20-year service award as a civil servant with NASA in August. She and her husband went on their very first cruise to the Bahamas and greatly enjoyed it. They also celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in Costa Rica. They are now blessed with four grandchildren, aged between six and one year old, and spend a good deal of time with them.

## 1974

**JANE DOULL** will be retiring on 30 June 2020 after 26 years of continuous pastoral ministry with the United Church of Canada. In December 2019 she vacated church housing, having found a flat where she and her cats can remain after retirement. She is staying put in St Andrews, where she is into her tenth year. She comments that it is a beautiful resort town (winter population c. 1,800) on Passamaquoddy Bay in south-west New Brunswick, Canada, with excellent coffee shops, locally sourced and sustainable food options, art galleries, musical events, book clubs, public gardens and many other amenities. She adds that it is a popular retirement destination – so she will be in good company. She is ending her ministry on a high note as her town congregation has completed a thorough renovation of their sanctuary. Pews, carpets and choir loft are gone, in favour of chairs, a painted wooden floor on which they have made a labyrinth with its own ministry, and a multi-purpose stage, ideal for chamber concerts and the like. Her town and country churches are both evolving as small but lively progressive spiritual communities, so she feels that it is the right time to make way for someone younger and more energetic. Meanwhile she says she has major reading and writing projects in mind, once the dust has settled, as well as continuing to try to change the world for the better and staying out as late as she wants on Saturday nights!

**ALISON GOMM**, through her work for Samaritans, has become Branch Prison Support Officer working with a team of Listeners at a local prison. Listeners are prisoners trained in listening skills by Samaritans so that they can support fellow prisoners who are distressed and at risk of suicide or self-harm. The work that they do is awe-inspiring and very effective.

**MEG HARRIS** (Harris Williams) has been working a lot this year with Chinese students and therapists, teaching psychoanalytic ideas via the internet, followed by a fascinating trip to China in September. Meanwhile she has been enjoying weekly babysitting for their first grandchild.

**VALERIE PROCTOR** (Rumbold) says she is now enjoying being on a very much reduced contract at the University of Birmingham, where she has worked for the last 20 years, as she begins to look towards retirement. Her focus is now research, building on the work she has done on Pope and Swift over the years. A book on the material texts of Swift is due out from Cambridge University Press next year, *Swift in Print: Published Texts in Dublin and London, 1691–1765*, and after that she says that she will be working on a volume of the recently commissioned *Oxford Edition of the Writings of Alexander Pope*, to include 'The Rape of the Lock'. She is also kept happily engaged with wider projects as one of the general editors of *The Oxford Edition of the Writings of Alexander Pope*, and in an equivalent role on the *Cambridge Edition of the Works of Jonathan Swift*.

**NADIA WOLOSHYN** (Crandall) has recently started a new business, Capshore Partners, which provides non-conforming, mostly secured and short-term loans to small and medium enterprises. She says the business is going well and has given her renewed confidence to consider other ventures alongside it. She finds that she much prefers running her own enterprise to investing in those of others, as she was doing when she co-created and chaired Harvard Business Angels of London. Her boys remain far afield. James (27) is working for Lyft in New York, helping build their bikeshare business – one of the few profitable parts of the company. Philip (31) is considering a move from Sydney to Auckland to work there in venture capital. And she was thinking that they might find a way to be at least on the same continent as each other! Her own work allows her considerable flexibility to pursue new creative projects and to travel. In 2020 she plans to be in Bhutan for two weeks with James, and on Kilimanjaro in the autumn, quite apart from her familial visits to the US and wherever in Australasia Philip turns out to be.

## 1975

**VICTORIA MARMION** (Burch) reports that, after a very rewarding career as a child psychologist in the UK, she is now clinical trustee for Action for Child Trauma International (ACT International). They train local people in areas affected by conflict, violence or disaster – at the invitation of local hospitals, schools or NGOs – to treat young people with post-traumatic stress disorder. This has involved visits to the Middle East to work with many very inspiring professionals, often refugees themselves, to support young refugees from Syria; and to Uganda, where there is a very large refugee population from South

Sudan and other areas of conflict. She adds that it is moving to see the huge impact that the training and follow-up support has in giving a fresh start to children whose lives have been shattered by the horrors they have experienced. Sadly, the demand for help is increasing massively, and ACT International aims to greatly expand its training and reach over the next few years. Victoria lives in the South Downs near Arundel and says she would love to hear from any alumni living in Sussex.

**GILLIAN WARD** (Gibson) spent two years volunteering in Belize as a teacher of the visually impaired in 2013 and 2014. She worked with a local charity with local people ranging from toddlers to adults. She says that it was a great privilege to have the opportunity to meet some remarkable people and use her skills. Since retiring, she and her husband recently became grandparents to little Henry, born nine weeks premature, who is doing well.

## 1976

**PENNY CHRIMES** writes that her first children's novel, *Tiger Heart*, was published in January 2020. She comments that it is a return to children's writing for her after many years working in television news and documentaries at Sky News, and that it is wonderful to be doing what she always wanted to do, but somehow life always seemed to get in the way. Her first books were for toddlers and early years, under her married name of McKinlay. The new book and its sequel are for middle grade, so she says she is slowing growing up, 40 years after leaving LMH. Her children are also all grown up – her son Scott is working as a lawyer in New York for a year, and Holly is writing for television and theatre.

**NICKY CROOME** (Manby) completed her circumnavigation of the world in their 57-foot yacht *Calliope* with husband Charles Manby (Merton 1976) with a dramatic sail up the Red Sea in April 2019. They are enjoying being back on dry land after two and a half years and looking forward to imminent grandparenthood. Their blog address is [manbysoncalliope.blogspot.com](http://manbysoncalliope.blogspot.com).

**JUDY RODD** (Ford) writes that their fourth grandchild (Isobel Grace) was born in February and baptised at Wesley Memorial Church, Oxford in October. Judy published another detective novel, *Lethal Mix*, which is concerned with an Islamophobic attack on a group of students.

## 1977

**CAROLYN JONES** (Carr) was very proud to be asked to give the inaugural lecture for the Oxford Study Skills Centre at LMH. Her title was 'Navigating life as a research scientist' and she talked about her career path, what it was like to return

to work after a career break, and her experience of working in both industry and academia. She also passed on advice about writing talks, papers or a thesis to tell your scientific story. She says it was very strange to be giving a talk in Talbot Hall but also very rewarding.

## 1978

**SUE LESSER** writes for the first time to say that she has self-published three books. One is *Take a Poem with Breakfast*, a small collection of poetry which is being sold to raise money for Alzheimer's Society (to date she has raised £1,500). The second is *Alright As We Are*, a novel about a child in the care system, which is drawn from her 30 years of teaching experience; and the third is *Survivors*, a collection of short stories about women who have survived a form of abuse and moved forward with their lives: it was launched in November 2019 and is being sold to raise money for her local women's refuge charity, Safe Steps. Her third novel *Easy Money* should be released later this year. She took up writing in 2017 when she retired from her position as headteacher of a local primary school. Now she works part-time as a tutor and enjoys running, performing her poetry, and seeing friends and family.

**JANE SPENCER** reports that her book, *Writing About Animals in the Age of Revolution*, will be published by Oxford University Press in May 2020. In it she shows how shifting attitudes to non-human animals in eighteenth-century Britain affected the emergence of radical political claims based on the concept of universal human rights. The book's many literary animals include the ass, ambiguous emblem of sympathetic animal writing; the great ape or 'orang-utang', central to racist discourse; and the pig, adopted by 1790s' radicals to signify their rebellion.

## 1979

**KAREN BETTESWORTH** (Down) reports that she and Chris celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on 30 September 2019. They were joined a couple of weeks earlier by many friends – a number from LMH/Oxford days – and family members for a hugely enjoyable hog roast on one of the few really warm and sunny days of the month. They spent their anniversary quietly, in the heart of the Cotswolds. She adds that their younger daughter, Esme, began her first year at Newcastle University, studying medicine, and appears to have taken to student life like a duck to water! Meanwhile, Amy won a promotion to become Architectural Data Services Strategy Lead with Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue, which comes with a coveted permanent contract. Chris's book on the *Industrial Railways and Locomotives of Greece* has been published by the Industrial Railway Society (ISBN 978 1 901556 98 8) and has been very well

received both in the UK and in Greece. Karen continues to work as a planning consultant, dividing her time between the Planning Inspectorate and private clients. However, she has reduced the amount of work she takes on in order to have more time for holidays with Chris, who is (almost) fully retired. This year they have enjoyed time in Switzerland, the Isle of Man and mainland Greece, as well as at their hideaway on the island of Halki in the Dodecanese. Finally, she enjoyed a fabulous evening at the LMH Gaudy Dinner in June, catching up with friends (who all look so young!) and soaking up the wonderfully positive atmosphere.

**SARAH KING** is still working full time at Kantar in a global role that she enjoys enormously, although she says she spends too much time on Skype. She adds that she takes art classes in her spare time and is trying not to get completely depressed by our dismal politics and climate change. Her husband Patrick has been making a series of documentaries tracking the passage (or not) of Brexit; her older son is working as a producer at Sky; and her other two children are both at Oxford, one as a geography undergraduate and one doing a Masters in modern American history. So, she has plenty of excuses to go back to Oxford and is taking full advantage of that.

**DAVID SEWELL** reports that after 25 years as a legislative drafter for the UK government in London, he will be switching to become a legislative drafter in Belfast while continuing to live in Fife in Scotland.

## 1980

**LOUISE LOCOCK** is still very much enjoying her new phase as Professor of Health Services Research at the University of Aberdeen and is looking forward to her husband being able to spend more time there, too, when he retires from Corpus in 2020. They will still have one foot in Oxford, especially now, as their son works in university development.

## 1986

**JOHN GRAHAM-CUMMING** has, after 10 years back in the UK, moved with his family to Lisbon to start a new office for his company and to learn another language. In 2018, he decided to become a dual national taking his wife's nationality (French) and, he suspects to the shock of his upper school French teacher, achieved a perfect score at the C2 level in the French language test.

**MAREK PRUSZEWICZ** has joined the Board of Governors of Oxford Brookes University and says that he will be making his marathon debut at the 2020 London Marathon.



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## 1987

**JUSTIN BUTCHER** writes to say that his new stage production, *Walking to Jerusalem*, premiered in a critically acclaimed, sell-out run at the Dublin Theatre Festival, and goes out on tour again in 2020–21. In 2017, in partnership with human rights charity Amos Trust, he planned and led the Just Walk to Jerusalem, a five-month 3,400 km pilgrimage of penance and march of solidarity on foot from London to Jerusalem, to mark three major anniversaries in the Palestinian struggle: the tenth year of the blockade of Gaza, the 50th year of Israel's military occupation and the centenary of the Balfour Declaration. Suffice to say, the Walk was an extraordinary and life-changing experience for all who took part and had a huge impact in Palestine, the wider Palestinian diaspora and the Arab world. He spent most of the following year writing the book of the walk, *Walking to Jerusalem: Blisters, Hope and Other Facts on the Ground*, which was published at the end of November 2018. With the first edition sold out, his stage adaptation premiered at Dublin Theatre Festival to coincide with the book's UK paperback release and US publication by Pegasus Books. The next leg of the UK and international tour is scheduled to begin at Wilton's Music Hall, London, in March 2020, and will continue through into 2021.

**SALLY CORNALL** (Calder) has sent an update for the first time. She qualified as an actuary in 1998; was selected to represent Great Britain in rifle shooting in 1997–98; married in 1999; had two daughters, Jasmine (b 2003) and Francesca (b 2004); and published four romantic novels in 2019 under the pen name Emily Royal, with a fifth due out in 2020.

**AMANDA SPICE** writes that in 2019 they took their girls out of primary school for six months so that they could do some more world backpacking with them around Central America, New Zealand, Australia, Asia, Newfoundland and the USA Pacific North West wilderness (having previously travelled with them for eight months when they were aged two and three years). She is now writing up their travel adventures, 'warts and all', and says it would be great if any alumni wanted to read along about the joy, inspiration, revelation, frustration, mishaps and trivia of long-term travel with kids. They can be found on Instagram @travelswithspice and at <https://amandaspice.wixsite.com/travelswithspice>.

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## 1989

**RICHARD BARRETT-JOLLEY** was recently appointed to a personal chair in neuropharmacology at the University of Liverpool. He continues to teach and research pharmacology, now developing artificial intelligence (deep neural networks) to analyse data.

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## 1990

**SUZANNE (SUKI) LEHRER** is a government lawyer at the Department for Education. Previous posts include leading on the introduction of same-sex marriage in England and Wales and most recently Northern Ireland, and environmental law. She was awarded an OBE for public service in the New Year Honours List 2020.

**RACHEL OSBORN** (Edwards) had a baby daughter (Hermione) on 1 July 2019 to join brother Sebastian (born in 2014).

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## 1993

**DANIEL RAGLAN** was elected to the partnership of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, New York City's oldest law firm and one of the oldest continuously operating legal practices in the United States. Daniel is a partner in the corporate group, focusing on mergers and acquisitions, private equity and shareholder activism.

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## 1994

**DAVID FELSEN** was appointed Vice Rector for International Relations at Epoka University in Tirana, Albania's leading private university. He also holds an academic position in the department of business as associate professor.

**JENNIFER MARTIN** has spent the last years working as a dual-trained clinical pharmacologist and physician, while building an internationally recognised clinical and research career in medicines practice and policy. Currently she is Chair of Clinical Pharmacology in the School of Medicine and Public Health at the University of Newcastle (Australia) and leads the university's Centre for Drug Repurposing and Medicines Research. She is also the Director of the NHMRC-funded Australian Centre for Cannabinoid Clinical and Research Excellence (ACRE), Australia's first federally funded research centre in medicinal cannabinoids to ensure quality and safety in the implementation of medicinal cannabis use in the community. Recently she has been awarded major funding to lead the largest international medicinal cannabis trial, the first of its kind, enabling access to cannabis medicines for the advanced cancer population, and to develop a personalised chemotherapy dosing system for cancer patients. She sits on a number of national and international medicine policy committees and advisory groups, including those designing reimbursement policies for government purchasing decisions.

**HEATHER MILLER** (Smith) married Alex Smith (Pembroke) in 2015 and they had a daughter, Rose Smith, in 2019.

**REBECCA TUCK** (Parish) was appointed a QC on 16 March 2020. She continues to practise exclusively in the field of employment law at Old Square Chambers.

## 1995

**JAMES CHARD** is currently serving as Deputy Mayor of Richmond upon Thames for the year 2019–20.

**TATIANA SOLOVIOVA** was a visiting student at LMH in 1995–96 while writing her doctoral thesis at Moscow University. For many years her area of expertise was Russian sacred music and she has just published a book, *Stepan Smolensky and the Golden Age of Russian Sacred Music* (available on Amazon). Tatiana is also the lead singer with the acoustic trio Strannik. Their first album, *Songs From Russia*, was described as ‘a beautiful set of Russian songs . . . delightful and educational’ with ‘powerful vocals and sensitive support’.

## 1996

**TERENCE JOHNSON** was elected President of Transport Action Canada, a national public transport advocacy organisation, on 25 May 2019. He is also a founding member of the board of the Opportunity Villages Community Land Trust, an organisation working to build more affordable housing in south-western Ontario.

## 1998

**JANE BLISS** is proud to announce publication of a posthumous book by Douglas Gray, *Make We Merry More and Less: An Anthology of Medieval English Popular Literature*, conceived as a companion volume to his magisterial *Simple Forms*. He left one more unfinished work. Having been unable to find anybody with sufficient free time to take it on, she is keen to edit this, too, with a view to getting his very last work published. It is, according to his son, ‘around Medievalism’, and the draft is called ‘From Fingal’s Cave to Camelot’. She is grateful to numerous friends and colleagues for advice and encouragement while working on both these books; and, for access to the material, to Nick Gray and Vincent Gillespie. Otherwise she continues to publish articles on medieval subjects, and their friendly Anglo-Norman Reading Group, now ten years old, continues its fortnightly consumption of fascinating texts and plenty of wine. She very much enjoys taking part in meetings of the LMH Music Society; as a local alumna, she appreciates college activities such as this and the Research Fair when it happens.

## 1999

**ANDREW DAVIES** was appointed Director of Research of the Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He runs a research programme into decision-making by criminal court actors – prosecutors, defence counsel, and judges – to identify strategies to make them more effective and fair.

**MAX HARDY** is pleased to report that second son, Konstantin (Koko), was born on 31 July 2019, a brother to Frederick. Max is developing a side-line in TV legal consultancy, assisting with TV shows *Defending the Guilty* on BBC and *Criminal* on Netflix. He also assisted Nina Raine with her play, *Consent*, about barristers and sexual offences, performed at the National Theatre.

**SUSANNE HUGHES** (Rolo Vicente) and David welcomed their first child, a boy named Thomas Edward, in July 2019.

## 2001

**JOEP VAN GENNIP** is still a post-doctoral researcher at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. He has been invited to revise the lemma ‘Christianity in the Netherlands’ for the *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* (forthcoming 4th edition 2020).

## 2002

**CAYENNE CLAASSEN-LUTTNER** reports that her first child, Cyrus Stephen Hughes, was born in October and is healthy, plump and absolutely perfect.

**ELEANOR WASSERBERG** is pleased to report that her second novel, *The Light at the End of the Day*, will be published in July 2020.

## 2003

**KEELAN CARR** is excited to report that he was awarded an OBE in Theresa May’s resignation honours list.

## 2004

**ALFONSO CASTREJON-PITA** reports that he married **SOPHIE TIEZEL** (2005) in Oxford on 20 July 2019. He has been re-appointed to retirement age as Associate Professor in Engineering Science (Fluid Mechanics) at the University of Oxford and is a Tutorial Fellow at Wadham College.

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## 2005

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**SOPHIE TIEZEL** see 2004.

## 2006

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**RICHARD ALBERT** has published his first book, entitled *Constitutional Amendments: Making, Breaking, and Changing Constitutions*, a study of how constitutions change, and how they should.

**DONNA MANN** (Han) is excited to report that she won the Emery Prize 2019, which is hosted by Pembroke JCR gallery. The prize, now in its second year, offers a graduating student a fully supported month-long exhibition. The Pembroke JCR collection is highly respected, and this new prize provides the opportunity to develop a show straight after completing study at the Ruskin. She adds that her work is concerned with how different frameworks, in particular scientific and legal, shape our perception of the human subject. The Pembroke exhibition considered how we as humans regard survival and death; how we are driven to alter our behaviour in order to keep living and to deal with passing on. It came about partially in response to her father passing away three days before her final submission date. The show was supported by three academics – Professor Martin Kemp, Professor Morten Kringelbach and Professor Rob Salguero-Gomez – who took part in a panel discussing how science influenced the theme of the show. She is now in the process of negotiating new opportunities in Oxford and would welcome enquiries. The other exciting piece of news is that she has been appointed as a magistrate sitting in Oxford.

## 2007

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**MARK HORNSEY** see 2008.

**JONATHAN MONK** (Mitropoulos-Monk) and Athena would like to announce the birth of Pella on 28 July 2019.

**SUSAN JANE MURRAY** (White) has just published her third cookbook, *Clever Batch*. Her first two cookbooks were number one bestsellers and published in Ireland, the UK, and the US and translated into Italian. Her Instagram handle is @susanjanekitchen.

**SUZIE SHEEHY** is now a Senior Lecturer at the University of Melbourne, Australia where she is starting a new group in Medical Accelerator Physics. She will be ramping up her time there and moving fully from Oxford in 2021.

**RICHARD STRAUSS** has co-founded a company, Sibyl, that has just been accepted on to the Oxford Foundry accelerator programme (OXFO LEV8). It provides a claim assessment tool for insurers and law firms to ensure faster claim resolution at a lower cost. The Oxford Foundry programme offers support to high-growth potential start-ups that better society. An Oxford connection is required. He says they qualify because he is an alum, and one of his co-founders is completing a DPhil at Univ.

## 2008

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**LAURA McDONALD** and **MARK HORNSEY** will be getting married in 2021, near Ripon in North Yorkshire.

**IMOGEN WADE** married Kanishka Bhattacharya (Wolfson College) in India in 2015 having met him in 2009 through the Oxford University Walking Club. They welcomed their first child, Amrita Maia, in November 2016. She has almost completed her PhD at UCL under the joint supervision of Dr Peter Duncan and Professor Slavo Radošević. She passed her PhD *viva voce* exam, with minor corrections needed, in early October 2019. Her thesis is entitled 'Igniting technological modernization through science towns and technology parks: the case of Russia' and is in the subject area of political economy. Two days after her viva, they moved from London to Burgess Hill, Sussex. She is now looking for full-time research or policy roles in the field of innovation studies.

## 2009

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**BEN HOSKIN** and **ABIGAIL NOVICK** (Hoskin, Visiting Student 2010) are delighted to share news of the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Hoskin, on Sunday 26 January 2020.

## 2011

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**JANOSCH KULLENBERG** and Sheree Bennett were married on 10 November in Montego Bay, Jamaica. After a wonderful wedding with friends and family from all over the world, they now live in Berlin and are decided on finishing their respective PhDs before further engaging in family life.

## 2012

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**ZAINAB USMAN** is working at the World Bank in Washington DC, as a public-sector specialist, at the Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region.

## 2013

**JACK LANGLEY** and **TASMIN RAY** (2014) both LMH chemists, got married at LMH on 24 August 2019.

**DANIEL O'NEIL** was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 6 December 2019 and his name was entered on the roll of practitioners (as a solicitor) of the High Court of Australia on 20 January 2020. His article, 'The Case for Abolishing the Offence of Scandalising the Judiciary', is forthcoming in the *Adelaide Law Review*.

**BENJAMIN WALTER** works at Jackson Hole Classical Academy (JHCA) in Wyoming, located between Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park. He writes that JHCA is trying to bring a classical education (including Latin, Fine Arts and Music) to Wyoming, which is a sparsely populated state with few educational opportunities. He married Sarah Rock on 22 June 2019 at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart in Grand Teton National Park.

## 2014

**TASMIN RAY** see 2013.

**MATTHIAS VAN DER HAEGEN** publicly defended his PhD thesis on 29 May 2019 at Ghent University (Belgium). Since September 2019 he has been working as an assistant professor in digital legal studies at Maastricht University (the Netherlands). He has recently become engaged to Liselotte Deroo and will be married in 2020.

## BIRTHS

**CALDER**. To Sally (Cornall 1987), daughters in 2003 and 2004 (2d)

**CLAASSEN-LUTTNER**. In October 2019, to Cayenne (2002) a daughter (1d)

**EDWARDS**. On 1 July 2019, to Rachel (Osborn 1990) a daughter (1s 1d)

**HARDY**. On 31 July 2019, to Max (1999) a son (2s)

**HOSKIN**. On 26 January 2020, to Ben (2009) and Abigail (Novick 2010) a daughter (1d)

**MITROPOULOS-MONK**. On 28 July 2019, to Jonathan (Monk 2007) a daughter (1d)

**ROLO VICENTE**. In July 2019, to Susanne (Hughes 1999) a son (1s)

**SMITH**. In 2019, to Heather (Miller 1994) a daughter (1d)

**WADE**. In November 2016, to Imogen (2008) a daughter (1d)

## MARRIAGES

**CASTREJON-PITA – TIEZEL**. On 20 July 2019 Alfonso Castrejon-Pita (2004) to Sophie Tiezel (2005)

**CORNALL – CALDER**. On 5 November 1999, Sally Cornall (1987) to Neil Calder

**KULLENBERG – BENNETT**. On 10 November 2019, Janosch Kullenberg (2011) to Sheree Bennett

**LANGLEY – RAY**. On 24 August 2019, Jack Langley (2013) to Tasmin Ray (2014)

**LOMAX – JARMAN**. On 30 March 2019, Catherine Lomax (Warburton 1959) to Christopher Jarman

**MILLER – SMITH**. In 2015, Heather Miller (1994) to Alex Smith

**WADE – BHATTACHARYA**. In 2015, Imogen Wade (2008) to Kanishka Bhattacharya

**WALTER – ROCK**. On 22 June 2019, Benjamin Walter (2013) to Sarah Rock

## DEATHS

**ARMSTRONG**. On 8 January 2019, Bridget (Banks 1968) aged 69

**BLACKIE**. On 27 November 2018, Nansie (Anderson 1941) aged 95 (see *obituaries*)

**BRAMWELL**. On 15 August 2019, Joan (Teare 1942) aged 95

**BREMNER**. In December 2018, Diana (Sanderson 1943) aged 93

**CAMPBELL**. On 19 December 2019, Julia (Mulgan 1938) aged 100

**CAMPBELL**. On 29 June 2019, Norah (Webb 1953), aged 85 (see *obituaries*)

**DE FALBE**. On 4 June 2019, Jane (Marriott 1946) aged 91 (see *obituaries*)

**DIXON**. On 15 March 2019, Rachel (Penn 1948) aged about 90

**DOBSON**. On 8 September 2019, Christopher (Fellow in Chemistry 1980) aged 69 (see *obituaries*)

**DOUGLAS**. On 8 August 2019, Ann (1953), aged 85 (see *obituaries*)

**DOUGLAS**. On 3 February 2019, Sheila (Varey 1949) aged 87.

**DWYER**. On 14 July 2019, Claire (1984), aged 54 (see *obituaries*)

**DYMOND**. In January 2018, Carmen (Rant 1945) aged 90 (see *obituaries*)

- EDDISON.** On 30 March 2020, Jill (Hill-Walker 1957), aged 81.
- EDWARDS.** On 18 August 2019, Rosalind (Oates 1969) aged 68, sister of Kathleen Mackinnon (Oates 1966) (see *obituaries*)
- FRITH.** On 15 July 2019, Anne (Deed 1959) aged 79 (see *obituaries*)
- GREAVES.** On 30 December 2019, Mary (1952) aged 86
- HUBY.** On 18 February 2019, Pamela (Clark 1940) aged 96, mother of Priscilla Huby (1981) (see *obituaries*)
- HUGHES.** On 24 December 2019, Jenny (Turner 1944) aged 92 (see *obituaries*)
- KALFAYAN.** On 5 September 2019, Margaret (Walker 1947) aged 90
- LEVER.** On 2 November 2019, Marian (Hardman 1961) aged 76
- MacCARTHY.** On 29 February 2020, Fiona (1958), aged 80 (see *obituaries*)
- McKENZIE.** On 27 May 2019, Judith (1986) aged 61
- MORHANGE.** On 21 March 2020, Elizabeth (1957), aged 81.
- MURRAY.** On 4 May 2019, Valerie (1963) aged 75 (see *obituaries*)
- OAKES.** In early August 2019, Cathy (1974) aged 63 (see *obituaries*)
- ORD.** On 13 January 2020, Margery (Fellow in Biochemistry 1952) aged 92 (see *obituaries*)
- PELLE.** On 7 November 2019, Rosa Jane (1950), aged 88 (see *obituaries*)
- POSTGATE.** On 14 January 2019, Marion (Thorne 1959) aged 78 (see *obituaries*)
- RUSH.** In 2019, Louise (1981) aged 56 (see *obituaries*)
- STEADMAN.** On 12 July 2019, Spencer (1997) aged 41 (see *obituaries*)
- TAMBLING.** On 12 May 2019, Anna (Sellors 1943) aged 93 (see *obituaries*)
- TRISTRAM.** On 4 January 2019, Rosemary (Roberts 1949) aged 88
- WALTERS.** On 10 January 2019, Freda (Walton 1954) aged 83
- WRIGHT.** On 16 December 2019, Jonathan (1981) aged 57 (see *obituaries*)
- CROFT.** In 2018, Frederick, husband of Elizabeth (Cohen 1971)
- GRIFFITHS.** On 10 June 2019, Michael, husband of Helen (Middleton 1965)
- WEINGARTEN.** In February 2018, Michael, husband of Susan (Shannon 1965)

## PUBLICATIONS

- RICHARD ALBERT** (2006). *Constitutional Amendments: Making, Breaking, and Changing Constitutions* (Oxford University Press, 2019)
- JEANETTE BEER** (Scott 1956). *A Companion to Medieval Translation*, edited by Jeanette Beer (Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam Press; Leeds: Arc Humanities Press 2019)
- JANE BLISS** (1998). *Make We Merry More and Less: An Anthology of Medieval English Popular Literature* by Douglas Gray, edited by Jane Bliss (Open Book Publishers, 2019); 'Honour, Humour, and Women in the Romance of Yder' in *Leeds Studies in English*, ns XLVII, 2016
- JOANNA BREYER** (Hare 1961). *When Your Child Is Sick: A Guide to Navigating the Practical and Emotional Challenges of Caring for a Child Who Is Very Ill* (TarcherPerigee, 2018) (see *Reviews*)
- JUSTIN BUTCHER** (1987). *Walking to Jerusalem: Blisters, Hope and Other Facts on the Ground* (Hodder & Stoughton, 2018)
- PENNY CHRIMES** (1976). *Tiger Heart* (Orion/Hachette, 2020)
- CHRIS CONSIDINE** (Maney 1960). *Seeing Eye* (Cinnamon Press, 2019) (see *Reviews*)
- ALEX CHRISTOFI** (2005). 'It Could Have Snowed, It Snowed', in *What Doesn't Kill You: Fifteen Stories of Survival*, edited by Elitsa Dermendzhyska (Unbound, 2020)
- ALEXINE CRAWFORD** (Strover 1950). *Charity's Choice* (The Conrad Press, 2019) (see *Reviews*)
- ELIZABETH DANSON** (Price 1963). *The Luxury of Obstacles* (Ragged Sky Press, 2006); *Look Again* (Ragged Sky Press, 2019)
- ANDREW DAVIES** (1999). 'Gideon in the Desert: Providing Counsel to Criminal Defendants in Rural Places', with Alyssa Clark in *Maine Law Review*, **71**(2) 245–72, 2019; 'Providing Counsel for Defendants: Access, Quality and Impact', with Kirstin Morgan in *The Lower Criminal Courts* (New York: Routledge) edited by Alisa Smith and Sean Maddan; 'The Impact of Counsel at First Appearance on Pretrial Release in Felony Arraignments' with Alissa Worden, Reveka Shteynberg and Kirstin Morgan in *Criminal Justice Policy Review* (2019)
- JUDY FORD** (Rodd 1976). *Lethal Mix* (Bernie Fazakerley Publications, 2019)
- NICCI FRENCH** (Gerrard 1977). *The Lying Room* (Simon & Schuster, 2019) (see *Reviews*)
- ELIZA GARNSEY** (2009). *The Justice of Visual Art* (Cambridge University Press, 2019)
- NICCI GERRARD** (1977). *What Dementia Teaches Us about Love* (Penguin Books, 2019) (see *Reviews*)
- ANGELA HEAP** (1978). *Behind the Mask: Character and Society in Menander* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2019) (see *Reviews*)
- PHILIP HENSHER** (1983). *A Small Revolution in Germany* (Fourth Estate, 2020) (see *Reviews*)

- SARAH HOGG** (Boyd-Carpenter 1964). *Katherine's House* (Book Guild Publishing Ltd, 2019) (see Reviews)
- CAROLINE JACKSON-HOULSTON** (1969). *Gendering Walter Scott: Sex, Violence and Romantic Period Writing* (Routledge, 2017)
- JANOSCH KULLENBERG** (2011). 'Democratic Republic of the Congo', in *Africa Yearbook Volume 15*, pp. 234–50 (Brill, 2019); 'The Democratic Republic of the Congo' in *The Armed Conflict Survey 2019*, pp. 291–301 (International Institute for Strategic Studies, London); 'The Everyday Politics of International Intervention' in *Handbook on Intervention and Statebuilding*, 124–36 (Edward Elgar, 2019)
- SUE LESSER** (1978). *Take a Poem with Breakfast* (Lesser Press, 2018); *Alright As We Are* (Lesser Press, 2019); *Survivors* (Lesser Press, 2019)
- FIONA MacCARTHY** (1958). *Walter Gropius: Legendary Founder of the Bauhaus* (Faber and Faber, 2019) (see Reviews)
- ROSALIND MARSH** (1972). 'Elena Chizhova's *Little Zinnobers* in the Context of English, Russian and World Culture and History', an 'Afterword' to *Little Zinnobers* translated by Carol Ermakova (Glagoslav Publications, 2019)
- LUCASTA MILLER** (1985). *L.E.L.: The Lost Life and Scandalous Death of Letitia Elizabeth Landon, the Celebrated 'Female Byron'* (Vintage Digital, 2019) (see Reviews)
- KATHY O'SHAUGHNESSY** (1978). *In Love with George Eliot* (Scribe, 2019) (see Reviews)
- RUTH PADEL** (1965). *Beethoven Variations, A Life in Poems* (Chatto & Windus, 2020)
- LISA PARKINSON** (Elizabeth Burnside 1958). 'Wider Perspectives in Family Mediation: An Ecosystemic Approach' in *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy*, **40**, 62–73 (2019); 'Mediating in Disputes Concerning Children' in *Journal of Family Law*, **49** (2019)
- MICHELLE PAVER** (1979). *Wakenhyrst* (Head of Zeus, 2019) (see Reviews)
- MAGGY PIGOTT** (Toohey 1969). *How to Age Joyfully: Eight Steps to a Happier, Fuller Life* (Summersdale Publishers Ltd, 2019)
- EMILY ROYAL** (Sally Cornall 1987). *The Sins of the Sire* (Tirgearr Publishing, 2019); *Henry's Bride*; *Hawthorne's Wife*; and *Roderick's Widow* (all Dragonblade Publishing, 2019)
- TATIANA SOLOVIOVA** (1995). *Stepan Smolensky and the Golden Age of Russian Sacred Music* (Honeysuckle Publishing, 2019)
- JANE SPENCER** (1978). *Reading Literary Animals: Medieval to Modern*, edited by Karen Edwards, Derek Ryan and Jane Spencer (Routledge, 2019)
- GILLIAN TINDALL** (1956). *The Pulse Glass, and the Beat of Other Hearts* (Chatto and Windus, 2019) (see Reviews)
- SUSAN TYSON** (Yarker 1964). *Taxing the Heart* (Gujarat Publications Ltd, 2019) (see Reviews)
- ZAINAB USMAN** (2012). 'The "Resource Curse" and Constraints to Reforming Nigeria's Oil Sector' in *The Oxford Handbook of Nigerian Politics*, edited by

Carl Levan and Patrick Ukata (Oxford University Press, 2018); *The Future of Work in Africa: Harnessing the Potential of Digital Technologies for All*, with Jieun Choi and Mark Dutz (World Bank, Washington, DC); 'The Successes and Failures of Economic Reform in Nigeria's Post-Military Political Settlement' in *African Affairs*, **119**(1), 1–38 (2020)

- JOEP VAN GENNIP** (2001). "'Contulit hos virtus, expulit Invidia". The Suppression of the Jesuits of the Flandro-Belgian Province' and 'A Great Swarm of Nocturnal Raptors Shrieking Horribly. Negative Images of the Jesuits in the Netherlands between the Restoration of the Order and the Establishment of the Dutch Jesuit Province, 1814–1850' in *The Survival of the Jesuits in the Low Countries, 1773–1850*, edited by Leo Kenis and Marc Lindeijer (Leuven, 2019); 'Did You Mean that I Ought to Say: "I'm a Priest"?: The Industrial Apostolate of the Dutch Jesuits in the City of Rotterdam and its Suburbs, 1947–1988' (part I) in *Gregorianum*, **100**(3), 649–71 (2019)
- MARINA WARNER** (1964). *Forms of Enchantment: Writings on Art and Artists* (Thames and Hudson Ltd, 2018) (see Reviews)
- SUSAN JANE WHITE** (Murray 2007). *Clever Batch* (Gill Books, 2019)
- ANN WILKS** (Robson 1962). 'The 1921 Anglo-Afghan Treaty: How Britain's 'Man on the Spot' Shaped this Agreement' in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Third Series*, **29**(1), 75–94 (Cambridge University Press, 2019)



# IN MEMORIAM

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# IN MEMORIAM

## MARGERY GRACE ORD, 1927–2020

Margery Ord, who died on 13 January 2020, had been part of LMH for nearly 70 years. Her long association with the College began in 1952 when, as a young post-doctoral researcher, she was appointed to help look after LMH's science undergraduates, even though at the time of her appointment the College had no undergraduates in Margery's own specialism of biochemistry. In the early 1950s the women's colleges had limited teaching coverage in the sciences and responsibility for their oversight was to a large extent shared between them. LMH did have a medical tutor (Celia Westropp), but her interest was much more in research than in teaching. Thus, in her first years at LMH Margery acted as personal tutor for the chemists (she had herself read chemistry and continued to look after them until the appointment in 1980 of Christopher Dobson, whose obituary also appears in this issue). Indeed, additionally, for a brief period between Celia Westropp's resignation and the appointment of Mary O'Brien, she was responsible for all the scientists, the medical students and the mathematicians. She soon became an Official Fellow. Her students quickly recognised her personal and intellectual qualities and appreciated that, although she was a demanding tutor, she was also very approachable and anxious to support them as individuals. In addition to her teaching she held a succession of College offices over the years, including those of Dean, Tutor for Graduates and (beginning in 1983) College Treasurer. To all these roles she brought her own style: she was a problem solver who liked to move things forward, but she was also inherently anxious always to help those who needed support or encouragement.

Margery served on a number of important university bodies, including the Franks Commission on the structure and governance of the University and the Roberts Committee on graduate provision. She served two terms on the General Board of the Faculties and at one point chaired the University Personnel Committee.

Research, however, was at the centre of Margery's academic concerns. After her undergraduate degree at UCL she embarked on a PhD before coming to Oxford to undertake research with Lloyd Stocken. Her long collaboration with Lloyd was the result of personal contact between the latter and her London PhD supervisor, Robert Thompson, with whom Lloyd had collaborated during

the war on the development of an antidote to the nerve gas Lewisite. As Garry Brown noted in his tribute at Margery's funeral, Lloyd was already well known for this work. However, by this time he had decided to change fields and study the effects of irradiation on cells, a subject of acute importance in the immediate post-war era as a result of the use of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Out of their initial studies on irradiation, Margery and Lloyd developed a specific interest in the proteins associated with DNA in the nucleus and the chemical modifications which they underwent during the processes of cell division and tissue regeneration. This remained the primary focus of their research from the time of Margery's arrival in Oxford until her retirement. Their contributions to this field were recognised in the award of the Royal Society Silver medal in 1968 and the Oxford higher degree of DSc in 1973. In addition to the series of specialised papers, Margery and Lloyd produced a number of monographs including a history of the Biochemistry Department.

My own friendship with Margery was formed shortly after my arrival at LMH as a newly appointed Official Fellow and Tutor in Politics in 1975. Although it was clear that she was somewhat sceptical about PPE as a subject and, indeed, about the humanities and social sciences in general, she was happy to explore ideas and perspectives over congenial lunches or dinners at a variety of local hosteleries, usually outside of Oxford. I found these expeditions very welcome departures from the rather confined atmosphere of LMH at that time; and I found Margery's kindly, energetic and outward-looking approach to academic life immensely refreshing. She was also always very happy to talk about the world in which she had grown up and about her close friends and family background, her interests and her hobbies. She had grown up in the Portsmouth area where her father was an orthopaedic surgeon and had gone to boarding school (St Swithun's) in Winchester. I learned of her deep interest in wildlife and conservation and indeed accompanied her late one night to Wytham to view the sett of a badger with cubs. She was very supportive of David Macdonald's efforts to establish a wildlife conservation research centre at Oxford and facilitated WildCRU's association with LMH. She was a keen photographer and she enjoyed collecting paintings as well as memorabilia from her travels over the years.

Travel remained an abiding interest. On her count she had visited 59 countries over the course of her life, many of them, of course, more than once. Some of the travel was prompted by academic conferences and collaboration. Much of it, though, was spurred by the desire to see dramatic scenery, but also by her passion to see animals in their native habitats. She frequently travelled with Lloyd and Noreen Stocken but also in later years with her relatives Anne and Eddie Hazel. On the only occasion I travelled with her abroad, I was deeply impressed by her determination to make good use of the sight-seeing time available – in this case an afternoon in Delhi – and her ability to survive the heat of the mid-day sun without head covering despite the entreaties of locals anxious to sell her a hat.



What mattered most to her was the predictability and stability of the institutions with which she identified and the support of friends and colleagues. LMH was an integral part of her life and she was devoted to its scholarly purposes and a regular and generous donor to its academic activities. From 1984 she owned a flat in Norham End, adjacent to College. Its proximity to LMH enabled her to take lunch regularly in Hall until she was nearly 90. When her health began to deteriorate in her later years, the support and kindness of the College staff and the professional expertise of her live-in carer enabled her to stay at home rather than go into residential care. Her funeral on Friday 31 January in the College Chapel was attended by a very large number of LMH fellows, colleagues from the Biochemistry Department, LMH support staff, and students, as well as relatives, friends and neighbours. She will be much missed.

*Gillian Peele*  
Emeritus Fellow



*Margery Ord*

## SIR CHRISTOPHER DOBSON, 1949–2019

More than a century ago, the German pathologist Alois Alzheimer observed that people who died with dementia had deposits of an insoluble material in their brains that were later known as amyloid plaques. Amyloid turned out to be made of protein, but in a form very unlike the thousands of proteins that our cells turn out every minute of our lives to carry out all our essential functions. Chris Dobson, Fellow in Chemistry at LMH from 1980 to 2001, devoted his life to explaining the chemical processes that disrupt the production of healthy proteins and instead trigger their aggregation into toxic clumps.

In his research, Chris focused on the mechanisms that direct long protein chains to fold up into the three-dimensional shapes that allow them to engage in essential biochemical interactions. He exhaustively researched the question of how they 'misfold' when these mechanisms fail, instead adopting forms that stick tightly to one another as toxic amyloid fibrils. Chris pursued the question out of scientific interest, but came to realise that his discoveries were of enormous potential benefit to patients: the range of misfolding diseases now includes diabetes and Parkinson's disease as well as Alzheimer's, and many others that are less well known.

More recently, he turned to drug discovery, screening a variety of agents for their ability to prevent fibrils forming. Encouraging laboratory results suggest that this approach could transform the prevention and treatment of the diseases of ageing, which emerge as the body's natural repair mechanisms begin to fail.

Chris Dobson was born in Rinteln in Germany, where his military father was stationed, but his roots were in Yorkshire. His parents, Arthur and Mabel Dobson (née Pollard), both grew up in Bradford, leaving school without qualifications. Arthur worked in the wool exchange before joining the army on the outbreak of war. He rose through the ranks and had been commissioned as an officer by the time Chris was born, the third of three children after his siblings Graham and Gillian. The family followed their father from one posting to another, including a spell in Nigeria. Chris's education stabilised when he went first to the Cathedral Preparatory School for boys in Hereford (now Hereford Cathedral Junior School), and then Abingdon School, where he enjoyed excellent science teaching.

He entered Keble College to read chemistry in 1967, graduated with a first, and moved to Merton for a doctorate. As a graduate student with Iain Campbell, he was one of the first successfully to demonstrate dynamic change in the structure of a protein molecule (lysozyme) using nuclear magnetic resonance.

After a spell at Harvard University, he returned to Oxford in 1980 to take up a lectureship and his LMH fellowship. Cindy Bull (Harrison 1979) was one of those he supervised as academic and moral tutor from his arrival in her second year. 'He was interested in the whole person,' she says, remembering that he supported her passion for rowing which took her and the Osiris crew to victory over the Cambridge second boat, Blondie. But when she bungled her third-year



Chris Dobson

collections (possibly as a result of too much rowing), he gently told her that it would be 'a terrible waste' if she got a third. She gave up rowing, worked hard and got a 2.1. She knew of others for whom his sympathetic approach to the problems in their lives helped them to cope with their studies. 'He was able to handle people like a proper human being,' she says.

Chris became the founding director of the Oxford Centre for Molecular Sciences. He moved to Cambridge University in 2001 as John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Chemical and Structural Biology. Following this move, his research group began to apply their new understanding of protein folding more directly to diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, and in 2012 Dobson founded the Cambridge Centre for Misfolding Diseases. In 2016 he completed the journey from basic science to medical application when he co-founded Wren Therapeutics, a company that specialises in drug discovery and development for these diseases.

In 2007 Chris accepted the post of Master of St John's College, Cambridge. He threw himself into the life of the college and was reputed to know the name of every single student and staff member. He took particular interest in making St John's more accessible to students from non-traditional backgrounds, introducing a grants scheme for those from low-income families and initiatives for students with disabilities.

He was knighted in 2018 for his contributions, among a host of international awards. On hearing of his knighthood, Cindy Bull and her former tutorial partner

Paula Moon (Rowland 1979) sent him a congratulatory email, which prompted a charming reply inviting them to drop in if they were ever in Cambridge. They made a date, expecting a quick cup of tea, but found themselves welcomed effusively as two of his first cohort of students, treated to a full tour of St John's and lunch in the SCR. 'It was a brilliant day,' she says.

In 1977 he had married Dr Mary Schove, a historian of medicine, and they had two sons, Richard and William. Mary Dobson served as Director of the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine in Oxford before joining Cambridge Infectious Diseases, an interdisciplinary research centre.

Chris was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer early in 2019 and died in the Royal Marsden Hospital. He had always insisted that his discoveries owed everything to the bright young people he attracted to work with him, and he paid particular attention to promoting the careers of women in his lab. For example, he appointed Carol Robinson, now Dr Lee's Professor of Chemistry and President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, to a post-doctoral position at Oxford after she had taken an eight-year career break to raise her family. Paying tribute, among many others he had mentored, she said, 'Chris encouraged me to aim high and ask the right questions. He will be sorely missed – not only as an outstanding scientist but also as a compassionate and caring friend and colleague.'

Georgina Ferry  
(1973 PPP)

*Parts of this obituary are reproduced with permission from one by the same author, published in The Guardian on 25 September 2019.*

## FIONA MACCARTHY, OBE, 1940–2020

Fiona MacCarthy came up to LMH from Wycombe Abbey in 1958 to read English. At school various innate characteristics of Fiona's were developed: her feeling for literature; her love of the theatre; her deep feeling for order and exactitude and their connection to beauty and truth; her remarkable capacity for hard work.

She was born in January 1940. Her mother, who had the glamorous maiden name of Yolande de Belabre, was also linked to the wealthy McAlpine family who among other things built The Dorchester. Her father was a dashing career soldier who was killed in North Africa when Fiona was three and her sister Karin was one. Her mother never remarried; they lived in Kensington and then Chelsea and Fiona had a particular sort of upbringing including boarding school, finishing school in Paris and then a season as one of the last debutantes to be presented at Court. This last she felt she had to suppress as dreadfully embarrassing and shameful until much later in life when she wrote *Last Curtsey*

with a characteristic wish to tell the truth, with warmth and affection and her perpetual sidelong glance of irony.

However, her mother was no philistine; she adored the theatre, dance and music and brought her children up in the same way. Fiona struck out on her own and very obviously was of a calibre that demanded an academic schooling. Here as everywhere, she had rather dauntingly high standards, managing 99 per cent for maths, Grade VIII for piano. Her tutorial partner at LMH remembers her fastidious essays; another contemporary recalls her tidy wardrobe. All her life her clothes were quite beautiful.

After Oxford it was clear that Fiona's ambitions lay in the journalistic field; she won the *Vogue* talent contest. It looked as though her ambition was also to be suitably married, when her wedding took place in the October after she went down. But this first marriage was a mistake; it was to a man with many excellent attributes – clever, good-looking, kind – but he represented a conventional sort of choice. Fiona started to work at the *Guardian*, a milieu which she found thrilling and enlarging in the same sort of way that she felt she had breathed the air of independence and freedom at Oxford. Here she took up with some passion her interest in design and one of the interviews she did for the paper was with the charismatic Sheffield-born designer, craftsman and silversmith, David Mellor. Before long she moved to be with him in Sheffield. While her first marriage was a lapse backward, this was a thrust forward into a new world. Fiona was writing prodigious amounts for the *Guardian*, often in a jaunty Sixties style, but never relaxing in her devotion to clarity and precision in writing, and the best of modernism in architecture, furniture and all the areas of design which she and David both admired, like the work of the Finnish architect and designer Alvar Aalto.

It was a marriage of minds. David Mellor, ever since his time at the Royal College of Art, had moved into great eminence in his field. It grew out of his inheritance in the cutlery city and developed into the design of all sorts of useful and beautiful things: a large range of cutlery which could never have been designed by anyone else; tools; traffic lights; a bus shelter; a candelabrum. Moving out of Sheffield itself, where their two children, Corin and Clare (both now designers) were born and educated, Fiona and David finally lived in the Round Building in the Derbyshire countryside, which was David's factory and offices and their house, designed by their friends the distinguished architects Patty and Michael Hopkins. But they had always kept up an intimate link with London, where the first David Mellor shop was opened, where it was possible to keep up vigorously with all the arts and where David held many public appointments.

In the early 1980s, Fiona branched out again to become one of our great biographers. Beginning at the design end with her work on C. R. Ashbee, the list of her subjects includes Eric Gill, William Morris ('one of the finest biographies ever published in the country' wrote A. S. Byatt), Lord Byron and Edward Burne-

Jones, and culminates in the magisterial volume on Walter Gropius which she wrote with admirable strength of mind during her long last illness (and which is reviewed by Allan Doig in this issue). All these integrate her responsiveness to the arts with her insight into people who stand just a little outside the main high road of life and embody her detailed perfectionism. One cannot imagine Fiona delivering less than immaculate copy.

The biography of Gill caused conflict and anxiety for many as her researches uncovered his troubling sexual life, but this was not something which made her retreat from the actuality. Subsequent biographies were accompanied by large and successful exhibitions – William Morris at the V&A, Byron and Burne-Jones at the National Portrait Gallery. William Morris was clearly close to her heart, with his radicalism and his dictum 'have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful'. Fiona was probably one of the very rare people who stuck to this motto. However, she said that Byron was her favourite – possibly, one might imagine, because it was written at the time when her husband had begun his long slow decline into dementia. His last project, with Corin, was to restore an ancient ironworks in Tuscany as a house, and together Fiona and David travelled through Italy following Byron's Italian journey as she wrote. David took the photographs of Italian scenes in the book and in one of them there is the tiny figure of Fiona in Pisa by the Arno.

Her final biography, that of Walter Gropius, is her triumph. Broader in cultural scope than anything she had previously written, it shows a mind developing still to the very end. In person she was tactful, diplomatic and kind, generous and loyal, though her high standards would not let her cultivate those she did not care for. Gillian Peele used the adjective 'luminous' to describe her presence, and that seems just right.

*Lisa Miller*  
(*Davies 1958 English*)



*Fiona MacCarthy, photographed by Jane Bown*

## JANE DE FALBE (née MARRIOTT), 1927–2019

On 19 October 1953, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh went to tea with the Australian High Commissioner and his wife, Sir Thomas and Lady Vera White. Four months after the Coronation, the purpose of their visit would have been to seek advice and introductions for their upcoming state visit. But the Whites had been left in the lurch by an unreliable parlour maid, so they were attended upon by an Oxford graduate, Jane Marriott, who had accepted the temporary post and whose heavily scribbled line around 'Queen – tea' on that day in her diary also marked, as she recalled years later on, her 'First Encounter with Australia Fair'.

Her second encounter, less than three weeks later, was with Bill de Falbe, great-great-grandson of Governor Philip Gidley King of the First Fleet, who shortly thereafter became her husband: 'The Whites,' she writes, 'were thrilled.' One can well imagine the truth of this, for Jane made genuine friends wherever life led her.

Upheavals, encounters and dramas in early years nurtured her curiosity for people and places. Born in Bishops Stortford in October 1927, Jane was taught



Jane de Falbe as a young woman and, in a similar pose, as an older woman

ballet by Tamara Karsarvina in London in the early 1930s; she met W. B. Yeats when the family lived at Steyning next to the poet's last mistress, Edith Heald; and when her father, Rowley Marriott, was sent by MI5 to Northern Command in Leeds and the family evacuated to a remote farm cottage, she remembered driving a tank on Lindley Moor with soldiers from the regiment at Farnley Hall. Downe House was an educational milestone, with the influence of Olive Willis providing anchor, resilience and a sense of aspiration, and helping to secure her place at LMH to read Modern Languages (French and Russian) in 1946.

Undergraduate life after the war burst with colour and connections. Tutorial appointments seem noticeably sparse in her diaries, otherwise teeming with names and social engagements. Life now alternated between Oxford and Cotesbach, Leicestershire, where the Marriotts had moved back to their roots: hunting, cousins and aunts now entered the mix. Jane made lifelong friends. Two of them, Pam Blackmore (Maxwell Fyfe 1946 PPE) and Biddy Wells (Haydon 1946 History), in recent conversation, both remember her vivaciousness, illegal alcohol smuggled in for Biddy's 21st, her peers Jamie (Jennifer Robinson, née Ramage, 1946 Modern Languages) and Jo (Joanna Langlais, née Money-Coutts, 1946 PPE), their boyfriends, and others who mingled on the fringes of the ETC and OUDS in non-speaking roles, with eccentrics, thespians and musicians who later became household names: Sandy Wilson, Ken Tynan, Donald Swann. It provided a cultural panorama, and stories for life.

Resisting parental expectations of finding a suitor, she became sub-editor to the fashion editor of *Weldon's Ladies' Journal* intending to pursue a career in fashion journalism. The parlour maid episode demonstrates things didn't exactly go according to plan!

Following her marriage to Bill de Falbe and their move to Thundridge, Hertfordshire, in 1961, Jane adapted to the complexities of family life, educating her children in subjects she loved – reading, music, riding, gardening – while maintaining her friendships and cultural pursuits. She took a PGCE as a mature student in the 1970s and taught French privately and in state schools. She went travelling to exotic places: Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Archangel, China, Iran, fascinated by historic connections, by change, and by people.

Family associations with the Australiana at home became a bridge to historical research, a reason to journey to Australia with Bill and, after he took early retirement due to a war wound and they moved to Somerset, the opportunity to work on family papers. Her book *My Dear Miss Macarthur* (1988) is based on memoirs of Emmeline de Falbe (1828–1911), née Macarthur, granddaughter of Philip Gidley King, and Bill's grandmother. Emmie's first husband George Leslie and his brothers' settlement of the Darling Downs is a cornerstone of Queensland history, and their story became her own, shedding barriers of time as she became involved with these people through her research. As Alan Atkinson (University of Sydney) describes:

There is a wonderful balance of liveliness and rigour, humankindness and detachment. I like the unapologetic way she deals with the vital small detail of people's lives. That shows real delicacy and skill. What mattered to them mattered to her, which makes her a true historian.

Returning to Cotesbach in 2008 she adapted to family and community in true party spirit, yet continued her historic and personal quest, ever the intrepid traveller, to St Helena, aged 88, leaving everyone nail-biting to see her safe return. Fresh clues would surface daily, like Thomas White's book *Guests of the Unspeakable* left nonchalantly at the top of a pile eliciting a question, and her reply: 'Oh, someone I did a job for once.' She played her pieces confidently as she would in her notorious game of Scrabble, waiting patiently for others to play theirs, for all would fit together in the end.

She had an eye for beauty and a nerve of steel, never took things for granted, and displayed courage and determination to her last breath of rose-scented June air.

Jane is survived by her six children, ten grandchildren and one great-grandson.

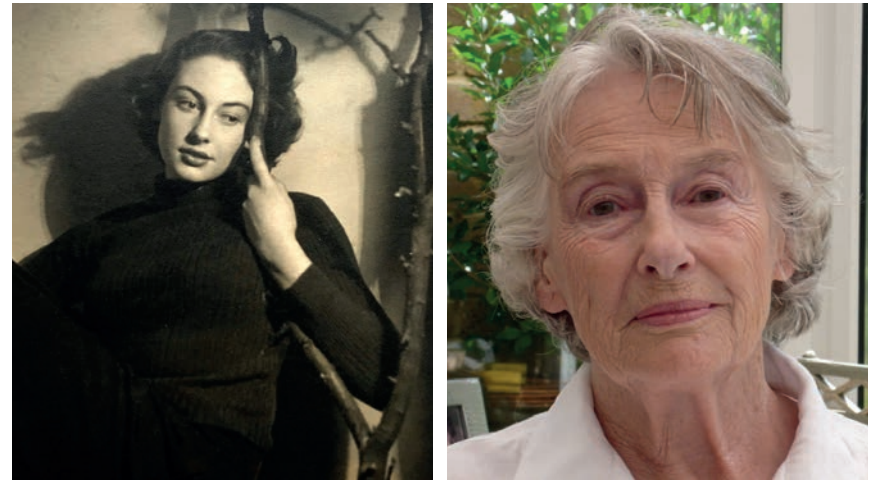
*Sophy Newton, Jane's daughter*

*Cotesbach Educational Trust (Regd charity no. 1126840) has set up a Memorial Fund: for enquiries/donations please contact Sophy Newton via [www.cotesbachschoolhouse.org.uk](http://www.cotesbachschoolhouse.org.uk)*

## JENNY HUGHES, CBE (née TURNER), 1927–2019

'Maintain a professional life and bring up a young family on your own? Can I give you three words of advice? Don't Make Puddings.' Such was the advice given in 1953 to the 26-year-old Jenny Nasmyth (as she then was), newly appointed foreign editor at *The Spectator*, by the legendary literary editor of the *New Statesman*, Janet Adam-Smith. They represented two overlapping generations of writers and doers who, post-war and post-Beveridge (with its emphasis on 'companionate marriage and the nuclear family' as a foundation of the new welfare state), pushed frontiers in the role of women especially, well before 1960s 'second-wave feminism' took hold.

Jenny always maintained she never really had a career, merely filling in around her first priority, her family. Nevertheless, her working life was an inspiration to those who knew her, especially women. One described her as having a 'mind like a hypodermic needle'. Another, that 'she wrote like a literary light, words well-placed, never for show, always in the service of accuracy and heart'.



*Jenny Hughes as a young woman and at the age of 85*

Jenny Turner was born in London in 1927 into two distinguished legal families (Schusters and Turners), educated first at St Paul's Girls' School and then, after evacuation to Dorset in 1939, at Sherborne from where, as a classicist, she was awarded an Oxford scholarship when only 16. After a year in London, she went up to read PPE at Lady Margaret Hall where she led, in the words of her cousin, Mary Warnock, with whom she shared tutorials, 'an impossibly glamorous social life'. Both graduated with first-class degrees.

Jenny joined the Treasury (1947–48) and then transferred to the Foreign Office (1948–50). Although hers was the first generation of women to be accepted in their own right in the diplomatic corps, the idea they might want to marry had yet to be accommodated; she was obliged to leave a year after her marriage in 1949 to the economist, Jan Nasmyth.

She went to write for *The Economist* (1950–52) but, in the days before maternity leave, had to leave at the birth of her first child. Later, she joined *The Spectator* (1953–55) and had to leave after the birth of her second. She then joined the *Manchester Guardian* as first journalist, then feature writer. Her first day's assignment was to Holloway Prison to cover the hanging of Ruth Ellis. Later she covered the Suez crisis, the Middle East having been her specialisation since her FCO days. She had earlier published a seminal article in *The Middle-East Journal* on 'Israel's Distorted Economy' and had contributed the chapter on 'Economics and Finance' to a book, *The New State of Israel* (1954).

As her first marriage floundered (Jan and she separated in 1959), Jenny moved with her three children and Helga, an indomitable East Prussian refugee

housekeeper, to the Woodford valley near Salisbury. In 1961, she married the lawyer (and later judge) Billy Hughes, to whom she was passionately devoted and to whom she had been introduced by the writer, Martha Gellhorn. Many writers were friends, notably Sybille Bedford, Rosamond Lehmann, Peter Shaffer, Laurie Lee, Frances Partridge, 'Freddie' (A. J.) Ayer, Dee Wells, Iris Origo – regular visitors to the hospitable homes they created, initially at Woodford and most magically at the home they restored together in 1963, Old Wardour House.

Over a 14-year period she also free-lanced as a TV interviewer, beginning in 1957 by presenting afternoon programmes for the BBC's *Mainly for Women* series. She was chairman of several TV discussion panels (mostly current affairs) and lead presenter for *Three After Six*, *Arena* (for the BBC with Tony Benn), *In My Shoes*, and some notable documentaries for *This Week*, produced by Jeremy Isaacs.

In 1971, as the nest began to empty, she was appointed founding editor of *Faculty* – a weekly magazine for university staff, opened and sold within months by Rupert Murdoch, which later morphed into *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. This led to her migration to the publishers, Macmillan. By 1974 she was appointed Personnel Director (with 800 staff, 30 per cent of whom had recently joined a militant union) and became chief negotiator in the annual pay round with four of the more belligerent unions (ASTHMS, NUJ, NGA and SOGAT). Macmillan had far fewer problems at that time than the rest of the publishing industry.

In 1978, she was appointed as non-executive director to the Prisons Board and then (in 1980) to the Armed Forces Pay Review Board, for which services she was awarded an OBE. In 1986 this led to an appointment on the Nurses and Midwives Pay Review Board. In 1993, she was appointed Chairman of Parkside Health Trust, then in 1998 as Chairman of Riverside Mental Health Trust. She was awarded a CBE in 1996.

Billy died in 1990. Their daughter, Polly, a professional violinist, also died from a brain tumour in 1997, a devastating blow. In 1998, at 71, Jenny re-connected and bought a house together with the Russian *émigré* and writer, Kyril Zinovieff, whom she had first met in the 1940s in her FCO days, when he was working in the Joint Intelligence Bureau. They had always shared a mutual, if unfulfilled, sparkle. Thus began a twilight period that was warm, mellow and full of friends. Jenny taught herself to read Russian and did so out loud to Kyril (who was by then blind); he would orally translate, Jenny would type it up, knock it into literature and read it back. They published three critically acclaimed translations, two from Tolstoy (*Anna Karenina* and *Hadji Murat*) and one from Dostoyevsky (*Notes from Underground*). They also wrote, in 2003, *The Companion Guide to St Petersburg*, still considered by many to be that city's best intellectual travel guide. The ensuing years were spent tending and reading to Kyril until his death in 2014, a few days short of his 105th birthday.

On her own 90th birthday, Jenny observed that during her whole life she witnessed talented individuals trying to change the world by grand gestures only to resent how little headway was ever made. 'Keep it local,' she advised those who had always seen her as a role model, 'the most effective things I have ever achieved in my life were done in small steps.'

*Luke Hughes, Jenny's son*

## ANNE FRITH (née DEED), 1940–2019

Elizabeth Anne Deed (6 June 1940–15 July 2019) was the second of four daughters of Basil Deed, a Peterhouse classicist, who won the OBE for intelligence work and taught at Shrewsbury before becoming Headmaster of Stamford School, and of Elizabeth Cherington, who was fluent in French and German and read Economics at LSE. Anne and two of her sisters began losing their sight in childhood. Her mother read school texts and novels, including *War and Peace*, to her daughters. An adventurous roof-climber, Anne was inspired by Stamford and its countryside. Anya Seton's romance about John of Gaunt's last wife, *Katherine*, caught her imagination. She was educated at Stamford High



*Anne Frith*

School, enjoyed holidays in Brittany, and visited Russia with her father.

Anne came up to LMH in 1959 to read History with Miss Hurnard and Miss Whiteman. Special (though by modern standards insufficient) arrangements were made: recordings (cumbersome) and readers assisted with research, and she typed her Schools papers (with a disaster when the invigilator failed to notice she was typing on top of an earlier answer). Her acute intellect and tenacious memory won a good second. She then took a Diploma in Public and Social Administration and worked in London as Assistant Secretary for the National Council of Social Service from 1963 to 1967. She began reading for the Bar and ate several dinners. She left both activities on her marriage to John Frith, an engineer, whom she had known since she was 16, and their move to Glasgow.

John worked in the electrical industry and then in computing. His job meant that Anne often coped alone during the week. But they surmounted difficulties together. They had three sons, Ian (1969), Peter (1971: 'I went into hospital to have him in old money, and came out decimalised'), and Mark (1973, the year they moved to Beccles). Babies presented practical problems sensibly solved. Once she got a whiff of paraffin and realised a small son was helpfully carrying a can to the bonfire. She arranged participation in all sorts of activities ('drama, tap, judo, Cubs, gymnastics, and various clubs'). The boys grew up reliable and independent. Large, untidy, gentle Peter died in 2004, leaving a widow, Deborah, and son, Thomas, whose quickness and knowledge (he was Channel Four's Child Genius in 2015) delighted Anne. She was a devoted grandmother to him, to Mark's three, and to Deborah's new family.

Anne wrote warm and entertaining letters to friends about her life and the socio-economic conditions of the country. In 1974: 'We . . . flew kites, or rather John flew Ian's kite. I have had to buy another for John so Ian can have a turn.' In 1977, dining at Brasenose, she suggested that 'boys from small local comprehensives . . . should be admitted at a much lower standard in view of their potential, as yet undiscovered'. She was active as an officer or member in many clubs and organisations in Beccles, looked after neighbours, raised funds, campaigned for local causes and for recognition of blindness as a disability (she disliked officials who realised that she could not read and thought that she could not think), fought ignorance and stupidity wherever she met it. One BBC researcher wanted her to discuss how society could help her. She replied that she 'would like society to work properly, and then I could fit myself round it, e.g. no postal strikes, no transport snarl-ups, no teacher action, no parking illegally on pavements. . . . There was a long pause and then the woman said that she did not think I would fit into their programme'. Anne fed her memory with radio, conversation, and Talking Books. At Beccles, after the sons grew up, she enjoyed 'a quite Jane Austen-like existence'. She delighted in music, puzzles, and the natural world. With friends and collaborators, she produced a lively series of booklets on local history, sold for charity (they are all in the College Library). One of these, *Daniel of Beccles: Urbanus Magnus, The Book of the Civilized Man* (2007), helped spark an overdue revival of interest in the earliest English book of manners and morals, written in Latin. For the rest of her life, Anne continued to research documents in the hope of clarifying Daniel's identity and background and of finding a mediaevalist who would build on her notes.

She bore her illness stoically and was able to laugh over the old story of her unusually red fourth-birthday cake. Her mother spilled the cochineal into it when she heard a broadcast announcing the D-Day landings.

Susan Treggiari  
(*Franklin 1958 Literae Humaniores*)

## SOPHY BRYSON, MBE (née PHILLIPS), 1943–2018

It was at the age of 3, in 1946, that Helen Sophia Phillips (Sophy) moved from England to Belfast when her father, Eustace (an ancient historian) was offered a position at Queens University. Her father was also a writer of some standing and her mother, Helen (née Lucas) was an avid reader and mature graduate of Queens in German. Sophy's grandmother, Helen Mary (née Morris Smith) (famously, for the family) attended Somerville College and, at the end of the nineteenth century, achieved a double first before women were allowed to graduate.

Sophy was the youngest of three children and the only one of the three subsequently to settle in Northern Ireland. After attending school in Belfast and Bristol, Sophy came up to LMH in 1961 to read Classics and Philosophy, tutored by Miss Hicken and Miss Jeffery. Sophy maintained several lifelong friendships with those she met at LMH, including her third cousin, Sophy Gray, who has remained a friend of the family and adds her own reminiscences below. She always kept her love of the literature she studied at Oxford, resuming her studies of ancient Greek at evening classes in the year before her death.

According to those who knew Sophy at LMH, she was already imbued with a social conscience and an awareness of the issues that faced Northern Irish society in the early 1960s. In 1966, shortly after leaving LMH, Sophy married Richard Bryson who came from a family of industrialists in Northern Ireland. Through the 1970s, she maintained a love of home and family life while she



Sophy Bryson

brought up her three children in Belfast, inevitably affected by the social divisions and civil strife of the city in that period. Sophy gradually became active within the local community as a volunteer in several initiatives including Save the Children Fund, which was operating in a very deprived part of Belfast. She was also a governor of one of the city's few integrated schools that brought Catholic and Protestant children together. The path of social justice led to her becoming a member of the Executive Board of Bryson House in the early 1980s. Bryson House (now Bryson Charitable Group) developed, through the patronage of Sophy's father-in-law, Edwin, and other members of the Bryson family, as Northern Ireland's leading charity from the 1940s onwards. Sophy's involvement with the

charity lasted until her death, focusing in the later years on the work of a project that supported asylum-seekers, refugees and those in immigration detention.

Always championing the cause of those less fortunate than herself, Sophy had a selfless disposition, quietly making a difference without seeking the spotlight. Knowing that her own privilege was an opportunity to do good, she chose to contribute within the context of Northern Irish society, as this was where she was at home. She volunteered at the Citizen's Advice Bureau in Lisburn, building up considerable expertise as a benefits advisor.

Sophy was particularly committed to the cause of prisoners' welfare, having been recruited to the Board of Visitors of Maghaberry Prison in the early 1990s. Her openness and ability to appreciate the other's point of view made her a natural chairperson and she chaired the Board from 1995 for several years. Sophy's determined contribution to prisoner welfare at this complex time in Northern Irish politics made an impression on many people and she was awarded the MBE in 1998 for this area of her work. Sophy's family and friends were enormously proud of her MBE, though she herself remained modest and tended not to use the letters after her name. Her commitment to the welfare of prisoners continued for many years to come, including involvement in the later years of her life in the Shannon Trust literacy project.

Richard and Sophy Bryson were close to the landmark of their 50th wedding anniversary when Richard died. Three years later Sophy's death was sudden and unexpected, after a fall near her home in Dunmurry, Belfast in July 2018. She is survived by her three children Lucy, Nick and Charlotte, as well as her three grandsons.

*Lucy, Nick and Charlotte Bryson, Sophy's children*

#### **Sophy Gray adds:**

Sophy and I came up to LMH in the same year and became good friends. During the many years that followed, her friendship was very important to me. On my visits to Northern Ireland, while driving near Lisburn or visiting Belfast for a concert, play or poetry reading, Sophy would point out evidence of the violent changes in the country: the fortified police stations in Belfast and the precise lines dividing the communities, marked with Union Jacks or Republican murals. I remember going to deliver some of Sophy's goats' milk (she had two goats) to a woman living in a flat almost on the division line. Sophy pointed out the broken windows in some of the flats and said how frightening it was to live so close to the line. In the early days of the Troubles, she took me to the Wishing Well Community Centre in Belfast, built on a dividing line so as to face both communities. She talked about her involvement in setting up an integrated school for Catholics and Protestants.

In later years, Sophy was full of talk about her different areas of voluntary work and most interesting of all was her work with the prison service. Since her very sudden death, I frequently find myself wanting to ask her what she thinks of this or that event or issue and then cutting myself off short. When Sophy was asked her views, there was often a pause while she considered the matter; what she said was always interesting and enlightening. She was wise as well as upright and compassionate.

Her three children have chosen very different careers. Lucy, who studied modern languages at New College, works with refugees in Brighton; Nick is a dance artist and choreographer living in the Republic of Ireland; and Charlotte is a GP in Sheffield. They have collaborated on the above obituary.

*Sophy Gray  
(1961 History)*

## **NANSIE BLACKIE (née ANDERSON), 1923–2018**

Nansie (Ruth Agnes Anderson) was born and raised in Doncaster by Scottish parents, both teachers, who instilled in her the virtues of education and liberal Christian principles. Her mother was a graduate of Glasgow University, a rare achievement for a woman in Britain before the First World War. Like her elder sister Irene (whose obituary appeared in the 2012 *Brown Book*) Nansie won a scholarship to LMH and went up in 1941 to read PPE. She fondly remembered attending lectures by such intellectual giants as A. J. Ayer and C. S. Lewis.

Her studies were interrupted in 1943 by two years of war service as an Assistant Principal in the Ministry of Supply in London, when the region was being targeted by V1 flying bombs and V2 rockets. One night she was heading home when a friend stopped her in her tracks. A front door blew out in front of them. Without this instinctive reaction both would probably have died.

Nansie returned to LMH in 1945, graduating with First Class Honours in 1947. She attended a number of post-war student conferences across Europe, meeting colleagues from former Axis countries. She was secretary to the 'Don's Advisory Group', which explored the reasons for the failure of the great continental liberal universities in the face of Nazism. (By the 1980s this group had become the 'Higher Education Foundation' of which Nansie was a trustee.) For the rest of her life she remained passionately European, democratic, ecumenical and feminist.

In 1947 Nansie became Scottish Secretary, and then Study Secretary, of the Student Christian Movement (SCM) of Great Britain and Ireland. The SCM was then a huge community and the UK's Student Chairman was James Blackie from Edinburgh. Nansie and Jim shared a common faith in reconciliation and social justice. They married in 1950 and travelled to New York where Nansie



became Interfaith Advisor at Barnard College, a women's college affiliated to Columbia University, while Jim undertook graduate studies at Union Theological Seminary. Nansie was also Study Secretary of the United Student Christian Council of the USA.

Despite the prospect of further opportunities in America, they returned to Britain in 1952. Jim, an ordained Church of Scotland minister, accepted the calling of a mining parish in Fife and they started a family. Four years later Jim became Chaplain to Edinburgh University and Nansie shared many of the chaplaincy duties. By 1960 they had three sons and a daughter. In that year they both helped found the Samaritans in Edinburgh. Nansie trained to be the first Marriage Guidance Counsellor in the city and was later a member of the Secretary of State for Scotland's Commission on Marriage Law Reform. From 1963 to 1979 Nansie was Head of History and Modern Studies at Cranley School for girls in Edinburgh and, as a firm believer in lifelong education, was one of the first Open University tutor/counsellors in Scotland in 1970. Jim, by then a Professor in the Divinity Department of Edinburgh University, died far too young in 1976.

Nansie became a tutor at St Colm's College, the Church of Scotland's lay education college, from 1979 to 1988, during which time she was proud to become a grandparent. She was active in the Church of Scotland on various policy committees and was one of four UK members of the Central Advisory Committee to the Conference of European Churches, attending World Council of Churches conferences from South Korea to Mexico. As a member of the executive of the Scottish Convention of Women she was a delegate to the Scottish Constitutional Convention, a broad association of political parties, churches and civic groups that developed a framework for Scottish devolution. In retirement she published two well-received books about significant Scottish church figures of the twentieth century. In her final years she was delighted to become a great-grandmother.

Nansie always appreciated the privilege and opportunity that Lady Margaret Hall afforded her, and she attended many alumni weekends until her mid-80s.

#### *Nansie Blackie's children*

*After Nansie's death a notebook was found filled with the poems she wrote during her time at LMH in the 1940s including her two-year break for war service. Her family plan to publish a selection. For more information please get in touch with her son Peter at [pjblackie@btinternet.com](mailto:pjblackie@btinternet.com)*



*Nansie Blackie*

## CATHY OAKES, 1956–2019

In my first year at LMH my husband-to-be David Long (Jesus) directed a production of Marlowe's *Dr Faustus* in the church of St Margaret's, Ilkley, where he had spent his teens. I was in the ensemble cast, and so was Cathy Oakes, then still a sixth-former, whom David had met through a youth drama group. With her waist-length hair and wide smile, she was a vividly striking actress and an excellent dancer, seductively portraying Lust in a choreographed sequence that replaced the dialogue of the Seven Deadly Sins (I was Gluttony).

Cathy, who has died suddenly aged 63, was born in Leeds, the youngest child and only daughter of Geoffrey Oakes, an insurance adviser, and his wife Megan (née Newman); she attended Lawnswood School. In October 1974 she came up to LMH to read history, tutored by Anne Whiteman. She quickly showed the zest for life that was her defining characteristic, saying an enthusiastic 'Yes!' to everyone and everything. In my company alone (and she quickly made many other friends), that included joining the chorus of a musical version of *Zuleika Dobson* in the Playhouse in her first term, and skinny dipping in the Thames late one night the following summer.

She became a fixture on the Oxford theatre scene, in one memorable term accepting parts in seven plays. Her contemporaries included famous names such as Tim McInnerny and Rowan Atkinson. On graduation she toured the US with the Oxford and Cambridge Shakespeare Company, playing Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. But the theatre was not ultimately to be her calling. Instead, she became a highly respected art historian and inspiring adult education teacher, sharing her delight in the material culture of the medieval world.

Her career began as a Museum Assistant in the education department at the Victoria and Albert Museum. (At the time she was sofa-surfing in London, and discovered the offer letter only by chance when she returned to a flat she had vacated some weeks earlier.) She taught infant school children, teenagers and adults, says her former colleague Sally Dormer, and 'handled every type of audience with aplomb'. Cathy's association with the museum continued, as a freelance lecturer and course consultant, for 40 years. 'Her lectures were inspirational,' says Dormer, 'whether delivered in front of objects in a gallery, or alongside images in the lecture theatre, where she preferred to teach perched upon a stool at the lectern.'

In 1983 Cathy married the Rev. Nicholas Bradbury whom she had known in Ilkley. His ministry took them from Tottenham to Salisbury, Yatton Keynell and Bristol, and they had three children, Olivia, Huw and Leo. She entered fully into the life of the communities Nick served, directing wholly untrained casts in triumphant Shakespeare productions.

While her children were still small, Cathy became a staff tutor in history of art for the Department for Continuing Education at Bristol University, and

undertook a part-time PhD: she learned at first hand the challenges of studying as an adult. Her thesis, on representations of the Virgin Mary, was later published as *Ora Pro Nobis: The Virgin as Intercessor in Medieval Art and Devotion* (Harvey Miller 2009).

In 2002 she returned to Oxford as Director of Studies in the History of Art at the Department for Continuing Education, and Fellow of Kellogg College. She continued her research in Romanesque art and architecture, exploring the interrelation of word and image in western medieval culture. For the department she directed the Master of Studies programme in Literature and Arts and was co-director of both the Postgraduate Certificate in Historical Studies and the DPhil programme in Architectural History. Her History of Art programme, which includes short courses as well as award and degree programmes, enrolled more than two thousand students in the 2018–19 academic year. She led parties of students on study tours to churches and galleries throughout Europe, joyfully sharing her lightly worn but deep-seated expertise.

Her work extended into the community, with projects that brought artists and non-practitioners together to examine the relationship of art practice and art history, and explored the use of photography in local history. She started a poetry reading group for students and colleagues, and returned to the stage with several leading roles for the Oxford Theatre Guild. She loved to walk in wild places, and strode indefatigably through the Lake District, the Amalfi Coast or the forests of Romania, whatever the weather.

Cathy's children were her pride and joy: she encouraged them to pursue their passions and supported all the choices they made. After her first marriage ended in 2006, she married the musician Michael Copley, an old schoolfriend. They bought a house in the medieval town of Cluny in Burgundy, which she lovingly restored, where they would spend their summers. It was there, in August 2019, that she contracted sepsis and died within a few days.

The shock of her loss has been profound for her family, friends, colleagues and students. Of literally hundreds of tributes that have poured in, a selection can be found on the department's website (<https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/news/in-memoriam-dr-cathy-oakes>).



*Cathy Oakes as an undergraduate and in later life*

A typical example from a student reads: 'Nearly everyone in our cohort thought she was being particularly supportive to them "behind the scenes"; it's only now that we realise she was doing that for nearly all of us, and presumably for other cohorts too.' And from a colleague: 'She was the perfect combination of scholar and teacher; she loved her subject and she loved teaching it.' Of her colleagues at the V&A, Sally Dormer writes, 'They cherished her wide-ranging expertise, academic rigour, generosity of spirit and innate modesty.' She was warm and empathetic, a thoughtful giver of gifts, a great cook and generous host – simply a brilliant friend.

*Georgina Ferry  
(1973 PPP)*

*With thanks to Christine Jackson of the Department for Continuing Education and Sally Dormer of the V&A.*

## VALERIE MURRAY, 1944–2019

Valerie Murray was born and brought up near Londonderry, Northern Ireland, and attended Londonderry High School. Here her ability was spotted by a teacher who encouraged her to apply to Oxford, an intervention which Valerie said changed her life. After a year at Queen's University, Belfast, she arrived at LMH in 1963 with an Exhibition to read English.

She decided on the medieval language option, course 2, and immersed herself in the close work that that entailed. Her acute intelligence soon became obvious. Being a perfectionist, she was diffident and self-critical, but her ability was clear. She graduated with a congratulatory first and went on to do a DPhil, editing a thirteenth-century Lollard text. Her love of things medieval remained all her life, but she read voraciously and widely, everything from the latest novels to philosophy and poetry.

As she overcame her initial shyness, Valerie took in all that Oxford offered. With our group of friends, she explored its architecture, countryside, art and music with keen attention and enjoyment. Introduced there to an abiding favourite, Bach, her taste later widened to encompass everything from Monteverdi to Mahler, and she became a fan of both Janet Baker and Joan Armatrading. Her enthusiasms were infectious; she was fiercely competitive at board games, and wide-ranging conversations went on into the night. Her humour was dry and quick-fire, but never hurtful. First in College then at a Park Town flat, these were formative and special years for us all.

Valerie's first post was as a lecturer in Medieval English at Aberdeen University. While there she developed a keen interest in Chomsky and structural linguistics,

so she returned to London to do an MA in Linguistics at University College London, followed by some teaching at the London School of Economics. She could have had a lifelong academic career, but in her mid-30s she made an even bigger change. Her partner in those years was Anne Goldie, senior social worker in Islington, and through her Valerie became acutely aware of social issues for women and their families around divorce. Inspired in particular by the 1979 Domestic Violence legislation, she decided to retrain by correspondence course as a solicitor.

After working for other firms, mostly on legal aid cases, in 1993 she and two female colleagues set up their own north London partnership, Hopkin, Murray, Beskine, which became a ground-breaking force in all aspects of family law. Her friend and colleague Sarah Beskine says:

Valerie led the way, finding creative means to help her clients, getting their cases into court fast. Her genuine caring nature, mixed with the amazingly high standard of her professional knowledge, plus a determination to make the law work to protect her vulnerable clients, meant she was in high demand. Valerie built up a major reputation in Women's Aid refuges. She was wonderful to work with – thorough, brilliantly knowledgeable, serious and caring – and also witty and irreverent.

So she had two separate successful careers in her lifetime but she remained characteristically modest and self-effacing. With her close circle of friends, Valerie was caring, loyal, forever dependable. For many happy years, she was central to the family of her civil partner, Mary Crampsie, and her name has been given to the family's newest arrival. When Valerie began to show signs of dementia Mary gave her loving support to the end. We her friends, her partner and her family remember her shining ability, her honesty, compassion and humour, and her determination to do what she could to make things better for all those around her.



Valerie Murray

Rachel Hayhow  
(Hawthorn 1963 English)

Nicola Harris  
(Sutherland-Harris 1963 History)

## ANNA TAMBLING (née SELLORS), 1925–2019

Anna was born on 7 December 1925 in Cape Town, where her father was an Anglican priest. She was John and Phyllis Sellors' fourth daughter; a fifth being born later in England. Her childhood years were lived in rectories in White Colne in Essex, Shepley then Morley in West Yorkshire, and Mossley in Cheshire. She was home-schooled by her mother, then briefly attended Wakefield Girls High School before going away to Abbots Bromley School in Staffordshire.

In 1943, aged 17, Anna gained a place at LMH to study English. In her first tutorial, Anna's tutor asked her, 'Miss Sellors, what do *you* think?' Anna was dumbstruck: she later said this was the first time in her life anyone had asked for her view. An essay she wrote during her first year at Oxford entitled 'Why do we enjoy tragedy?' shows she could indeed think for herself, and at last this was to be encouraged. Anna was modest about her Oxford degree, saying she only got a place because more women students were admitted in wartime. Her studies shaped qualities that remained with her: careful use of spoken and written English, and an ability to make her own judgement on every situation.

In addition to her studies, Anna won a Blue for playing in the university hockey team. She also took full advantage of wartime admission of women as bell ringers in Oxford and was subsequently one of the team that rang Carfax Tower bells to mark the peace in 1945. Anna was to be a bell ringer for most of her life; while on holiday at the age of 85, she joined ringers in Porlock church.

Anna met Peter Tambling, her future husband, when he returned to Oxford to complete his degree after the war. Following her graduation in 1946, Anna stayed in Oxford for another year to study for a Diploma in Personnel Management, and then worked as a librarian in the Bodleian, where she and Peter first met. Peter went on to theological college in Cambridge in 1947. They were married on 31 March 1948 in Mossley. As theological colleges at that time did not accommodate married clergy, during Peter's training, Anna worked in personnel for Burroughs Wellcome Medical Foundation in Euston Road, London. This was to be her only full-time paid employment.

After Peter's ordination at the end of 1949, they moved to Stockport, Cheshire, where daughters Jenny and Bridget were born in 1950 and 1951. Robert was born in 1954 after the family moved to Westbury, Wiltshire. For a short time, Anna had three children under the age of four, without the relief of pre-school or nursery provision. It was hard work, but Anna could always be relied on to cope.

In addition, there was her clergy wife role, which Anna fulfilled as the family moved from rectory to rectory – to Warminster, then Zeals in Wiltshire, then finally to Glenfield, Leicestershire. It was expected that she would run the Mothers' Union and, where present, Young Wives groups, and that the rectory would be the meeting place for these and other gatherings. Refreshments had to be provided – prepared, of course, by Anna. The constant administration and baking did not use Anna's talents to the full, although she always made a good



*Anna Tambling*

As Peter approached retirement, Anna, now in her late 50s, undertook training in Leicester as a Church of England Lay Reader, acting for a time as a Lay Canon in Leicester Cathedral. In 1985, they moved to their retirement home in Wincanton, Somerset. There was time for them to reacquaint themselves with this corner of south-west England, and to enjoy social and leisure activities, including many family visits. As before, their garden was both beautiful and productive. Anna also embarked on a 21-year ministry as an Anglican Lay Reader, first in a widespread group of 13 village churches, and later in Wincanton parish church. Hers was a quiet ministry of preaching and prayer, taking services, visiting bereaved families, and conducting worship in a local residential home. Here she was in her element, overcoming difficulties as she had always done, but with a greater sense of fulfilment. Anna retired as Lay Reader at the age of 80.

Peter died in December 2008 and Anna lived alone in Wincanton for another 5 years, before moving to Solihill for the last years of her life. Her daughters' last cherished memory of her is of them all laughing together about nothing in particular.

*Jenny Dagers, one of Anna's daughters*

job of it. She and Peter also put in hours of hard physical labour in the upkeep of the house and garden. In supporting neighbours or welcoming visitors, Anna went above and beyond what was expected.

The three children went away for secondary education and Anna often drove them at the start or end of term. She had an ancient Morris 8 that threatened to give up on steep hills. It took some courage to drive Jenny and Bridget across the Mendip Hills in all weathers. On one occasion Anna and Jenny had driven to Leatherhead for an event at Robert's school. On the way back, the ominous warning light came on, and the night was spent in the reception area of Salisbury police station. Anna was made of sturdy stuff.

## CLAIRE DWYER, 1964–2019

Claire Dwyer arrived at LMH in 1984, brimming with infectious enthusiasm for her subject, friends, LMH and Oxford, while never losing sight of the world beyond. Claire read Geography and went on to forge a stellar academic career that saw her appointed Professor of Human Geography at University College London in 2018.

Before arriving in Oxford, Claire had spent a year working with Mother Teresa: an experience that cemented her interest in South Asia. At LMH she supported the Third World First initiative, selling baked potatoes in the JCR bar. Via the Jacari scheme, she taught English to a disadvantaged Indian family in Oxford, including bringing them punting at LMH. Friends from Calcutta often popped by to visit.

Claire was generous, energetic, quick-witted, sociable and wore her incisive intelligence lightly. A questioning yet committed Catholic, she was an excellent Catholic rep, even attending Christian Union prayer meetings in a thirst to understand what made others tick.

With an unquenchable interest in people, Claire developed a wide circle of friends at LMH and beyond. With them she explored ideas of equality and fairness, shaping a world view that always looked outwards rather than inwards. She participated fully in college life, including playing hockey for LMH. Friendships were life-long, and for many years a group of LMH contemporaries enjoyed annual weekends away with their families: often at Sudeley Castle in Gloucestershire, and always with Claire at their heart.

At Oxford she met Paul Farmer, then reading History at St Peter's, now chief executive of the mental health charity Mind. They married in 1994 and had two children, Ben (reading geography at St Catherine's) and Thomas (studying geography A level). Her family was the centre of her life and she had great love for and pride in her two sons.

Claire grew up in Letchworth, Hertfordshire, the world's first garden city, which helped spark her passion for social geography. Her father Michael was a research engineer and her mother Brenda a teacher. Her father's colleagues were often invited to dinner, with Claire and her three younger siblings discussing international affairs around the table.

The family did not possess a TV set, leaving Claire with a famous lack of knowledge of 1970s television references (though she caught up with soap opera storylines on the school bus). Perhaps as a result, she became a brilliant conversationalist and voracious reader.

From St Angela's Roman Catholic Girls' School, Stevenage, Claire came up to LMH. She was passionate about her subject (and greatly saddened when LMH later stopped taking geographers), and it was no surprise when she was awarded a First.

A born teacher, she gained a PGCE from Nottingham University and taught for several years at a secondary school in Warminster. In 1991 she returned to academic study and gained a Masters degree from the University of Syracuse,

where she honed the critical feminism that underpinned her thinking. Returning to Britain she moved to UCL, where she joined the teaching staff in 1995 and completed her PhD, on the identities of young British Muslim women, two years later.

Her early focus on gender, religion and ethnicity broadened to include diasporic South Asian fashion, the growth of faith schools in the UK and the creative practices of suburban faith communities. She was an international figure, with visiting fellowships at York University in Toronto, UBC in Vancouver, and at Uppsala and Utrecht universities.

The qualities that endeared her to her friends – warmth, empathy, humour – fed into her academic work. She was in demand as a dissertation supervisor and many of her PhD students are now significant academics. Among other achievements, she founded and convened UCL's Masters programme in global migration, linked to the Migration Research Unit, which she co-directed from 2010.

She and Paul lived in Ealing, west London, where many LMH friends enjoyed generous hospitality and annual Christmas parties. Outside her work Claire served as a school governor, led a Scout troop and, with Paul, ran marriage preparation classes at their church. She also founded a book group (before such things were fashionable), which thrives to this day.

Her own faith was central to her academic study. She collaborated with different faith communities around Ealing (as well as in Vancouver), bringing diverse people together and staging several exhibitions.

In 2018 Claire was awarded a Chair at UCL, becoming one of the first female professors of Human Geography. Around the same time, she was diagnosed with bile duct cancer, a rare and devastating form of the disease. After her death in July 2019, an event at the Royal Geographical Society in London paid moving tribute to her life and work. What a privilege to have known her.

*Alice Fowler  
(1984 Human Sciences)*



*Claire Dwyer, far right, with LMH friends Giovanna Amodeo, Ruth Chatterton (Aldred), Sarah Naylor (Hudson) and Alice Fowler on a trip to York*



*Claire at LMH, with friend Richard Cairns*

## NORAH CAMPBELL (née WEBB), 1934–2019

Norah Campbell came from a primary school class of 43 on a York council estate and reached Lady Margaret Hall and the Oxford Clinical School, going on to a distinguished career in medicine.

Norah was the only child of her parents, Wilfred and Lilian Webb. Her mother, who had been employed in a supervisory capacity at Rowntrees chocolate factory, had had to stop work when she married. She took a keen interest in Norah's education and succeeded in getting her into a better, but more distant, junior school where the headmaster regarded Norah as his star pupil. She then gained a place at Mill Mount Girls Grammar School for Girls, York. Norah was inspired by a Mill Mount alumna, Marjorie Ridley, who had been educated at LMH (1944 Medicine; Heron-Allen scholar) before becoming a distinguished consultant dermatologist, and thought 'I'd like to do that.' Norah's name came immediately after Marjorie's on the Mill Mount honours board because, in the nine years that separated them, no other pupil had gained admission to Oxbridge.

Norah gained a place at LMH and the Oxford University Medical School, and came up to Oxford in 1953, one of the very few young women allowed to read medicine at the time. After junior doctor posts in Oxford, she specialised in obstetrics and gynaecology, which she loved, and held posts in Leeds before moving to Cardiff, where she gained her higher qualification, the MRCOG.

Norah and I had known each other a little at Oxford, particularly at Christian Union meetings and at St Ebbe's Church, where Norah sang in the choir. We met again in Cardiff, working in the Royal Infirmary. In the doctors' dining room, the Welsh-speaking doctors, who were in the majority, sat at one end of the room, leaving the small number of English speakers together. We married in 1965 in Norah's home church in York.



*Norah Campbell with her family*

We moved to London, to the Hammersmith Hospital, where Norah was a research senior registrar in obstetrics, and in due course had our three children. Later, in Manchester, she set up an ultrasound service at Trafford General Hospital. When radiology took over ultrasound from obstetrics, she bravely retrained, gaining her FRCR at the age of 50 and finishing her career as Director of Radiology. Norah coped herself with breast cancer and an aortic valve replacement, sustained by her strong Christian faith. In retirement she enjoyed the Anglo-French Medical Society and windsurfing in Aquitaine.

Norah retained strong links with LMH and loved her undergraduate years there. However, when she became a postgraduate, doing her clinical medical training at the old Radcliffe Infirmary, she felt lonely and neglected. There seemed to be very little provision for postgraduates. Norah therefore donated a substantial sum of money to LMH, specifically to benefit postgraduates. In 2017, when LMH's new entrance, the Leatare Quadrangle, and major new buildings, the Clore Graduate Centre and Donald Fothergill Building, were opened by the Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Lord Patten of Barnes, CH, we were given front-row seats. Afterwards, as a surprise, we were taken to see a room named for Norah and were introduced to the JCR and MCR Presidents.

After 53 years of marriage to me, a forensic psychiatrist, Norah also leaves three children – Alison, a GP; Fergus, an NHS administrator; and Andrew, a problem-solving electrician – and five grandchildren.

*Angus Campbell, Norah's husband*

## JEAN ROSALIND EDWARDS (née OATES), 1951–2019

Rosalind was born in Bishop Auckland, on 6 February 1951. Early on, Ros's mother Sylvia noted that she was 'most kind' and 'intelligent' in several entries in her 1952 diary, which also included observations of my mother's first steps and other key milestones. Demonstrating her intelligence academically allowed mother to attend Wolsingham School near Durham on a scholarship and she subsequently attained strong enough qualifications to earn a place at Lady Margaret Hall to study Zoology, close on the heels of her sister Kathleen Mackinnon (Oates 1966 Zoology) who had recently started at Oxford, and where her own association with the college began.

It was here, at the end of her first year at Oxford, that Rosalind met my father while attending the 21st birthday party of my father's cousin who was dating a friend of hers. Impressed by mother's long blonde hair and 'big brain', my father immediately set upon a determined path of dating her, visiting Oxford often at weekends or travelling further afield to Durham during the summer holidays. My mother and father married in Meadowfield, Durham, on 4 August 1973. My

sister was born in 1976, after my mother worked for a few years in Watford General's Pathology laboratory, and I followed in 1981.

While my mother never had an illustrious career as many LMH alumni have had, she made considerable sacrifices by devoting herself to raising my sister and me, supporting my father's business by managing the paperwork and accounts, and enabling her sister Kathy to concentrate on a career abroad as a working conservationist (she is now Chair of the IUCN/World Commission on Protected Areas) by helping to raise her own young family while they attended boarding school and by managing her other UK affairs. Ros was an excellent bookkeeper and was praised by the local VAT inspector who, during the VAT inspection, admired how she had arranged the accounts accurately, even offering her a job at the end of the inspection! The success that my sister and I achieved in our education and subsequent careers undoubtedly owes much to our mother's care and heritable intelligence.

In the mid-2000s, my mother noticed increasing difficulty with breathing, eventually leading to a diagnosis of emphysema caused by alpha 1 antitrypsin deficiency. Even as she lived with her steadily declining condition, she still devoted herself to others, providing care for her mother Sylvia at home in her final years.

Despite fiercely battling a second flare-up of her emphysema, Ros tragically left us on the morning of 18 August 2019, aged 68, surrounded by immediate family at Watford General Hospital. She was buried in her home city of Durham on 6 September. Her absence will be keenly felt for many years to come.

*Mark Edwards, Rosalind's son*



*Rosalind Edwards as an undergraduate*

## CARMEN DYMOND (née RANT), 1927–2018

Carmen Mary Rant was an undergraduate at LMH in the late 1940s. She was born in Peterborough on 4 April 1927. Her father, a former cavalry officer, was port manager in Aden for the Anglo-Iranian oil company and her mother returned to England for her birth. Much of Carmen's childhood was spent in Petts Wood, near London, with extended visits to Aden and Christmases at the Vicarage of St Augustine's, Kilburn with her uncle, Revd Percy Atkinson, a former organ scholar at Keble.



*Carmen Dymond*

Carmen went up to Oxford in 1945 following what must have been a time of great turmoil as she was educated during the London Blitz, evacuated, returned to London and then prepared for Oxford entrance examinations at Battersea Polytechnic. Although (no doubt as a result of disruptions to her earlier education) she found her studies at Oxford challenging, her years at LMH were an enormously special time of which she often spoke with great fondness. Subsequently both my brother and I were inspired to apply to Oxford – Peter went on to study modern languages at St Catherine's and I studied engineering at Somerville and later also theology as part of ministerial education at Wycliffe Hall.

After leaving Oxford our mother excelled in her chosen specialism in obstetrics and gynaecology, undertaking clinical work at St Bartholomew's, North Middlesex and West Middlesex Hospitals, Cambridge Maternity Hospital, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson (London), Isolation Hospital, St David's Hospital (Cardiff), Victoria Hospital & Maternity Hospital (Swindon). She qualified as a consultant and went on to run a maternity hospital in Mampong, Ghana for six years before returning to the UK.

In February 1968 she married Dr Don Dymond and moved to Wales. After the birth of her two children, Peter and Rosie, she continued to work part time in the University Hospital of Wales and in general practice for many years, while also doing a huge amount of voluntary work in church and community, and especially supporting young people on the Pentwyn estate in east Cardiff. She passed away shortly before her 91st birthday – an inspirational figure and a true pioneer both as a physician and in faith-based community work.

She greatly valued her continuing contact with LMH over the years and enjoyed returning from time to time.

*Peter and Rosie Dymond, Carmen's children*

*Friends are welcome to make contact: [rosiedymond@yahoo.com](mailto:rosiedymond@yahoo.com)*

## ROSA JANE PELLY, MBE, 1931–2019

Jane Pelly, who died on 7 November 2019, read zoology at LMH, 1950–53. She was the great-niece of Dame Elizabeth Wordsworth, the first principal, and followed her mother and aunt, Salome and Faith Wordsworth, Elizabeth's nieces, as well as her cousin, Priscilla Tolfree, 1949–52, another Wordsworthian great-niece, to LMH.

Jane's working life was nearly all spent in schools in Nigeria. After three years in Queen's School Ede she was appointed Founder and first Principal of Fiwasaye Girls Grammar School in Akure. Jane drew the plans – a bungalow for herself and a classroom and dormitory for 30 girls who had completed five years of primary education. The school increased year on year until it was four forms of entry leading to five years of education up to GCSEs. When Jane knew she had laid a firm foundation, she left and went to be Principal of Federal Government Girls' School in Kazaure, Kano, followed by Principal of Federal Government's Girls' School, Benin City. She was awarded the MBE for services to Nigerian Education in 1972. When the people of Akure heard of it they made Jane chief of their tribe with the title 'Mother of all good children'.

The Rt Revd Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam, said recently that Jane did not know the meaning of 'retirement'. Besides being ordained Lay Reader in the Salisbury Diocese, she was an Associate Mission partner for the Church Mission Society (CMS), and a Guide and Chaplain in the cathedral. Nor did she stop campaigning, serving on committees, and giving to and collecting money for all the causes and charities close to her heart. These included Amnesty International, World Development, the Ordination of Women in the Church of England, World Justice, ecumenical matters including Churches Together in Salisbury, CND, Sarum Concern for Israel/Palestine, active support for the environment and climate change, and Christian Aid where she chaired the local group for many years. She was also a zealous house-to-house and pub-to-pub collector and gave lively talks to school assemblies dressed in Nigerian costume raising money for Christian Aid. Jane also went on demonstrations in London, Edinburgh, Genoa, Prague and Cologne, and somehow found time to spend three months in Uganda teaching in the evacuated Sudanese Theological College, and four months at Yei in the Sudan, living in spartan conditions in the desert and teaching English to classes of 80–100 secondary school pupils with standing room only. She also travelled to



*Jane Pelly*

China with Friends of the Church of China, and to Israel/Palestine picking olives and witnessing conditions in Palestine.

Jane is still warmly remembered by Fiwasaye school. In February this year the school commemorated its 60th anniversary with a whole week of celebrations. Many of the Old Girls will come, colourfully dressed, to the Thanksgiving Service for Jane's life in Salisbury Cathedral in March.

*Robina Hattersley, Jane's sister*

## ANN DOUGLAS, 1934–2019

I first met Ann in 1953, when we went up to LMH. Her father was Professor of History at Bristol and Ann was a History Scholar at LMH. Ann and I were part of a small group of friends, including fellow 1953 historians Janet Whates (later Semple) and Rosemary Cooper.

Another close friend, Patricia Souper (later Wright), had already met Ann at Badminton School, where Ann was a day girl. Patricia recalls teaching Ann to sing at LMH. The three of us went on to sing numbers from *Salad Days*, then a brand-new musical, with great enthusiasm: 'Sit in the sun, the sun, the sun . . .' and 'We're looking for a piano, a piano, piano, we're looking for a piano, the one that makes you dance . . .'

We used to invite each other round for coffee in our plainly furnished rooms, with wonderful views of the college gardens. We would talk about anything and everything, until one of us would have to go off to write an essay. Favourite topics were friends, politics and literature. We had all read the first two volumes of *The Lord of the Rings* which had left the hero, Frodo, in great danger. One day word came round that the third volume was on sale at Blackwells! We all jumped on our bikes and rushed into town, to find out what had happened to Frodo.

Ann and I were able to keep in touch after Oxford because we were both working in London. She had a successful career in publishing in Chatto and Windus, Hutchinson University Library and Paul Elek Publishers. She enjoyed her work and she loved London, especially the theatres, the National Gallery and the Dulwich Picture Gallery. We often used to meet to see an exhibition and have a long chatty lunch afterwards. My husband valued Ann's company as much as I did. She will be greatly missed.

Ann was one of the kindest people I have ever met but she had no sympathy for some of our political leaders. An ardent Remainer, she was very concerned with the way things were going. On the other hand, she was pleased about recent developments at LMH, especially the Foundation Year programme. She also had a great sense of humour. Her much loved godson, Robert Semple, said that she had a smile that would light up a room. She had many friends.

When I visited her in hospital, I noticed that all her neighbours in Lillieshall Road had formed a rota so their visits would not clash. A friend from the early years, Joanna Evans, was able to be with her in the last weeks. She died peacefully in the Royal Trinity Hospice, Clapham Common. She was 85.

*Sonia Haslett  
(MacFarlane 1953 Modern Languages)*

## PAMELA HUBY (née CLARK), 1922–2019

My mother was born in Dulwich in 1922, the first child of George and Agnes Clark. Her father worked in the Ministry of Health while her mother came top of her peer group in the Civil Service exams.

Aged seven Pamela went to James Allen's Girls' School (JAGs), Dulwich. Clearly remarkably intelligent, she won prizes for academic excellence each year. Pamela didn't limit her efforts to academic work. The school awarded a 'best posture' prize and, though she didn't have notably excellent posture then or later, being naturally competitive, she walked with poise for the months it took to win it. Her interest in Classics developed here and she won a senior scholarship in Classics to LMH.

Pamela went up to LMH in 1940. It was a difficult time to be a student: Pamela helped dig up the LMH gardens to plant vegetables for the war effort and spent nights fire-watching in case incendiary bombs set the college alight. She gained a double first at LMH in 1944. Diana, her niece recalls: 'JAGs's headmistress published a review of the school's achievements during the war, which started by stating that "obviously" the greatest academic achievements of the war years had belonged to Pamela Clark.' Diana added: 'When I studied Classics at Somerville . . . she enthusiastically supported my studies and I was grateful to receive many of her old classical texts. . . . her tenacity was impressive; to continue translating and publishing in Ancient Greek and Latin into her nineties was a remarkable achievement.'



*Pamela Huby as an undergraduate in LMH gardens*



Pamela's first job was as an assistant lecturer in Classics at Reading University. A year later she returned to Oxford as a lecturer at St Anne's, switching to the field of ancient Greek philosophy. In 1949 she moved to Liverpool University's Philosophy department. Here she met Ronald Huby, a lecturer in theoretical physics. They married in 1956, setting up home in a lovely old house in Wallasey overlooking the Mersey. Shortly afterwards three children arrived: Adam, Bart and, in 1963, Priscilla (1981 Mathematics). Family life consumed much of Pamela's time; she coped well with the challenges of bringing up three lively children. All three got into Oxford or Cambridge, and Pamela was particularly delighted when Priscilla went to LMH. Inevitably Pamela sacrificed academic career advancement for her family life, but seemed very happy to do so; she was much more interested in the substance of her academic work itself, than in personal recognition.

Pamela's publications ranged widely, including metaphysics and philosophy of mind, ethics and logic. Unlike most contemporary philosophers she was willing to take paranormal phenomena seriously. Insisting that they may obey scientific laws, though not those of matter-based science, she gives brief descriptions of the nature of and some of the evidence for many different kinds of paranormal phenomena, including two poltergeist cases based on her own experience, tentatively concluding that minds may not be confined to a single body and may be aware of and influence things and people both physically and in ways not yet understood. She wrote on the paranormal in Aristotle and the survival of death; using ideas from Wittgenstein to discuss what would count as survival and what form survival might take, concluding that whether we survive is basically an empirical issue. She was an active member of the Society for Psychical Research from the early 1960s, carrying out research into extra-sensory perception (ESP) and the possibilities of survival after death. Her 1961 paper for the *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research* was entitled 'The Effect of Drugs on ESP Ability – An attempt to verify findings that amphetamines and barbiturates can significantly affect ESP'. One of her main philosophical articles claimed that the universe, if real, must be finite in space and time. Her 1967 pioneering article on the free-will problem led to her being included in a list of 200 of history's most influential philosophers on the Information Philosopher website. She was a key member of a major international collaboration 'Project Theophrastus', set up to record all the works and commentaries on the ancient Greek philosopher Theophrastus of Eresos, Aristotle's successor, now known as the 'father of botany'.

Pamela stayed at Liverpool University for the rest of her career, retiring in 1987 as an honorary research fellow. Recent tributes from colleagues testify to her commitment to her work and her enthusiasm in collaborating unselfishly. Professor David Sedley, Cambridge: 'Pamela was one of the nicest people in our joint field, ancient philosophy. She made major contributions . . . many of which are still regularly cited, half a century and more after their publication.' Professor



*Pamela in later life*

Sir Richard Sorabji, Oxford: 'She did the most wonderful work. I am particularly grateful, because she translated at least five books in my series, quite apart from her other books and papers many of which I know and admire. Latterly I used to come to see her at home, partly to discuss her last translation, but partly just to see her.' US Professors Dimitri Gutas of Yale and Bill Fortenbaugh of Rutgers: 'Our sincere condolences . . . for your loss, which is felt no less keenly by us, the remaining pair of the Theophrastus team (Fortenbaugh, Gutas, Huby, Sharples). It has been our honour to be associated and to have worked with her. She did so with such a thoroughness and exactness that scholars today recognise her work as authoritative and will continue to do so for many years to come.'

In 1988 Pamela and Ron moved to Tunbridge Wells, enjoying outings to National Trust and English Heritage properties. Pamela continued writing academic books using new-fangled computers. She lost her files often and despaired at blue screens but battled on. One year she won the *Times* crossword competition. The feat itself was satisfaction enough, but when a £1,000 prize arrived Pamela and Priscilla went on a shopping spree at a local antiques fair. When Ron's health deteriorated, they moved to Harlington, Bedfordshire, near to Priscilla. Pamela loved Harlington; she fitted naturally into the community and volunteered for the local Neighbourhood Help support group, despite being in her 80s. They joined the Harlington Heritage Trust and loved to attend lectures, making many new friends and supporting the group financially when government funding was cut in 2010. Pamela had 'green warrior' credentials, reusing everything she could, envelopes, string, rubber bands etc., and recycling before most people knew the term. She had one of the first solar-powered lawn mowers and insisted on the installation of solar panels in the late 1990s.

In 2010 Pamela moved with Priscilla and her family to Letchworth, Hertfordshire, to a house on a main shopping street; she loved people-watching while writing at her desk in the window. Now known as Granny, she saw one granddaughter, Lucy, daily and the other, Maya, frequently and was delighted to see the close friendship that developed between them.

Pamela died peacefully in February 2019 holding Priscilla's hand and is sorely missed by all her family.

*Priscilla Huby*  
(1981 Mathematics)

## LOUISE RUSH, 1963–2019



Louise Rush

Many people who were at LMH in the early 1980s will remember Louise Rush, who has died aged 56. Her dark, flowing, henna-burnished locks, stylish, original clothes (often self-designed, or clever vintage finds), and strong Yorkshire accent all made her a striking figure around college.

Louise came from Silsden, a town outside Keighley. She had overcome an early emotional trauma – the sudden death of her father when she was only 11 – to become the first member of her family to go to university, and the first person from her school to go to Oxford. She arrived at LMH in 1981 to read Law, and was both hard-working and passionate about what she believed in. Fellow lawyers have fond memories of sitting with her at the walnut table in the Law Library at the top of Katy

Lea engaged in lively debates on a variety of topics. Louise made firm, loyal friendships throughout college and in 1982 was elected JCR Treasurer, adopting the watchword 'Frugality!' as she strove to balance the books. Less frugally, she was the hostess of some extraordinary parties: particular occasions that deserve mention include 'The Cat is Dead', and Louise's twenty-first birthday celebration in the Old Library.

Louise tried much of what Oxford had to offer (she even tried rowing in her first year) and liked to do everything to the full. She was mercurial and sometimes chaotic, but she was always creative, witty, and exciting to know. Her quirky personal style included accessorising her outfits and her room with items such as lace gloves, peacock feathers, and an old fox-headed fur stole. At her core was a strong, bold heart: friends in trouble could rely on her kindness and support. She was also driven by forceful political commitments to feminism and social equality.

After graduating in 1984, Louise stayed on for a year in Oxford, sharing a house with LMH friends. She then moved to London to complete her legal qualifications and to practise as a solicitor, working for Simmons and Simmons and then Wright, Son and Pepper. Jacqui Gilliatt, who saw her frequently at this time, recalls that 'she loved the intellectual challenge of her job and finding solutions to knotty problems to get her clients out of a jam'. However, her life was changed by the tragic loss of two babies: first Francis, who died at birth, then Hannah, who was born with severe disabilities and lived for only nine months. For this short but intensely difficult period Louise cared for Hannah with heroic

patience and utter dedication. The experience led her to take a different career path, into special-needs teaching; Jacqui remembers that 'she found much meaning and reward in this work'. Happily, Louise went on to have another child, Jacob, and lived with Jacqui for a time while he was small.

Louise herself was afflicted by various health issues throughout her life, including latterly (and unknown to her LMH friends) cancer. A number of us gathered at her funeral in April 2019, joining her family not only to grieve and share our sorrow, but also to pay tribute to Louise's special qualities and the many ways in which knowing her had enriched our lives. She often doubted her worthiness to inspire affection, yet will be remembered with deep love by many people.

*Helen Hackett (Cobb 1980 English), with Jacqui Gilliatt (1981 French and Philosophy), Carol Oster Warriner (Gibson 1981 Law), and Adrian Rush, Louise's brother*

## JONATHAN WRIGHT, 1962–2019

Those of us lucky enough to have known Jonathan while at LMH will remember him fondly for his warmth, humour and interest in people as well as for his incredible gift, dedication and enthusiasm for his two main passions – science and music. It is with great sadness that we learnt of his untimely death last year from a heart attack, aged 57.

Born near Hull, Jonathan was the second of three children. From an early age he showed an interest in natural history and an ability to become fully engrossed in the moment. His family moved to Kent when he was 4 years old and, during frequent trips to local woods, nature reserves and the beach, it was common to see him crouched down, bottom up, gazing into rock pools. His love of music also started young; he played the recorder from the age of 6 and the piano from 10.

From 1973 to 1980 Jonathan attended Dover Grammar School for Boys where he continued to develop his scientific and musical skills and also became interested in art, particularly paintings. He was a talented artist himself, producing very life-like representations of plants and animals, and would also entertain others with quickly sketched cartoons and flick-pictures which revealed his wonderful sense of humour. During this time, he began to develop lasting friendships with people who shared his interests.

Jonathan arrived at LMH in 1981 to study Biology, staying to do a Masters, then a PhD in tardigrades. Surrounded by beautiful buildings, he further developed an interest in architecture with a special fascination for the work of Nicholas Hawksmoor. Kindly by nature, Jonathan cared deeply about others and was genuinely interested in their lives and shared passions. He could often be found in the beautiful college gardens examining foliage and flowers or playing

frisbee with fellow students. One friend remembers warmly how Jonathan came to assist her, as a damsel in distress, one balmy summer evening when she returned to her room in Lodge, overlooking the sunken garden, to find it full of insects. She had inadvertently left her lamp on and window wide open and they had been attracted by the light. Jonathan came to the rescue speedily, but instantly became fascinated by the types and varieties and over two hours later the room was still full of insects – with Jonathan busy classifying them!

After Oxford Jonathan emigrated to Canada to do a post-doctorate and also gained a fellowship in Copenhagen. By this time, his knowledge and understanding of a broad range of natural history and music was formidable, as reflected in his later life choices.

It was in Canada that Jonathan met Joanne Han, a Korean studying at the Fashion Institute of Technology, part of the state University of New York. Jonathan moved to the United States, spending five years on the faculty of Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. During this time, Joanne completed her studies and they were married in 1997, going on to have two children, Jeremy and Charlie.

In 1998 Jonathan joined the staff at Pomona College, California and he settled with his family in Claremont, rising to the position of William Atwood Hilton Professor of Zoology. He was also a two-time winner of the Wig Distinguished Professor Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2001 and 2009. Jonathan was much loved by his students and fellow academics who remember him for his 'encyclopaedic knowledge of his chosen field of comparative physiology . . . and his untiring sense of wonder at the big and little mysteries he had devoted his life to'. His enthusiasm was infectious (one student observed 'I can now see the beauty in a cockroach') and Jonathan was well known for his care for his students as 'a true mentor, role-model and friend . . . as well as an excellent professor'.

Despite his work and busy, happy family life, Jonathan still found time to pursue his passion for music, particularly the violin, performing regularly as a soloist accompanied by piano, and in ensembles such as the Pomona College Symphony and the faculty string quartet Euphoria, who were due to perform in England this summer.

*Carol Oster Warriner (Gibson 1981 Jurisprudence), David Wright, Joanne Wright, and Lysetta Bray, Pomona College, California*



*Jonathan Wright*

## MARIAN POSTGATE (née THORNE), 1940–2019

Marian arrived at LMH in 1959 from Lady Eleanor Holles School in Hampton, with an Exhibition to read History. She was one of the generation of undergraduates born at the beginning of the Second World War, which had clearly had an impact on their childhoods and their early education.

Her LMH contemporary and enduring friend, Emma Shackle (Richmond 1959 PPP), writes that they both suffered from 'the predominant authoritarian culture at LMH at the time and the complete lack of anything that might be called pastoral care'. Despite having difficulties during her studies, Marian remained in touch with LMH and enjoyed returning to events frequently, often with her friend Emma. Emma adds: 'We always enjoyed meeting each other and we went together to a number of Oxford events in LMH and beyond, especially when I could put her up in Oxford. She was a good companion and an experienced traveller.'

In her post-Oxford life, Marian worked in careers counselling, as well as having a successful marriage and two sons.

Marian died on 14 January 2019 and is buried with her husband, who pre-deceased her, in Putney Vale cemetery.

*Editor's note: It is sad to read that some students found the pastoral care lacking at LMH in the 1950s. They would be pleasantly surprised by how things have changed since that time. Today LMH has a thriving wellbeing programme, stating: LMH is passionate about nurturing a supportive and healthy environment for our whole community. We have a team of health professionals, tutors, support staff and students dedicated to provide help and advice.*

## ELIZABETH ROWLINSON (née HUNTER), 1930–2020

Elizabeth was the daughter of Charles and Mary (Maude) Hunter of Sutton, Surrey. She was educated at Wallington County School for Girls, from where she earned a scholarship to St Hugh's in 1948 to read mathematics. Having gained her BA in 1951, she moved to LMH to follow it with a BSc in 1953.

Elizabeth married Hugh Rowlinson in 1953. In the same year, they moved to Evanston, Illinois, and thence to Ottawa, 1954–5, where she began work on her PhD. While in Ottawa she worked for the Defence Research Board (DRB). In 1956, Elizabeth and Hugh moved to Mont St Hilaire, Quebec, and brought up their sons, Matthew, Andrew and Mark. However, Elizabeth missed academic work and returned to McGill University to complete her PhD in 1965. That year she joined the Mathematics



*Elizabeth Rowlinson*

Department as a Faculty Lecturer; she became an Assistant Professor in 1969 and was appointed McGill's first Associate Dean of Students in 1970. She and Hugh moved to Toronto in 1978 where Elizabeth served as Dean of St Hilda's College and Dean of Women at Trinity College, and as a senior tutor in the Department of Mathematics.

She is remembered for her warmth and connection to her students, and she was a role model for generations of women who knew her at Trinity College and McGill University. Upon her retirement from the University of Toronto, Elizabeth decided to crown a lifelong faith in the Anglican Church by working towards Holy Orders. She returned to Montreal in 1991 and was ordained into the Anglican priesthood in 1993. She was Associate Chaplain at McGill University from 1993 to 2005 and Chaplain at the Diocesan Theological College (1994–2014). McGill made Elizabeth an Honorary Doctor of Divinity for her work.

In all her work Elizabeth was a loving soul, particularly to young people. She loved music, playing the violin and singing in many choirs. Her publications included *Subgroups of Finite Groups* (translated from the Russian and edited) and *A Fair Shake Revisited*, a coedited collection of essays on the history of women at McGill. She was fond of mountain walking, travel and a little sailing.

Elizabeth died on 17 March 2020 at the age of 89.

*Hugh Rowlinson, Elizabeth's husband*

## SPENCER RUSSELL STEADMAN, 1978–2019

Spencer, who died unexpectedly but peacefully at his home on 12 July 2019, aged 41, came up to LMH in 1997 to study Law and graduated in 2000. His short time at LMH epitomised the way he lived his life, both before and after University: his exceptional intellect, understated energy, and steely determination were more often dedicated to the prosperity and happiness of his friends or acquaintances than to his own, nonetheless significant, personal achievements.

During his time at Oxford, Spencer was appointed Chairman of the Union Debates Select Committee and represented the University in the World Debating Championships. This added to his previous success, while at Westminster School, when he captained the England debating team that won the World Schools Debating Championship in 1996. Spencer also helped to launch a website dedicated to student social events and activities, with contributions directly from the students themselves – just one of the early initiatives showing his vision and dynamism well before such social media projects had launched into the mainstream.

On leaving university, Spencer embarked on a successful career at the Prudential, where he worked for six years, followed by a short period at Ernst &



*Spencer Steadman*

every year. In addition to all of this, Spencer somehow found time to indulge his love of sports and maintain his pursuit of erudition: reading about Ancient Greece or visiting sites of historic importance; playing squash with his friends or watching West Ham with his father; becoming a connoisseur of fine wine or a keen observer of UK politics – these are just a few examples of his countless interests and abilities.

Despite his undeniable success, however, no recounting of Spencer's education, career or personal achievements could fully convey the reality or richness of his life. Spencer's generosity of spirit, personal loyalty, and ethical code led to the formation of deep bonds of friendship that were truly lifelong and life changing. Spencer maintained friendships from school, university and beyond that he nurtured and truly invested in. Groups of people who would otherwise have long gone their separate ways are connected after his death thanks to his steadfast and enduring commitment to friendship. It is impossible to express to anyone who never met Spencer the impact his unique and compelling character had on the world, but anyone who was lucky enough to cross paths with him will know.

Spencer was the beloved son of Angela and Peter, brother of Grant and Kate, godfather and dearest friend to many.

*Alister Shepherd (1997 St Hugh's), friend of Spencer*



# REVIEWS

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# BOOK REVIEWS

## **Walter Gropius: Visionary Founder of the Bauhaus**

by Fiona MacCarthy. London: Faber and Faber, 2019, ISBN: 978-0571295135, £30

In the early years of the Great War, still in his Hussar's uniform the young Walter Gropius was summoned from the battlefield in the Vosges to Weimar and ushered in to meet the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar. Gropius was there to discuss the Directorship of the Grand Ducal School of Arts and Crafts, which had previously been led by the great Belgian architect, Henry van de Velde. Gropius had seen action in the front lines, even behind enemy lines, and had a rather distinguished, even heroic, military career. At about the same time he married Alma Mahler, widow of the composer Gustav and former mistress of Oscar Kokoshka (and his own former lover too before Mahler's death). This was an Olympian cast to which many more stars were to be added, and the stage was set for high drama.

The events that unfold do not disappoint, either in the biographical or artistic spheres. Gropius, along with Adolf Meyer, had created the iconic Fagus Factory as early as 1911, and in 1914 secured the enormously prestigious commission to design the *Werkbund* Pavilion in Cologne which would embody the ideals and showcase the work of his design colleagues. Gropius and Meyer had a long and fruitful collaboration since first working together in the architectural office of the great Peter Behrens, but the nature of their professional relationship has always been a thorny question, Gropius maintaining that it was an unequal partnership with himself in the leading role.

Both in terms of his vision for design education and for the future of architecture, the turning point was the founding of the Bauhaus in Weimar in 1919. Gropius became an impresario of architecture as *Gesamtkunstwerk*, the 'total work of art'. He attracted a remarkable group of Masters to teach at the Bauhaus, Johannes Itten to teach the revolutionary *Vorkurs* (the original Foundation Year), Gerhard Marcks for sculpture, Lionel Feininger as Master of Form, and there would be many, many more, some invited like Wassily Kandinsky and Paul Klee, some uninvited, like Theo van Doesburg the radical painter and founder of *De Stijl*, who temporarily set up a controversial counter-course nearby during 1922. Partly as a result of Van Doesburg's impact on the school, Itten departed, replaced by László Maholy-Nagy. A watershed was reached in 1923 at the Bauhaus Exhibition with the *Haus am Horn* by Georg Mucho and Meyer, paintings and sculptures by the Masters, and all was powerfully presented in

typography by Herbert Bayer and Joost Schmidt. The exhibition was an artistic triumph. Gropius' genius was to maintain a semblance of institutional balance through all the artistic and political turbulence of these Weimar years. Even under Gropius' steadying hand, the balancing act could not last in the politics of Weimar, and the Bauhaus moved to Dessau in 1925.

All of this is well known. The Heroic period of High Modernism and Gropius' contribution were presented in Gropius' version in miniature by Herbert Read in *Art and Industry: The Principles of Industrial Design* published in 1934, then by Philip Morton Shand in articles in the *Architectural Review* in 1934 and 1935. In 1936 Nikolaus Pevsner traced the main historic thread of architectural development in *Pioneers of the Modern Movement: from William Morris to Walter Gropius*. During the Second War, Pevsner repeated his theme in *An Outline of European Architecture* citing Behrens, the *Werkbund*, and its Pavilion of 1914 by Gropius and Meyer as the historical pivot, saying: 'So by 1914 the leading architects of the younger generation had courageously broken with the past and accepted the machine-age in all its implications: new materials, new processes, new forms, new problems.' (p. 216). This was the kernel of the Heroic Vision that was thereafter either augmented by the reflections and ruminations by Gropius himself, or later set up as a rigidly doctrinaire 'straw man' by Tom Wolfe in *From Bauhaus to Our House*.

Fiona MacCarthy's genius in this magnificent biography has been to add an immense amount of detail from various archives, collections of family papers and interviews, and set it all against a panoramic sweep of European, British and American history. She clearly likes the man that she sees, with all his foibles, and she has been able forensically to build up a deeply layered and sensitive picture of the architect, designer, lover, father, hero, and visionary against the sweeping backdrop of twentieth-century history, while being able to keep the human face in sharp focus. This is great biography.

Allan Doig  
Emeritus Fellow

## **The King and the Catholics: The Fight for Rights, 1829**

by Antonia Fraser. Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2018, h/b ISBN: 978-1474601931, £25; 2019, p/b ISBN: 978-1474601948, £10.99

Dame Antonia Fraser's most recent book, *The King and the Catholics*, tells the story of the Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829. But it begins 49 years earlier with a bravura recreation of the Gordon Riots, which hit London in 1780. Anyone suspected of being a 'Papist' was targeted by an angry mob, and a thousand people lost their lives. Fanny Burney's sister vividly described how her 'knees

went knicky knocky' as she watched her neighbour's house being ransacked and his furniture set on fire in the street to cries of 'No Popery'. It was the worst civil disturbance the capital had ever seen.

The rioting began as a protest against the Catholic Relief Act, signed by George III, which promised some very limited relaxation of the draconian laws which prevented Roman Catholics in England and Scotland not just from worshipping freely (exercising the function of a Catholic priest was punishable by life imprisonment), but from taking public office (such as standing for Parliament or serving on a jury), or even buying land or going to university. Its ringleader, Lord George Gordon, was, in Dame Antonia's elegantly understated phrase, a 'complicated character': a 29-year-old Old Etonian with long red hair, protuberant blue eyes and libertine habits that prompted one wag to claim that 'the Whore of Babylon' was the only whore he disliked. Though virulent in his anti-Catholic bigotry, he was, on other issues such as slavery, ahead of his time in his liberal sympathies. To recreate the mindsets of the time often involves a leap of imagination.

George III had easy-going personal relations with his aristocratic English Catholic friends such as Lord Petre. But though he had given his assent to the Catholic Relief Act of 1778, he bridled when it was later proposed that further emancipatory measures – including allowing Catholics to participate in government – should be included in the upcoming Act of Union of 1801, under which Ireland became officially part of the United Kingdom. To concede more to the Catholics would, the King felt, be to break his coronation oath, in which he had sworn before God to uphold the 'Protestant reformed religion established by law'.

The potentially explosive relationship between Protestantism and Catholicism was, of course, longstanding. This book, of necessity, provides a context that looks back as far as the English Reformation and the Gunpowder Plot. But it is Ireland – whose Catholic majority was ruled over by the Protestant Anglo-Irish Ascendancy – that features most prominently. The run-up to the 1829 Act is entangled every step of the way with the so-called 'Irish Question'.

It is a testimony to the distinguished author's well-honed skills as an historian that she cuts such a pacey narrative line through such recalcitrantly complex source material. The story is enlivened throughout with witty and well-chosen contemporary quotations and, especially, with vivid pen portraits of the main actors.

The charismatic leader of the Irish Catholic Emancipation movement, Daniel O'Connell – who in 1828 was elected to a seat in the Westminster Parliament that he was debarred from taking – becomes a physical presence as he strides around Dublin, his umbrella shouldered as if it were a pike. Dramatic moments include the Duke of Wellington fighting a duel with Lord Winchelsea, after the latter accused him of secretly plotting to introduce 'Popery into every department of State'. The Duke was 60 years old at the time and, as Prime Minister, attempting

to steer the Act through. Then there's the steelily ambitious Sir Robert Peel, a longstanding opponent of Catholic emancipation, who switched sides when it became clear which way the wind was blowing. Even the lesser characters come alive, such as the suavely handsome papal delegate Cardinal Consalvi, whose 'red stockings' caused a stir when he visited England in 1814.

This is a story of identity politics in which emotionally held principles and prejudices intertwine with high-level power-play and the more inchoate forces of public opinion. Among the major players, some act fanatically, others pragmatically, some opportunistically, others conscientiously. However, most act with a mixture of motives. On a simple level, this book tells a story of progress towards a more liberal and tolerant society. But it's the ambiguities, compromises and conflicts that stick in the mind. One of the shrewdest contemporary comments comes not from one of the elite men who are the main players in the drama, but from the French actress Hyacinthe Roland, who was the mistress, later the wife, of the Duke of Wellington's brother. As she put it in 1801, 'Time will explain this mass of falsehood and intrigue but when religion is mixed with politics, only misfortune can be expected.'

*Lucasta Miller*  
(1985 *English*)

### **Forms of Enchantment: Writing on Art and Artists**

**by Marina Warner. Thames and Hudson, 2018, ISBN: 978-0500021460, £24.95**

In this dazzling collection of essays, culled from over 30 years of critical writing, Marina Warner discusses the work and aims of a series of artists, ranging from Fuseli to Damien Hirst to Polke to Tacita Dean – 21 essays in all. With literary, mythological and anthropological knowledge at her fingertips, Warner is an intellectual scholar; yet she's pre-eminently alive to the way art speaks to the imagination and senses, addressing, too, our more borderline, dreaming selves.

Her preface reminds us that symbols' meanings are fluid – the Swastika being also the Hindu symbol for eternity. History redefines symbols, but that doesn't mean they don't have power. She shows artefacts performing acts of re-making and reinterpretation, often with political and ethical emphasis, relating to women and perceptions of women. Kiki Smith, for instance, reimagines figures from witches to harpies to sirens, but also the crafty serpent of Eden – remade to become playful, wearing Smith's own face. Art is one of the tools by which myths are challenged and rewritten.

Which is the case with Louise Bourgeois's extraordinary work, where the huge spiders are far from being 'simple redemptive avatars of Arachne': rather, they are 'self-portraits of the artist as hoarder and predator, who attracts loathing and

repulsion because her love can be lethal'. In Bourgeois's sculptures, feminine iconography enlarges to encompass violence, coming to a head in such a piece as 'The Destruction of the Father'. Warner describes Bourgeois as gouging, cutting, amputating – and then conversely stitching, sewing, attaching. 'Working oscillates from extreme aggression to repair and a need for pardoning . . .' explains Bourgeois. 'If I'm in a positive mood I'm interested in joining. If I'm in a negative mood I will cut things.' Her fantasies here include 'murder as well as fierce mother love'. The maternal is redefined and made richly, darkly ambiguous.

The book is broken into four sections. The first, 'Playing in the Dark', includes an essay on Janine Antoni, whose film *Ready or Not Here I Come!*, captures the 'scary thrill' of hide and seek, oscillating between fear and pleasure, here made infinitely more ambiguous by featuring father and daughter. Play allows the forbidden to be touched on and explored. This is just the kind of hinterland that interests Warner – those parts of experience that don't find ready expression in more conventional territory, but surface sideways, as it were, in nursery rhymes or fairy-tales; or in Fuseli's nightmare-friendly paintings, featuring enlarged insects; where the non-rational, in short, is represented.

The second section is 'Bodies of Sense', featuring artists 'thinking about and with bodies', such as Bourgeois. The third section is titled 'Spectral Technologies', exploring the artist's interest in the imagined over the actual, attempts to give form to dreams, visions and apparitions. And in the fourth section, called 'Iconoclasm', Warner addresses the power of images as conversely evinced by Daesh's iconoclasm in Mosul, with its eerie echoes of the Reformation, and the resulting white-washed church interiors. Artworks today, says Warner, no longer take their power from being holy or 'even from invoking a referent at all': 'they are self-sufficient. They have become the site of the sacred, an elusive quality whose very state of preciousness invites destruction, desecration, violation and profanity.' What follows is a fascinating meditation on the link between today's idol-smashers and the methods of today's artists, their strange communality.

*Forms of Enchantment* is a glittering trove of essays, each section also prefaced with a miniature essay that is dense with thought-provoking ideas, whose meanings radiate out to comment not just on each artist, but on the art-world more generally. Touching on the public's enthusiasm for current art, she addresses the question that baffles many – that when it comes to contemporary art, simply to behold an object is no longer enough; often, attendant knowledge is required for the objects to take on meaning. Warner suggests this is a necessary part of the viewer's experience:

To understand this quest for signification *and the need felt by audiences to belong to the process* [my italics], the surrounding conditions need attending to. Appraisals of art and artists today need to take account of the symbolic languages artists are adopting and, sometimes, inaugurating in the pursuit of reconfigured meaning.

This volume will richly reward anyone with an interest in art. Warner moves effortlessly from artist to artist, from the bizarre arena of Hieronymus Bosch to the more 'workaday' world of Richard Wentworth, and his championing of the ordinary useful timeless object (a bucket, a ladle, a ladder). Warner is sensitive to his subtle yet quotidian mission. Unlikely, hard to see; yet the meanings turn out to be under one's nose. So she can also let the simple be simple. In a curious way, this too is an art itself.

Kathy O'Shaughnessy  
(1978 English)

### ***L.E.L.: The Lost Life and Scandalous Death of Letitia Elizabeth Landon, the Celebrated 'Female Byron'***

**by Lucasta Miller, Jonathan Cape, 2019, ISBN: 978-0224079396, £25**

In 1838, in modern day Ghana, the newly married wife of the British governor was found dead, a bottle of prussic acid clutched in her hand. Normally this was the sort of incident that could be easily covered up. British ladies, no longer young, who shipped out for the Empire were quite likely to find the heat and dust over-whelming. And the lady's new husband – George Maclean, Governor of Cape Coast Castle – sounded like the sort of man who would make anyone feel miserable. He already had a local wife and children, was remarkably devoid of charm or fortune and was known to be a bit of a bully. The weather was terrible and, despite what the law said, the place was still run on a brutal system of slavery. Who could blame the new Mrs Maclean for deciding to make a swift exit from an impossible situation?

Still, to avoid any unpleasant rumours, no autopsy was performed, and the governor's wife's unhappy death was ruled an accident. It was only when news of the incident reached England at the beginning of 1839 that rumours of suicide and even murder started to circulate. For the late 36-year-old Mrs Maclean was no stranger to scandal. Under her maiden name of Laetitia Elizabeth Landon she had been one of the most successful, celebrated and castigated poets of the day. Acclaimed as the 'female Byron', she achieved real fame in 1824, with her volume of poems *The Improvisatrice*. Her byline 'LEL' could be found everywhere, from magazines to newspapers to the commercial annuals that were printed every Christmas. She was a one-woman literary industry.

In her previous book, *The Bronte Myth*, Lucasta Miller did an exemplary job of showing the way in which the three scribbling sisters, Charlotte, Emily and Anne, had their reputations shaped, if not contorted, by the heritage industry that sprung up around them after their deaths. The difference with LEL is that this process of critical snipping and paring occurred simultaneously with her own



astounding output. She became, in the 1820s and 30s, the subject of titillation and censure for both male and female readers. Her verse in particular, which told gushing tales of female passion and social ruin, invited all kinds of saucy speculation. The writer Edward Bulwer-Lytton recalled how, while at Cambridge, he and his friends would wonder about the woman behind those enticing initials LEL: 'Was she young? Was she pretty? and – for there were some embryo fortune-hunters among us – was she rich?'

In fact, she was none of these things. Conducting a forensic search of the archive, Lucasta Miller reveals that LEL started her career as a precocious child when she was taken up by the married editor of the *Literary Gazette*, William Jerdan. Now that the leading Romantic poets were either dead or had fallen silent, Jerdan had spotted that there was an opening for a new confessional voice, one that enticed people by hinting at all sorts of intriguing personal dilemmas, while remaining tactically vague on the details.

Laetitia didn't really need to imagine the things that her Svengali urged her to write about. By the time she was in her mid-20s she had already produced three illegitimate babies by Jerdan, despite the fact that he remained securely married to someone else. She was also, as Miller discovers, financially exploited: despite earning £2,500 over the course of her career, she saw little of it. What small allowance she received went on self-medicating her anxiety and insomnia with regular doses of opium, laudanum and, in its diluted form, the deadly poison prussic acid. You could hardly blame her for feeling jittery. After 15 years or so Jerdan had grown tired of his *protégée* and was on the hunt for fresh meat. Landon in turn needed a new protector. The problem came in trying to find an Englishman who would be unaware of her reputation. George Maclean, who had spent most of his life out of England, seemed like the answer to a fallen woman's prayer. Lucasta Miller speculates that it was Maclean's discovery of the existence of Landon's illegitimate children that led to an almighty row and to 'the female Byron' taking her own life.

In truth LEL's poetry has not lasted well. It is gushy, slapdash and terribly trite: when George Eliot wants to explain how trivial Rosamond Vincy is in *Middlemarch*, she makes her into a fan of LEL. Lucasta Miller, however, asks us to think more subtly about the work, and to see it as the equivalent of today's Twitter or Instagram posts – provisional, each one cancelling out the one before, so that the effect is of a self being assembled and disassembled in front of our eyes. Equally revelatory is Miller's account of literary London wedged between Romanticism and Realism or Regency and Victorian, a little sliver of cultural time which has remained remarkably underexplored until now.

Kathryn Hughes  
(1978 *History*)

## Servilia and her Family

by Susan Treggiari. Oxford University Press, 2019, ISBN: 0198829345, £90

On 19 November 2002, Michael Jackson appalled many of his fans by dangling his infant son over the balcony of a fifth-floor hotel room in Berlin with a towel draped over the child's head. This was evidently a badly judged stunt. When the Marsian leader, Poppaedi Silo, did something similar to the four-year-old Cato c. 91 BC, hanging him out of a window and shaking him after the boy refused to cede with his uncle for citizenship for the Italians, the intention was malicious and intimidating; but the boy, a model of propriety even at such a young age, did not yield. This story, from Plutarch's *Life of Cato*, is told by Susan Treggiari in her 300-page biography of Cato's half-sister, Servilia, the mother of the Brutus who assassinated Julius Caesar. A biography of Servilia that was limited to the known facts about her would amount to no more than a pamphlet. This book, under the title *Servilia and her Family*, weaves the meagre facts of her life into a vivid evocation of Roman society in the last years of the Republic.

The foundation of Treggiari's scholarly method is prosopography (Greek *prosōpon*, 'person' + *graphō*, 'write'), the tracing of individuals, families, and dynasties from the sparse evidence surviving from the ancient world. (Appendices 1–4 illustrate the method in detail.) The two family trees at the beginning of this book should be bookmarked at the outset. Inherited nomenclature means that the names of relatives in different generations were similar, if not identical. Male citizens, at least, had three; women had only one. Re-marriage after divorce or bereavement was common, resulting in complex interlocking among different generations. Adoption cemented dynastic alliances; ties of patronage glued wider Roman society together. Of Caesar's lieutenant, C. Vibius Pansa, Treggiari says (p. 234) 'That Pansa's doctor . . . was married to the sister of a client of Brutus may suggest a further connection between the two patrons.' She writes clearly, but the reader must concentrate.

What little we know of Servilia is largely thanks to Cicero, who mentions her periodically in his copious correspondence and quotes verbatim the single remark of hers to survive – a rebuke to Cicero himself that actually shut him up (*Epistulae ad Atticum* 15.11.2). The context was an unofficial council meeting to recommend a course of action to Brutus, Servilia's son, some three months after he had murdered Caesar, his mother's long-time lover. Amid the intrigue and psychological drama, Treggiari does not abandon the analytical objectivity of the historian, but she combines it with an acute sympathy for the tensions inherent in a woman's role in Roman society. Her controlled exercise of imagination, that elusive faculty of true historical insight, simultaneously builds atmosphere and makes sense of puzzling details. The council at which Servilia uttered her sole surviving remark took place around 7 June 44 BC. Treggiari observes how hot it can be in June on the coastal plain south of Rome, an observation that suddenly makes sense of the heated argument that culminated in Servilia's outburst: the

weather was hot; the journey was long; tempers were frayed. The result of the council was that Servilia undertook to get alterations made to a senatorial decree, from our perspective a remarkable display of female power, but sequestered by Cicero in a parenthetical aside, as Treggiari astutely remarks (p. 192).

Beyond analysis and imagination, Treggiari employs comparisons from more recent societies to explain upper-class behaviour that is hard for our relatively egalitarian age to fathom. Appendix 5 – the first four deal with Servilia's contemporaries – examines six aristocratic women in British society in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, especially the circles that formed around the Duke of Devonshire. Treggiari shows how extra-marital affairs – even resulting in children – were tolerated, and she stresses the role of women in fostering the careers of their husbands and lovers (sometimes using the former to promote the latter). Servilia, she suggests, deployed her wit and charm similarly. The potent mix of politics and adultery deployed by Caesar, Treggiari illustrates with an even more recent example, Roy Jenkins, OM (1920–2003), whose glittering political career featured serial affairs with colleagues' wives, justified by Lord Jenkins himself on the grounds that no marriages were compromised.

When facts are at a premium, plausible reconstruction is necessary. Treggiari is generous in recognising that fiction may capture truths that elude the historian, hence Appendix 6, an analysis of portrayals of Servilia by nine modern novelists from Jack Lindsay to Robert Harris; Treggiari gives the prize for insight to Phyllis Bentley. Treggiari's own profound familiarity with Roman social and political history portrays Servilia as a powerful woman, probably steeped in Greek culture and philosophy, who steered her son to a position of political eminence and her daughters to marriages with men of comparable talent and distinction. Treggiari conjectures that her subject's life may have spanned most of the first century BC; the longevity of many of Servilia's aristocratic contemporaries (p. 215) is only one of many fascinating aspects of this remarkable period of history on which she enlightens her readers.

*Kathleen Coleman*  
(1976 DPhil *Litterae Humaniores*)

***Behind the Mask: Character and Society in Menander***  
by Angela Heap. Bloomsbury Academic, 2019, ISBN: 9781472534927, £90

The fourth century BC playwright Menander, unlike his great and popular predecessor Aristophanes, is not widely read or studied, still less performed. This is largely an accident of history: although Menander was reputedly much admired in his own day and beyond, and is quoted in a variety of contexts by later writers, the plays were virtually lost to us until in the early twentieth century a series of

papyrus finds produced most of the *Dyskolos* ('Bad-tempered Man') and parts of several other plays. The first English translations appeared in the 1970s and 80s (W. G. Arnott for Loeb in 1975, N. P. Miller for Penguin, 1987), whereas B. B. Rogers' translation of the complete plays of Aristophanes appeared in 1902–15. An increasing body of secondary literature and a small presence on undergraduate reading lists suggest that this is changing, but it is still Aristophanes who holds centre stage while Menander scuffs his feet in the wings.

A study of Menander which is accessible to the general and the Greekless reader and explains the cultural context in which the plays were produced (the book appears in a series entitled *Classical Literature and Society*, which has the interests of non-specialist readers particularly in mind), is therefore timely. Heap writes in a relaxedly academic style, and Greek terms are used sparingly, transliterated, and translated or explained. There is a hint of Indiana Jones, perhaps, about the early chapter headings – 'The Treasure on the Rock'; 'Alexander, Aristophanes and Beyond' – which seems calculated to entice. Besides a full bibliography and endnotes, the itemised guides to further reading included at the end of every chapter will be helpful to those new to the subject.

Heap begins by setting us before the mask, as it were, with a chapter on the history of a remarkable archaeological find from the island of Lipari – a number of terracotta figurines and miniature performance masks, which seem to represent stock characters in the casts of plays by Menander and his contemporaries, and so tell us something about how they might have appeared on stage. There follows a chapter on performance and production and another on Menander's historical and intellectual context. His plays have been somewhat sniffily dismissed as the forerunners of modern soap opera, but there is evidence to suggest that he was no slouch intellectually but studied with Aristotle's successor Theophrastus and associated with another pupil of his, Demetrius of Phaleron. He may also have received (but turned down) an invitation to the Graeco-Egyptian court of Ptolemy Soter, patron of arts who founded the great Alexandrian library.

In the second half of the book Heap turns to the plays themselves, devoting a chapter each to the roles of women and of slaves, introduced by summaries of what we know or believe about their position in society. Her main focus is the *Epitrepontes* (usually translated 'The Arbitration'), in which prominent roles are given to three slaves and a warm-hearted and strong-minded courtesan, or 'escort'. The plot may strike the modern reader as implausible, not to say distasteful: man rapes young girl at festival; marries her shortly after, neither recognising the other; shuns her and moves next door when she has a baby just 5 months into marriage; all three are happily identified and reconciled to each other through the agency of two slaves and a strong-minded courtesan. The characters are recognisable stereotypes and some even share names with characters from Menander's other plays. Large portions of the play are missing, including the traditional explanatory prologue, and it is not always clear which

character is speaking the lines which do survive. Despite all of this there emerges from what remains the outline of an intelligent and highly literate comedy (for instance, the Daos and Syros/Syriskos story wittily plays on the conventions of the 'exposed baby' theme, and the 'arbitration' scene between them brilliantly parodies the rhetorical style of the law courts). Heap traces the development of her characters through the play, giving a sense of their individuality and at the same time of the problems and questions involved in piecing together a complete picture from surviving fragments. Evidently these plays deserve more attention, and there is more to discover here, both about Menander's drama and about the society for which he wrote. For example, to what extent was he playing to his audience by giving such prominent and sympathetic roles to women and slaves?

'Today', says Heap (p. 29), 'even some classicists are vague about Menander's importance.' Let us hope that this comment will soon be out of date.

Nicola Devlin  
(1976 *Literae Humaniores*)

### ***A Small Revolution in Germany***

by Philip Hensher. 4th Estate, 2020, ISBN: 978-0-00-832307-3, £14.99

Years ago, as a young teacher and member of CND, I protested when an RAF officer on a recruitment drive addressed all the fifth-year boys about the attractions of an air-force career. I blush rather to recall my timid, polite intervention in the school lecture theatre, and the way the careers master tried to restore the excitement that my words had punctured. Philip Hensher's latest novel, *A Small Revolution in Germany*, starts with a similar scene when the narrator, 16-year-old Spike, describes another boy, Percy Ogden, disrupting a presentation from an army major at their school.

In this novel of three parts, spanning 1982 to 2018, Hensher explores how the blazing ideals of our teenage years can, for many of us, dwindle, transmogrify or become an embarrassment as we proceed through life. Others remain loyal, both to their ideas and to those they love. Spike is one of the latter.

When Spike engages in debate with Ogden, he is admitted to the closed circle that the latter seems to lead – Eric, James, Mohammed and Tracy – and introduced to their older, radically political friends, the Spartacists, Kate, Euan and Joaquin. Living in a northern town in the early 1980s, Spike, 'stepping in confident deception into the person I wanted to become', and his new friends are united by anarchic political activism and their aim to liberate the urban proletariat. It keeps them busy for the whole of their sixth form careers (without preventing them from getting into good universities).

In the second part, Hensher focuses on a holiday that Spike and Ogden take in East Germany in 1987, while the Wall still stands. Spike has now embarked on a doctorate, while Ogden, his eye on a political career, is assistant to a Labour MP. We learn that their sixth-form group has largely disbanded and that the political views – of some at least – are changing. A shocking external event, followed by first a brutal act and then a foolish act by Ogden, change everything for Spike.

In the final part, the Brexit referendum has happened and Spike and his partner, now middle-aged, are on a walking holiday in Germany, during which they explore countryside where the Wall used to run. Various triggers prompt Spike to look back over his life and those of his erstwhile friends, observing that he and his partner are the only members of the old gang whose views have not changed – their most recent political act was to throw a brick through the window of Foxton's estate agents – and whose relationship is constant.

*A Small Revolution in Germany* is beautifully drawn. Anyone who remembers old schoolfriends completely reinventing themselves at university will recognise characters here. Hensher is even-handed in describing those who are central to the novel, however unprincipled their actions. The portrait of the narrator and his partner in the last section of the book – the long-established, now middle-aged couple – is tender and exquisitely observed.

It is always a joy when Philip Hensher publishes a new novel because each is distinct. They are united, of course, by his ideas, narrative skill, acute observation, delightful humour and relish of language, but when it comes to the story – well, you never know what you are going to get.

Alison Gomm  
(1974 *English*)

### ***In Love with George Eliot***

by Kathy O'Shaughnessy, Scribe, 2019, ISBN: 978-1912854042, £16.99

As books about George Eliot go this is the fun version. Yet learning to read this particular form of highly personalised biofiction may take some adjusting of expectation. Neither strict biography nor entirely without basis in historical evidence, for some biofiction in general remains problematic: 'But which bit is actually true?' the wail goes up. The genre was widely registered around 2004, when within months of each other three fictionalised studies exploring passages from the life of Henry James published by novelists Emma Tennant, David Lodge and Colm Tóibín were in the bookshops.

Based on the lives of novelists, imagined by novelists, it makes sense to approach those biofictions as fantasies of identification. Taking a notable predecessor's life and rewriting it as fiction in this way can offer a means of

struggling against the anxiety of influence, that is the fear of being in thrall to the imagination or technical invention of the earlier more celebrated writer; a war of liberation, you might say.

Today, when within the past five years no fewer than four biofictions based on the life of George Eliot have been published, I'm asking myself what that means for the women who wrote them. Kathy O'Shaughnessy joins a group of highly educated women, Rebecca Meade, Dinitia Smith and Diana Souhami – three of the four with degrees in English from Oxford or Cambridge – to take on this pre-eminent woman from the past.

Eliot is nothing if not a figure of authority. These novelists, like those who chose to write about James, might also be attempting to free themselves, but with a particular twist: among women there's a certain shared history. As girls growing up women are subject to the correction of older women: an old resentment barely understood frequently complicates their later response to women in authority. Drawn to George Eliot as a woman who apparently succeeded in satisfying a need for love and a drive to win respect as a thinker, drives which they themselves share, highly educated women may also be fascinated by the undertow of more negative response.

As I observed, Kathy O'Shaughnessy's novel is highly personalised. In company with Rebecca Meade, author of *The Road to Middlemarch: My Life with George Eliot*, O'Shaughnessy writes herself into the story. *In Love with George Eliot* takes the reader by surprise 40 pages in, when it opens a parallel subplot set in the present with a protagonist named Kate, in love with a married man. Later 'Kate' will write of being consoled as a girl by the voice of forgiveness she found in *Middlemarch*.

Though the novel's turn may be unexpected, the genre is recognisable: described by Joyce Carol Oates as bibliomemoir: 'a subspecies of literature combining criticism and biography with the intimate, confessional tone of autobiography'. It's not a recipe for critical perspective, nor is that necessarily the aim.

Arriving at an independent take on Eliot's life, making emotional sense of its full range has always been a challenge. Her intellectual brilliance, her moral authority, command submission rather than scepticism. It's not difficult to feel admiration and sympathy for her courage in living openly with G. H. Lewes though they couldn't be married. More testing are some of Eliot's other behaviours, including her abrupt second marriage to the much younger Cross. Her vulnerable friend Edith Simcox was permitted to cover Eliot's feet with rapturous kisses as an erotic treat.

What has encouraged publishers to invest one after another in these Eliot-based fictions is a different question: they're not usually eager to join a field that's already crowded. Possibly they were prompted by respect for Eliot and for the enterprise of writing her life from the inside. Plus the approach of the bicentenary: Eliot was born in 1819. Yet if Scribe were taking O'Shaughnessy's

enterprise more seriously as historical fiction, they might have picked up on a few real howlers and various anachronisms. I imagine they had reason to be confident of a wide readership, perhaps believing that an invitation to explore Eliot's inner life would draw in women readers. If so, their guess was correct. The reception of these Eliot novels has been little short of rapturous: Tessa Hadley was left 'happy and excited' by this one. Yet sterner voices are occasionally raised.

Mary Hamer  
(*Turner 1963 English*)

### **Wakenhyrst**

**by Michelle Paver. Head of Zeus, 2019, ISBN: 978-1788549578, £14.99 hb, £8.99 pb**

Michelle Paver's recent adult novels, *Dark Matter* (2010), set in the Arctic Circle, and *Thin Air* (2016), in the Himalayas, both had a solitary man at the heart of the story from whose point of view the reader was introduced to nameless terrors. In her new gothic novel, *Wakenhyrst*, she entwines the stories of several characters and we find them closer to home, in the Suffolk fens, although the setting is no less disturbing than those of the earlier novels. The story is told from the points of view of Maud Stearne, a child as the story opens at the turn of the last century, and – by giving us access to his diaries – of her father, Edmund Stearne, a troubled historian, later an artist. The novel relishes the elements of the gothic tradition: a virginal heroine; a sexually predatory male; weak or foolish clergy; aspects of the morbid or macabre; and an ancient manor house, Wake's End, covered in ivy and full of secrets.

Losing her mother at an early age, Maud is solitary, not finding a place for herself either among the servants, from whom she is divided by class, nor among the gentry, by whom she is shunned for her unprepossessing appearance. Like Paver's previous central characters, Maud has an animal companion – this time a magpie named Chatterpie. Later she becomes close to Clem, the undergardener, but their friendship has to be secret.

The servants are ruled by superstition and a belief in witchcraft, while her father, an Edwardian *pater familias*, although he rejects the term, imposes religion on the household and only appears to notice his daughter when she shows a precocious knowledge of scripture. Maud is torn between these two belief systems, although her real sympathies lie in the natural world, beautifully evoked by Paver, and particularly the mysterious fen which lies outside the house and is threatened with being drained. In the manor and the fen, Paver creates a world set apart, reinforced by her knowledge of local activities, 'eel babbling' being a favourite, of superstitions, 'ferishes and will-'o-the-wisps', and local

names – swifts are known as ‘develins’. Meanwhile, in his diary, Edmund uses Latin to describe his sexual congress, ‘connections’, with one of the servants.

We follow Maud’s story as she grows into a woman and becomes increasingly dissatisfied with the role assigned to her in society at that time. Her father disdains women, except in so far as they satisfy his physical needs, and does not credit Maud with an intellect. He uses her as a secretary, not imagining that she can understand the notes that she types for him, nor that she reads his diary. Thus Maud is privy to the work Edmund is doing on *The Book of Alice Pyett*, a fifteenth century mystic, and to the way his mind is disturbed by the discovery of a ‘Doom’, a painting of the Last Judgement, at the local church.

Paver frames her novel with events happening to Maud, still living at Wake’s End, in the 1960s. I can see why she uses this device to resolve some of the issues raised – and also to point out that women continued to be patronised well beyond the Edwardian era. However, the earlier period of the novel is so beautifully created that I regretted the intrusion of the tabloid journalist, of miniskirts and vinyl boots. But this is a small quibble about a thoroughly enjoyable novel.

Alison Gomm  
(1974 English)

### ***The Pulse Glass: And the Beat of Other Hearts***

by Gillian Tindall. Chatto & Windus, 2019, ISBN: 978-1784742997, £16.99

It is a mistake, according to Churchill, to read certain books too early. This is one of those. To appreciate Gillian Tindall’s special gift for bringing the past to life, you need to have reached a stage when you can find things which, though of apparent little importance or value, carry with them hidden emotional associations. This is a book which elicits an active response from the reader. It is the product of a lifetime spent in research and concern for detail; confident, participatory; a memoir not solely concerned with self.

Those long white soft kid evening gloves; the hand-written recipe book for a war-time ration of one egg per week; the fountain pen from father’s desk; the silver bowl dented by an occupying Russian soldier’s horse; the christening mug of a baby brother who died before I was born . . . we all have things which we hesitate to discard because of what they meant to others and what they might mean to ourselves. Gillian’s book will make you look around your home, and at the things in it, with a new tenderness.

Tindall is an historian/novelist of a particular kind; a keen researcher in pursuit of coincidence and the unexpected, *faits divers*, things of little consequence, from which she draws personal reminiscence and socio-historical anecdote.

She is an archivist/archaeologist of the heart, writing with a delicate respect for the ordinary. At the same time, she reflects on wider matters, like the function of memory, the arbitrariness of survival, the shifts in religious belief, the loss of shared cultural reference, family history, even suicide and forgetting. It is a memoir that cannot fail to move.

Concerned with the transience of things like the changing townscape of London, the story of a loved house, the poignancy of old love letters, the value of simple friendship, the thrill of coincidence and connection – ‘it must be rare that such a commonplace effort to help brings such a reward’ she writes of the letters which inspired her outstanding work *Celestine: Voices from a French Village*. Each chapter is inspired by a single object. It may be a toy train, a small folded map of London dated 1818, an iron statue of the Virgin hidden in a neglected French wood, or even an ancient ship’s beam revealed during the updating of a London house. The title *The Pulse Glass* refers to a tiny sand timer measuring 30 seconds for taking the pulse, owned by her great-great-grandfather, a doctor in Ireland in the nineteenth century. It has come into her possession and researching it leads to the uncovering of her family’s story. In 2017 Gillian succeeded in arranging for the novel by her childless Aunt Monica, *The Late Mrs Prioleau*, to be published; she reflects on the new life she herself has given a small inherited leather handbag which accompanies her to literary festivals.

Challenging the current empathetic approach to the understanding of history, Tindall quotes the French philosopher Raymond Aron, ‘We should put back into the past the same level of uncertainty that we feel in the present’, and adds ‘the truth is that every generation before us has felt . . . the same uninformed apprehension about the unknowable years to come’, and it is this fragility, this tentativeness of interpretation, which pervades Tindall’s bringing back to life of forgotten people and their concerns. One essay explores the fate of the war dead, and how they are remembered, with an account of Kipling’s search for his son’s body. Poppies, she reminds us, are connected with sleep and forgetting.

The final chapter describes the suicide of her mother: ‘We all know that the past affects our view of what is to come, but it is perhaps less often observed that later events shed a permanently altered light on the recollection of earlier ones.’ A brave account (‘my love has not survived’) of the effects of her mother’s death tells of the rediscovery of her mother’s own first novel, through an internet contact. The friend Gillian proposes should write the preface draws her attention to the passage ‘the word portraits by someone who loved her child, observed her, cared for her, and entered into a child’s world in a way many mothers cannot, or won’t’. She closes with a tribute to a beloved, emotionally damaged younger brother, with whom the book opens.

You will find in this book all of Tindall’s special skills which make her a unique writer. She is concerned with the minutiae of life, and loves the French

countryside and the streets of London and Paris where she has walked and talked with people past and present. The narrative is studded with nuggets of information found in archives and libraries, and stories told over a glass of wine or a cup of tea. The tone is one of delicate affection, of a keen appreciation for visual things and a deep sense of inter-connectedness. Different in scope from *Celestine*, *Footprints in Paris* and *The Tunnel*, here in *The Pulse Glass* Gillian allows us to enter her own private world, and it is a privilege.

Anne Simor  
(*Crowe 1958 Modern Languages*)

### **The Lying Room**

by Nicci French. Simon & Schuster, 2019, ISBN: 978-1471179235, £14.99

*The Lying Room* by Nicci French (aka the writing partnership of Nicci Gerrard and Sean French) is a return, after the Frieda Klein novels, to a standalone story. After nearly ten years focused on a single protagonist in Frieda Klein, it is interesting to see this partnership return to a new set of characters, although London remains the setting and the central character is again female.

Neve Connolly works for a large publishing company, which took over her own small company around a year before. Initially she did not take much notice of Saul Stevenson, described as 'one of the suits' and 'just one of the people they'd see around', but then found herself being drawn into a full-blown affair with him, full of both pleasure and guilt. One morning, in response to a text from Saul, she goes to meet him at his flat only to find his murdered body. What she then does, and the consequences of those actions, forms the rest of the narrative. To say more than that would be a real spoiler!

But I found the book rather a conundrum. On the one hand it's a great story and a real page-turner. Reading it made me feel breathless as it moves at pace with one event flowing into another, and I did not spot the murderer until it became evident who it was. I also loved the level of detail of everyday life running through the story: the routine of making packed lunches, getting children off to school, dealing with washing, washing up, food shopping, the challenges of cycling in London and, not to be forgotten, feeding and cleaning out the guinea pig, Whiskey.

I think it is this juxtaposition of everyday plausible life with a story which is somewhat surreal, and at times implausible, that makes the book a conundrum for me. I would hope that no maternity ward would allow a stranger to drop in and see a woman who has just given birth, outside of visiting hours and without checking first. DCI Hitching turns up at Neve's house more than once unannounced and unaccompanied, and also drops in on her at her allotment.

Saul's wife, who Neve had barely met before, attaches herself to her shortly after the murder, ending up at a dinner party and staying the night. The characters are almost caricatures of themselves, whether it be in their dress, looks or actions.

If you can live with the implausibility and enjoy a good suspense thriller, you will like this one. But also enjoy it for the picture it paints of real everyday life and the challenges of being the main breadwinner with three children – and let's not forget the guinea pig.

Harriet Kemp  
(*1979 Literae Humaniores*)

### **Charity's Choice**

by Alexine Crawford. The Conrad Press, 2019, ISBN: 978-1911546641, £9.99

This book opens with a moving scene. We are in England; the year is 1632. A young wife greets her husband – has he got the job? Yes, but (a 'but' that will shape the plot) it's in north America and as she's pregnant she'll have to wait to join him till after the baby's birth.

Shift forward 15 years. In the meantime, a civil war has been fought and won (or lost, according to which side you're on). It will start again like a bush fire, smoking underground for years to come, but for now the author fastens on one key year, 1647. A triangular power struggle between Parliament, the New Model Army and the king is convulsing the country; it's a moment of passionate, uncompromising ideologies, the year of the Putney debates – the radical proposals for the future structure of society – also the year of the escape of the king from Hampton Court into imprisonment and, ultimately, trial and execution.

These events form the background to the story. We hear about the debates at second hand, while the king's escape is a clatter of distant hooves in the early morning. Royalist troops, marauding their way through a homestead, challenge an onlooker: 'Are you for King or Parliament?' to which the answer is: 'Not either.' This is the voice of 'ordinary' man, in this case that of a simple carter. It is these people Crawford focuses half her story on. She takes us into the lives of a long-established family of tanners in Farnham, Surrey, and we see how this staple business sustains the hierarchical structure of their family life and how for them the state of the harvests (bad, during these years) is as important as the state of the monarchy. By contrast the other half of this remarkable book involves a group of urban radicals, many of them well known at the time. There is John Lilburne, the Leveller leader, and William Kiffin, wealthy merchant and Baptist preacher; their discussions take the reader deep into the radical ideas of the time.

These two worlds are linked. The tanners sell their hides through William Kiffin. Lilburne, in prison for his seditious views (as indeed Kiffin has been –

touchingly his young daughter remembers the name of his prison as a child would: 'White Lyon', one of the infamous Southwark jails), continues to smuggle out his 'newsbooks'; and these, thanks to the total breakdown of censorship, are read in the Farnham family.

Crawford tackles this huge field from an angle which will surely engage young readers: she puts a romantic story at its heart, neatly tying up its themes with the fate of its eponymous heroine. The book's style has a certain economy that sometimes blurs its different voices, but a useful list of *dramatis personae* helps us with its large cast. Frequent references to the different politico-religious groups of the time, such as Independents and Presbyterians, are invitations to interested readers to do their own research.

The author is to be applauded for bringing her considerable expertise to bear on this complex, hugely important moment in our past. The English revolution was an astonishing act of 'people's power' which, for many reasons, has been virtually airbrushed out of our national consciousness.

Elizabeth Nussbaum  
(*Cairns 1951 History*)

### Women's Voice in Psychiatry

edited by Gianetta Rands. Oxford University Press, 2018, ISBN: 978-0198785484, £39.99

In 1874 Henry Maudsley, who lends his name to the largest mental health training institution and treatment hospital in the UK, asserted that allowing women to train as doctors would lead to 'a puny, enfeebled and sickened race'. Despite these dire predictions, women have made considerable contributions to the fields of mental health research and practice since the late 1800s. *Women's Voices in Psychiatry* is an anthology of essays presenting key questions in mental health through the perspectives of women working, or being treated, in this field. The contributors employ an ambitious mix of styles – from paintings and poetry to memoir-style reminiscences, academic analysis and profiles of pioneering women. The essays cover a range of topics, from violent offending to learning disability to motherhood, through the joint lenses of mental health and the experience of being a woman. Woven through the book is a thoughtful and balanced view of the advantages and disadvantages of changes to the health system and how mental health is understood and treated. Wide-ranging references from art, literature and medical history are integrated throughout the book to illustrate and provide context to the essays.

Of particular interest to readers working in mental health is the discussion of the inception of now standard elements of clinical practice, for example the

practice of providing patients with Independent Mental Health advocates and the development of safeguarding policies. These sections shed new light on now common working practices and provide a new appreciation of how hard our predecessors worked for basic rights for patients and staff. Stories of exceptional patient care are presented alongside distressing abuses of women in treatment for mental health conditions.

The most compelling essays in the book are those written by women reflecting on long careers in medicine and psychiatry, including how they have balanced demanding professional roles with family and personal life. The style of these essays blends rich, sometimes haunting, storytelling with an illuminating history of different specialisms in psychiatry. Reflecting on her own experiences of mental illness, psychiatrist Rosemary Lethem writes: 'The prospect of admission, for me, was a haven where the burden of having to do things would be lifted and I would be taken out of the bruising flood of daily life' (ch. 5, p. 51). Everything about this particular essay, which examines Lethem's complex experiences as both a doctor and a patient, is heartbreaking and life-affirming. The idea of hospital admission as a pause from the bruising flood of daily life is one which I will continually reflect on when working with my own patients.

The essays in the book are illuminating and accessible for non-medical readers while also providing much of interest for those working in mental health. The book is able to lighten the serious and often disheartening subject matter with moments of levity, for example listing Dame Fiona Caldicott's first achievement as 'Represented St Hilda's College, University of Oxford, in the 2016 Christmas University Challenge as part of an all-female team which won the competition', ahead of her incredible contributions to data protection and patient safety in the NHS. I also particularly enjoyed a story in Claire Murdoch's essay (ch. 15) about then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher visiting the hospital where Murdoch worked: 'From nowhere I heard myself ask her loudly "have you come here for something to help you sleep at night?"'

A significant focus of the book is on gender discrimination in medical practice and medical training and some of the historical information is horrifying. Woven in with medical information is reference to non-medical work on gender in the workplace from writers such as Anne-Marie Slaughter and Sheryl Sandberg. It is both fascinating and disheartening to realise that many of the issues raised in the 1960s are still present today, such as discrimination for part-time workers, which mainly affects women, and sexual harassment in the workplace. Abi Rimmer (ch. 2) states that: 'in 2004 male doctors earned 21 per cent more than their female colleagues, but by 2013 they earned 40 per cent more.'

As well as inequalities between practitioners, contributors also offer commentaries about inequalities for those with mental health difficulties. For example, Georgina Fozard and Philippa Greenfield (ch. 18) show that mental health problems account for 23 per cent of the burden of disease in the UK but spending on mental health services consumes only 11 per cent of the NHS budget.

However, rather than leaving the reader with a sense of hopelessness about the current state of the NHS, this book is ultimately a celebration of the progress that has been made. A fascinating and diverse read, it provides a long-overdue assessment of the vast contribution women have made to the field of psychiatry.

*Olivia Edmondson*  
(2006 MSc Experimental Psychology)

### ***Katherine's House: A Novel***

**by Sarah Hogg. The Book Guild, 2019, ISBN: 978-1912881499, £9.99**

What secrets are kept by the houses we live in? This debut novel by Baroness Hogg (1964 PPE) is a remarkable work of fiction based on the history of the village of Kettlethorpe in Lincolnshire, once home to the legendary medieval royal mistress Katherine Swynford, and where Hogg herself lives.

Panoramic in scope, the novel uncovers 1,200 years of history through the perspectives of various women and men associated with the village and especially with Kettlethorpe Hall, the house at its heart – from the Danish raider Ketil, who gives 'Ketil's Thorp' its name, to an American Second World War serviceman stationed nearby whose family history just might be intertwined with the house which has cast a spell on him.

Every chapter, each of which is almost a short story in its own right, follows a particular character associated with the house's history – a resident family member, member of domestic staff, or guest – and uses their story to uncover the turbulent history of the time. Many of the protagonists are women and, through their stories, one reconsiders familiar aspects of English history – the Norman Conquest, Pilgrimage of Grace, English Civil War, First and Second World Wars – from the less familiar vantage point of a woman.

Katherine Swynford, mistress and later wife of John of Gaunt, whose descendants (including LMH's own Lady Margaret) provided the royal legitimacy for the Tudor dynasty, looms large over the history of Kettlethorpe. This was her beloved home and she is still the village's most famous resident. Hogg tells her story through the eyes of her teenage granddaughter – presenting Swynford as an older, but no less influential, matriarch urging caution in her household as her stepson Henry Bolingbroke seeks to depose his cousin Richard II. The following chapter sees Swynford's descendant Henry VIII on the English throne and Kettlethorpe again on the frontline of royal rebellion as the Lincolnshire Rising and subsequent Pilgrimage of Grace, the most significant attempts to overthrow the infamous Tudor king, engulf the house's inhabitants.

Two themes develop over the course of the book. The first, bound up in the perspective of the female protagonists, is the development of women's agency

– whether responding to the challenges posed by illegitimate children, or the economic devastation caused by a wayward husband's gambling; or finding a degree of independence in the maelstrom of war. It is certainly true that, as a character notes in the Civil War chapter, 'war falls hard on women' and yet it is often in times of hardship that the female characters are able to exert most influence, at least in the household sphere. Hogg displays an interest throughout in the evolving nature of women's roles – and particularly their education – a theme which binds the female characters together across the centuries. However, although there are numerous strong women in the book, including Katherine Swynford herself, it is only in the First World War chapter, through the story of Kettlethorpe scullery maid Elsie, that we encounter a woman who has any real control over her own destiny.

The second theme is that of geography. Kettlethorpe resides in an area of border country, between the 'settled south and the wild north'; a strategically important patch of land which, as Hogg shows, was 'on every Royal Progress planner's to-do list and Cromwell's to-capture list'. She rightly describes Kettlethorpe as situated at 'the gate of history' and indeed the hamlet is repeatedly visited by violence, rebellion and war. In every chapter the house's location has a significant bearing on the lives of its inhabitants – whether as the frontier of fighting in the Civil War or the location for bomber command units in the Second World War. While the fortunes of the house itself – and those of its various occupants – rise and fall, Kettlethorpe's geographical importance remains constant.

Although a work of fiction, *Katherine's House* is based on prodigious research and many of its most remarkable characters – and episodes – are rooted in the real history of Kettlethorpe. Hogg ends each chapter with a short section of historical explanation – an effective device which enables the reader to separate fact from fiction. A recurring fictional motif – a piece of jewellery, a small cross passed down through generations – links characters together and provides an underlying narrative thread. Written in an engaging style, and featuring a cast of likeable heroines, *Katherine's House* is an immensely enjoyable novel which tells the story of England through the story of a single house.

*Joanna Godfrey*  
(2003 Modern History)

### ***Seeing Eye***

**by Chris Considine. Cinnamon Press, 2019, ISBN: 978-1788640503, £9.99**

In this collection the 'I' is the eye. Chris Considine writes about the gradual deterioration of her sight and then recovery after cataract surgery. She considers how we learn through, or are deceived by, seeing. The symbolism of sight and



the eye so often invoked in literature and religion are mostly not explicit here, but underlie nearly every poem. The book has eight sections reflecting the principal themes: headings include: 'Ocean City', 'Truth and Fiction' and 'Remembering the Dale'. The first poem of the book: 'Breaking Down' is an overture to what is to come:

Why did we trust those five enticing senses  
ever? We walk on molecules  
held together by faith, see through filters  
of self and memory selectively, pretend  
what we perceive is real.

There is an unflinching account of treatment in 'The Cutting of the Eye'. In 'New Eye' she has the resulting awareness of complexity and dirt:

The world is silted  
with grime—the cobbled alley black-edged,  
the autumn leaves freckled with death.

She is ambivalent about renewed clarity – it may be less comfortable to see 'crumpled necks' and 'corrugated' foreheads ('The Ruined Women'), and her new eyesight is 'pitiless' ('Cloud').

On the analogy of close reading, this is close writing. The poet describes the fine detail of landscapes, trees, plants, gulls in flight, a spider, like a slowly moving camera. In 'Fresh' she depicts in exquisite detail the shape and structure of a tree, homing in on twig, bud, petal. The language is fine-tuned to reflect the essence of the visual.

Big landscapes are captured equally precisely. Two are woven through the collection – Swaledale, North Yorkshire, where Considine formerly lived, and South Devon, where she lives now. Swaledale is remembered with nostalgia but acknowledging the harshness of its climate: 'I miss the place. But life was hard when it snowed...No water if the spring froze. / The phone-line always failed' ('Swaledale Snow').

Three poems about bus journeys in Plymouth reveal a dual nature – the drabness of 'the meccano construction: steel girders /rise into the air' ('From the Bus Stop'), the bombed church ('Number 25'), and then the revelation of huge expanses of shining water:

and the light: lines of it, pools of it, sparkle and glare.  
Sometimes burning snow all the way to the headland.

...and the whole huge sea  
opens its plain of light in front of us.

There are nine poems in the group entitled 'Revisiting the Island'. It is both a refuge, 'I think this is a place where I shall sleep' ('Silence and Slow Time'), and an involuntary enclosure when the weather is bad. In 'Rough' there is no going to the mainland: she hopes the gas will last and the islanders were marooned for three weeks in winter.

Considine is often at her most compelling when writing about the harshness and wildness of the weather and the sea. Storms, breakers, fog, and freezing cold impact on the writer's life in a variety of ways and reflect the unpredictability and harshness of experience.

Mostly these are 'solitary' poems as they involve the poet writing in the first person about her observation of and reflection on the world and life without the acknowledged presence of any other person. One of the pitfalls of autobiographical poetry can be over-telling; the reader may ask occasionally here whether we really need this detail, this language that seems not to lift above the everyday. But detail is what Considine does and mostly she does it extremely well.

Other people do appear: 'Roy' waiting to have his portrait painted, the people on the Plymouth buses, Len from Lostwithiel who collects ducks from the island, her mother, whose own sight is failing but who in her dementia does not know it. 'Tithonus' explores the recurrent theme of decay and deterioration.

There is an interesting variety of form. Some poems are in free verse. There are two accomplished sonnets and a poem 'In Seven Haikus'. Rhyme is not often used, though effectively so in 'The Hamlet': 'and all that bare/land and all that air.' The skilful use of end-stop and enjambement creates in many poems an impression of apparently effortless flow. There are poems with stanzas made of lines from every number from two to eight. Anaphora in 'Intrigued by Ships' echoes the iteration of the waves:

because the sea is a foreign country  
because it's a door shut on secrets  
because it knows no limits

A novice poet could do well to study the range of forms encountered here.

Chris Considine has an impressive record of publication and her previous collections have been very well received. This book is a worthy successor. This is a clear, insistent voice that takes the reader on a journey through seeing that is very rewarding.

*Jane McLaughlin*  
(*Hutchins 1960 English*)

## Taxing the Heart

by Susan Tyson. Gujarat Publications, Kempston, Bedfordshire, MK42 7DY

This book is a gem. I was reminded, reading it, of the small boxes of handmade chocolates that kind guests can sometimes bring. Tasty and moreish, its miniature artistry is perfectly suited to its theme.

In seven short sections Tyson takes us into the life of a child. Gwen is five years old at the start, a teenager at the end. The book is subtitled 'a memoir' but its voice is Gwen's not the author's; and an urgent voice it is. She is a passionate child with strong, often unthinking responses to the events that buffet her. Witness her reaction to being told by her father that Father Christmas does not exist: she rushes at him, hits him and smashes his spectacles. The book's title, taken from a warning of her grandmother's – too many sweets will 'tax the heart' – is a neat summary of how she experiences the process of growing up; but it could equally well be applied to us readers as we are drawn into her life. Gwen's imagination is both a refuge and a place of menace. Anybody who remembers their own childhood can empathise with this interplay of sun and shade, and the sudden abysses in between.

An only child in a not very well-off household in Derbyshire, Gwen experiences her early life through a prism of post-war rationing. Parental squabbles, close neighbours and a backyard where her imagination can run free. As she grows older the stories increasingly focus on her emotional involvement with her peers at school and in church. Religion (Congregational) has a powerful hold on her. Whatever her fears of hell (much referred to by her head teacher), she has faith enough in her ability to ascend to heaven to throw herself off the top of a hay barn on Ascension Day and risk nearly killing herself. This headstrong confidence, shadowed by the insecurity of pubescence, makes her rollercoaster adventures poignant reading. By the end, adolescence has her well and truly in its grip. With the honesty that characterises this whole account she admits that, except for her hold on schoolwork, she has lost her way.

The key to the intensity of these moving stories is their imagery. Tyson conjures up the feelings of her young protagonist with a special kind of alchemy. Again and again, a powerful image opens the door on to the child's world. We sense Gwen's awe at the 'great portcullis', of a fireguard in her parents' kitchen and at her grandfather's presentation clock – 'a moon-faced lion couchant on the mantelpiece'. The garden shed, full of cobwebs and old sacks, has a 'sweet plank smell', while the welcome of the neighbouring farm is encapsulated in 'the warm stone flagged kitchen smelling of sheep dog and baking'. Out of context these images lose potency but within the stories they provide poetic, painterly touches that bring them vividly alive.

Elizabeth Nussbaum  
(*Cairns 1951 History*)

## The Art of Personality in Literature and Psychoanalysis

by Meg Harris Williams. Karnac (now Routledge) 2018, ISBN: 978-1782206194, £28.99

The relationship between literature and psychoanalysis has been there right from the very start, from the time when Freud set up a comparative analysis of *Hamlet* and Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* in *Interpretation of Dreams* and explicitly ascribed to poets the status of 'the most profound of unconscious psychologists'. Unfortunately, this kind of dialogic approach is all too seldom found these days and instead a much more inert model of the 'application' of psychoanalytic theory to literary texts has become the norm. This has resulted in psychoanalytic criticism becoming far too compartmentalised and deemed to be of significance only to psychoanalytic practitioners or those who have, as it were, already drunk the Kool-Aid.

Meg Harris Williams' essays are different and hugely valuable precisely because they take seriously the idea of the literary and the work it continues to do in the world. Each essay in this collection demonstrates Harris Williams' own subtlety in the interpretation of both ancient and modern canonical texts; the book ranges from Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides, to Emily Brontë, Ibsen, Dostoevsky, Kafka and Patrick White, and includes two previously published journal articles on psychoanalytic autobiography and on psychoanalytic faith. The collection overall demonstrates that the project of employing psychoanalytic insights alongside more traditional literary critical techniques continues to be full of potential, still vibrant and exciting.

I have set her essay on Aeschylus' *Prometheus* as core reading for a second-year unit I teach on myth for the last five years and I can testify to the fact that it helps students to think not only about psychoanalytic approaches to myth as broadly configured, but also about the significance and impact of the detail of the Aeschylean text.

Vanda Zajko  
*Reader in Classics, University of Bristol*

## What Dementia Teaches Us about Love

by Nicci Gerrard. Penguin Books, 2019, ISBN: 9780241347454, £16.99

Nicci Gerrard's father died of dementia a few years ago and her experiences of his development of the disease, and his time in hospital, prompted her to launch John's Campaign in his memory and to write this book. John's Campaign aims to encourage the NHS to collaborate more with families in the care of dementia patients. The book is not a 'self-help' book nor a memoir, but rather it delves into all aspects of the disease and how it affects the person who suffers

from it and those around them. My father developed dementia gradually over many years and died at the end of 2018, so this book was particularly apposite for me. As I read, one of the first things I realised was that we had been very lucky. My father had vascular dementia, with memory loss and occasional confusion, but he remained himself throughout and did not experience the loss of self associated with Alzheimer's disease.

In the first chapter, Nicci Gerrard describes the first stages of her father's dementia, how he was 'vigorous at first and then frail, sometimes disappearing from view', and asks 'how does the I observe the I that is going, and how can language capture its own disintegration?'. These early stages are hard on the patient as they are aware that they are becoming confused, but as they lose their grip on their world and their identity, the burden falls more and more on those who care for them. Her father went into hospital with leg ulcers, where a combination of strict visiting hours and an outbreak of norovirus meant he was alone and away from familiar faces for days on end, so that he 'swiftly lost his bearings and his fragile hold upon his self'.

Through the book, Nicci Gerrard discusses the problems of growing older, how it almost sneaks up on us and one can be surprised by a vision of oneself in a mirror and how being old is seen as a story of deficit and loss; how the brain works and what goes wrong; and the nature and importance of memory. She describes taking a memory assessment and the fear that induced. Even reading the details of the test induced panic in me, as I tried to memorise the things Nikki was asked to remember. She goes on to look at the development of the disease and its impact, from diagnosis and the transition from 'knowing really to really knowing'; the burden on the carer as their loved one slips away from being the person they knew to someone child-like, sometimes naughty or violent; and the difficult decision as to whether to put them into a home. Throughout she describes people she has met and the various impacts dementia has had on their life and, more particularly, the life of their carers, including her tutor, Mary Jacobus, whose husband has dementia.

In the final chapters she discusses her father's last weeks and the difficulty of long days of loneliness and disorientation in hospital. It was this that prompted her to start John's Campaign and to try to persuade hospitals to allow extended visiting hours for dementia sufferers as with parents of young children. She describes how the death of the patient can bring a mixture of grief and relief as the carer is suddenly free of the day-to-day burden of caring. I identified with her description of how death can gradually restore a person who has been 'un-made' by dementia – they are no longer old and grey and forgetful – and the importance of the funeral in starting this process.

There are so many good things about this book that I could discuss; I have pages of notes. I found it informative, moving, distressing, comforting and so much more.

Carolyn Carr  
(*Jones 1977 Chemistry*)

## ***When Your Child is Sick: A Guide to Navigating the Practical and Emotional Challenges of Caring for a Child Who is Very Ill***

**by Joanna Breyer, 2018, TarcherPerigee, Penguin Random House, ISBN: 978-0147517586, £11.50**

When we hear that a friend's child is seriously ill, most of us can imagine in a general way that family's anguish. However, only very close friends will have an insight into the overwhelming accompanying practical and emotional problems that the parents face. How do you familiarise yourself with the hospital hierarchy and work out who to speak to about what, and when? How do you manage for money if one parent needs to stop work for the child's sake? How do you manage if you are divorced? How do you communicate with all the friends who want to help? What about your child's siblings? How do you look after yourself so as to keep going without collapsing from the strain? These are just a few of the issues. There are other, more harrowing ones. How do you coax a small child into accepting repeated and painful injections? Or persuade a teenager who has been pronounced 'clear' that he *must* still go for regular checks? Or worst of all, if the treatment fails, how do you tell your child that he or she is going to die?

*When Your Child is Sick* is a handbook that looks at all these challenges in turn and has useful advice about all of them. It may seem at first to have value only for a specialised, unlucky readership, but in fact it is a book that could be read by any friend of a family on whom this blow has fallen, which will provide the basis for giving far better support. Indeed, the book is relevant not only to parents of sick children, but to children of sick parents, something most of us become in time, and to anybody who for whatever reason is enduring a time of prolonged stress. It faces the hard, universal questions, to which we all need answers. How do you appear matter-of-fact and cheerful for the sake of your family when your heart is breaking? How do you survive bereavement?

If the potential readership for her book is wider than first apparent, so too is the authorship. While it is the work of one person, and must have taken considerable labour to produce, the advice Joanna Breyer offers is not only drawn from her 25 years' experience working as a psychologist with children with cancer and their families, but also from her many colleagues and from the families themselves. The book is full of voices: voices of children who have survived, voices of those who have not, touching sibling stories, voices of parents – a whole company reaching out to others in empathy to remove at least some obstacles from the path they have themselves had to tread.

I was particularly struck by the advice of Molly, whose treatment for cancer had saved her life, but left her with fatigue and learning difficulties which rendered her progress through high school and college very hard. (This after-effect of cranial radiation is happily less common now with current treatment regimes.) Her openness about how she felt, about her depression, about the mistakes

she made in not asking for help ('Don't be afraid to use the "cancer card"'), and how she eventually found a way that worked for her, must be immensely encouraging for others suffering the same misfortune.

This is an American book, and some things need translation. The role of psychosocial counsellor, which is key, and which was Joanna Breyer's own profession for many years, is split in this country between social workers, play specialists, paediatric oncology outreach nurses and psychologists, and the provision may be patchier than in the US. Her advice about financial matters and health insurance is not applicable here, and the American charities she recommends would not, I imagine, fund British families. (Is there an opening here for a UK edition?) However, the websites she lists which provide on-line information and emotional support must be helpful and less limited by national boundaries. The bibliography for parents and the Children's Book List are valuable resources no matter where you live.

I have described this book as a handbook. However, to those who need it, the wise, kind book may well seem more like a warm human hand, simply, holding theirs through the worst and darkest of times.

Joanna Lane  
(Price 1966 English)

### ***Being an Adult: The Ultimate Guide to Moving Out, Getting a Job, and Getting Your Act Together***

by Lucy Tobin and Kat Poole. Scribe UK, 2019, ISBN: 978-1911617716, £9.99

In today's world of choice, opportunity and complexity, there is a big difference between turning 18 and becoming a Real Adult. One comes at a fixed point in everyone's life, usually accompanied by a party of some kind, and the other can hit at any time. It might be triggered by a big change in your life, a new responsibility, or a crisis; regardless, today's youth are arriving at that point and asking the same question: 'How do I become an Adult?'

*Being an Adult* is an excellent companion for those who are making this transition and trying to navigate the world of adulthood. As someone who has recently undergone this myself, I can testify that it covers just about everything you need to know; there were a lot of scenarios I recognised in this book, and Lucy Tobin and Kat Poole give solid advice on how to handle them.

There are a few things that I would have done differently had I written a book of my own – the kitchen cupboard essentials, for example; and I'm not sure how advisable it is to leave washing your bra for two weeks – but for anyone starting from scratch, it is an excellent starting point. The chapters on food and clothing are perfect for university students, while the DIY and work sections

will get anyone through the post-education transition. My favourite part is the chapter on physical and mental health; while as a society we are getting better at recognising and treating mental health issues, it's still far too easy to miss. Having someone explain in such a calm and matter-of-fact way that these are problems you may encounter in this huge period of change in your life – and here are the numerous places where you can seek help – is so indescribably amazing.

There was also a chapter on a topic of which, when I started reading, I hadn't had any personal experience. However, that changed by the time I finished. I can proudly say that I have had an offer on a house accepted, my mortgage application is well under way, and I finally know what a solicitor is for – and unlike Kat, I didn't have to make 20 offers to get here! My one regret is that the chapter in the book didn't go into more detail on mortgages, solicitors' duties and what takes up all that time between the offer and moving in. It's a lot to take in as a first-time buyer and while there is plenty of information online, it's scattered and confusing. Having Lucy and Kat explain it, or at least point towards the best websites, would have been a huge help.

As a book aimed at young people, it knows its audience very well. We don't want to trawl through a huge tome on cookery, finance and etiquette, nor do we want to be patronised or told the obvious. Lucy and Kat know who will be reading this and what they need to know, and their language is perfectly written to give the reader a helpful, sympathetic and clear advisor on all things adult. Furthermore, the range of topics means that, whatever your problem, *Being an Adult* will be able to solve it for you, or at least point you to a website where you can find the answer.

Sam Bull, daughter of Cindy Bull (Harrison 1979 Chemistry)



# GAZETTE

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# COLLEGE GAZETTE

## HIGHER DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES: EXAMINATION RESULTS – TRINITY TERM 2019

### BCL

Barnes, Ashleigh  
James, Leonie  
Lee, Robert  
Toma, Francisc

### BPhil

*Philosophy*  
Wilford, Gordon

### DPhil

#### AOP Physics

Lolachi, Ramin

#### Atomic & Laser Physics

Savin, Alexander

#### Condensed Matter Physics

Duffy, Liam

#### Education

Hosack Janes, Karen  
Zantout, Mae

#### Engineering Science

Bunel, Rudy  
Desmaison, Alban

#### Fine Art

Goddard, Patrick

#### History

Kapoor, Ria  
Lee, Mark  
Sheridan Breakwell, Suan

#### Inorganic Chemistry

Klein, Harry

#### Medical Sciences

Philpott, Lottie  
Van Haasteren, Joost

#### Musculoskeletal Sciences

Hawley, Sam

#### Oncology

Jacobus Ambuludi, Egon

#### Organic Chemistry

Gruebner, Isabell

#### Oriental Studies

Quisay, Walaa

#### Particle Physics

Coplowe, David

#### Politics

Hooijer, Gerda  
Martin, Sabrina

#### Synthesis for Biology and Medicine (EPSRC CDT)

Ardkhean, Ruchuta  
Lewis, Wilfred

Shi, Heyao

#### Systems Approaches to Biomed Sc (EPSRC & MRC CDT)

Brown, Liam

#### Theoretical Physics

Hardman, Michael

#### Women's and Reproductive Health

Dombi, Eszter

#### Zoology

Rasphone, Akchousanh

### Executive MBA

Fawzy, Mohamed  
Heredia Gonzalez, Antonio  
Maren, Marissa  
Robson, Caro

### MBA

Ho, Alfred

### Master of Fine Art

Bradley-Baker, Oliver  
Ferreira, Hannah  
Rajgarhia, Vishnupriya  
Xia, Zhizhou

### Magister Juris

Berger, Julien  
Kotzur, Juliane

### MPhil

#### Development Studies

Honnigfort, Charlotte  
Murray, Keitumetse-Kabelo

#### General Linguistics and Comparative Philology

Peck, Julia

#### Greek and/or Roman History

Bloomfield, Josef

#### Islamic Studies and History

Deane, Niamh

#### Music (Musicology)

Sprinkle, Alice

### Master of Public Policy

Ahmed, Ahmed  
Chacón Lozano, Daniela  
Joshi, Mrunmai  
Michaus Fernandez, Jose  
Patonia, Aliaksei  
Rizvi, Shoaib  
Suezawa, Akira

### MSc

#### Applied Linguistics & Second Language Acquisition

Maslova, Alina

#### Biodiversity, Conservation & Management

Peters, Laura  
Rawat, Vaishali

#### Contemporary Chinese Studies

Benson, Thomas  
Smith, Mikaila

#### Criminology and Criminal Justice

McGoldrick, Jason

#### Economics for Development

Burke, Ashley  
Nguyen, Chau

#### Education (Child Development and Education)

Omar, Afaf  
Schaffer, Robin

#### Education (Higher Education)

Attridge, Eireann

#### Education (Research Design and Methodology)

Fong, Sarah  
White, Natalie

#### Financial Economics

Klaas, Jannes  
Liang, Chris  
Sachdeva, Niharika

#### Law & Finance

Ajitha Kumar, Ranjith  
Dressler, Tobias

#### Learning & Teaching

Lambert, Sarah

#### Mathematical Sciences

Rajaram, Ganesh  
Vestheim, Dag-Magnus

#### Psychological Research

Glitz, Leonie

#### Refugee & Forced Migration Studies

Chia, Natalie

**Sociology**

Li, Linda  
O'Neil, Meg

**Statistical Science**

Chuanromanee, Peerapong  
Xing, Jinkun

**MSt****English (1550–1700)**

Sarna, Natasha

**Greek and/or Latin Language & Literature**

Zöckler, Marie

**History (Early Modern)**

Robinson, Alex

**History (Modern British, 1850 to Present)**

Gould, Thomas

**History (US)**

Miller, Rachael

**Medieval Studies**

Kleybolte, Franziska

**Modern Languages**

Hurley, Kyle

**Theology**

Guok, Rose

**PGCE****English**

Harrap, Jennifer  
Hawksworth, Shelby  
Hughes, Bethan  
Scott, Bethany

**Geography**

Brazier Tope, Kate

**Modern Languages**

Boulzennec, Erwan

## SECOND PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS – TRINITY TERM 2019

**Ancient and Modern History**

Klemperer, William

**Biological Sciences**

Boothroyd, Emily  
Hewitt, John  
Latimer, Kirstin  
Lord, Miriam  
Scrase, Jemima  
Sidhu, Jasmine  
Swift, Amy  
Watson, Claudia  
Watts, Eleanor

**Chemistry**

Harrington, Alex  
Kummelstedt, Eric  
Lakha, Samah  
Mellul, Adam  
Pokun, Ikhlās  
Redman, Ashley

**Classical Archaeology & Ancient History**

Cargill-Martin, Honor  
Crocker, Ollie

**Classics & Modern Languages**

Bridges, Alex

**Economics & Management**

Sakpal, Yashraj  
Schnitzer, Hanna

**Engineering Science**

Burns, Joseph  
Mapperley, Nathan  
Milner, Adam  
Varley, Laura

**English Language & Literature**

Alexander, Tilly  
Dhar, Shoma  
Flaherty, Molly  
Gautier de Charnace, Edwina  
Monaghan, Lizzie  
Stephens, Lydia  
Vercoutre, Tilly  
Wilsmore, Laura

**Experimental Psychology**

Ashford, Naomi  
Lin, Fiona  
Matthews, Philippa  
Speakman, Liv  
Stiebahl, Sonja  
Temperley, Anita

**Fine Art**

Harris-Mussi, Rhian  
Robertson, Grace  
Vanezis, Suzanne

**History**

Adams, Oliver  
Evans, Will  
Hall, Harriet  
Kenney-Herbert, Rory  
Liew, Ben  
Taylor, Tamsin  
Trowell, Sam

**History & Politics**

Beyer-Hunt, Sif  
Coleman, Callum  
Crone, David  
Iturri Tyler, Olga

**Jurisprudence**

Collins, Sarah  
Gresty, Alex  
Ihinmikalū, Oluwatoyin  
Zaman, Haroon  
Zeman, Matus

**Jurisprudence (with Law in Europe)**

Rock, Freya  
Sherry, Oskar

**Legal Studies**

Al Salman, Noera

**Literae Humaniores**

Brockman, Marcus  
Janjuah, Rowhan  
Johnson, Will  
Dupont, Tess

**Mathematics**

Muthusamy, Meghna  
Na, Woojoo  
Rauf, Ihtisham  
Woodley, Ben

**Mathematics (MMath)**

Carter, Rebecca  
Cooper, Simon  
Hu, Dexuan  
Kumar, Siddharth  
Martinov, Venelin  
Patel, Shati  
Weatherseed, Miles

**Mathematics & Philosophy**

Deacy, Henry  
Siddle, Carys

**Medicine, Clinical**

Beech, Matthew  
Medicine, Preclinical  
Chowdhury, Tahiya  
Le Croisette, Matthew  
Lyons, Amy  
Robinson, Charlotte  
Sweeney, Owen  
Waite, Seren

**Modern Languages**

Brandter, Roberta  
Brown, Isaac  
Corrigan, Georgia  
Cull, Pip  
Hashmi, Imran  
Healy, Daniel  
Leach, Isobel  
Staddon Foster, Louis  
Tassopoulou, Asimina

**Molecular and Cellular  
Biochemistry**

Hooper, Maddie

**Music**

Arora, Anhad  
Jackson, Matthew  
Kelion, Rafi  
Lawlor, Imogen

**Oriental Studies (Sanskrit)**

Dalrymple, Samuel

**Philosophy and Modern  
Languages**

Burns, Alannah

**Philosophy and Theology**

Lambie, Sadie  
Paek, Sol

**Physics**

Arrowsmith, Charlie  
Gawne, Tom  
Hartland, Robin

**PPE**

Field, Lydia  
Goss, Dan  
He, Liu  
Lloyd, Harry  
Ong, Caleb  
Purcell, Lana  
Thomas, Saskia  
Tulloch, Joshua  
Vechamamontien, Achawin

**Theology & Religion**

Rutherford, Jessica

**MATRICULATED 2019****Undergraduate Courses**

Name	Subject
Ajoomal Manghnani, Yuvraj	Literae Humaniores
Ambrose, Elizabeth	Classics and English
Anderson, Holly	History
Ashworth, Henry	Music
Babel, Manav	Physics
Bajaj, Armaan	Economics and Management
Barton, Hannah	Fine Art
Bennett, Jewel	Medicine - Preclinical
Bhanap, Arjun	Engineering Science
Bhandal, Leah	Medicine - Preclinical
Butler, Zoe	English Language and Literature
Cairney-Leeming, Maximilian	Mathematics and Computer Science
Caplin, Isabella	Jurisprudence
Carter, William	History
Charters, Lauren	Experimental Psychology
Chong, Calista	History and Politics
Chopra, Rhea	Jurisprudence
Cole, Megan	Medicine - Preclinical
Coleman, Gabriel	Classical Archaeology and Ancient History
Collins, Eleanor	Modern Languages
Critchley, Grace	Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry
Culpepper, Sebastian	Music
Dellar, Amber	PPE
Devaraj, Natasha	Experimental Psychology
Dima, Clara-Maria	Physics and Philosophy
Dooris, Orlagh	Jurisprudence
Dowler, Nicolette	Biology
Dowsett, Susannah	PPE
Dransfield, Megan	Physics
Dugdale, James	Ancient and Modern History
Elkin, Jonathan	Computer Science and Philosophy
Emunah, Melea	Matriculated Non-Award Programme
Eriksson, Lukas	Chemistry
Evans, Amy	English Language and Literature
Evans, Jasper	PPE
Everett, Ryan	Computer Science
Fothergill, Elena	PPE



Fryar, Robin	Chemistry
Galsworthy, Martha	Literae Humaniores
Garnett, Mary	English Language and Literature
Gosnell Burley, Edwin	Modern Languages
Gott, Holly	English Language and Literature
Hagan, Spike	Jurisprudence
Harrison, Ellie	Jurisprudence
Hill, Lara	History
Hoque, Manaul	Mathematics
Howard, Olivia	Literae Humaniores
Hu, Becky	Physics
Iliant, Theodor-Mihai	Mathematics and Statistics
Jackson, Edan	Biology
Jaspal, Sukhneel	PPE
Jayson, George	Mathematics
Jelincic, Andraz	Mathematics and Computer Science
Jeyte, Ahmed	Jurisprudence
Jilani, Rumaisa	Medicine - Preclinical
Kanyago, Joan	Economics and Management
Kashgari, Hashim	Engineering Science
Kelly, Robert	Music
Kenney-Herbert, Isabelle	History
Knight, Luke	Physics
Koshutova, Leona	Modern Languages
Krantz, Millicent	Literae Humaniores
Kroneanu, Valerie	English Language and Literature
Lawrence, Sophie	Chemistry
Lewis, Isabel	Ancient and Modern History
Li, Weiqi	Mathematics
Lobinger, Sophia	Legal Studies
Lotharukpong, Sakooltipaya	PPE
Loucaides, Edward	Engineering Science
MacLeod, Emily	Modern Languages
Magnus, Francesca	Philosophy and Theology
Manolache, Stefan	Mathematics and Computer Science
McDonagh, Elizabeth	History
Mendieta Mean, Michelle	Fine Art
Miles, Lucy	History and Politics
Mould, Mathilda	Literae Humaniores
Mukhtar, Zubida	Biology
Munro, Myesha	Classics and English
Nebres, Amena	Modern Languages
Patel, Sharada	PPE

Pei, Yufei	Physics
Perry, Oliver	Classical Archaeology and Ancient History
Popescu, Zoe	Experimental Psychology
Potter, William	English Language and Literature
Price, Matthew	PPE
Rattray, Tegwen	Philosophy and Theology
Reeder, Jaidan	Economics and Management
Reni, Francesco	Literae Humaniores
Richards, William	Modern Languages
Robinson, Maya	Medicine - Preclinical
Robinson, Tara	English Language and Literature
Sankey, Amy	Chemistry
Shin, Miru	Engineering Science
Silly, Peace	Modern Languages
Silvester Williams, Anna	Modern Languages
Slaoui, Ghizlane	PPL (Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics)
Smith, Edmund	Modern Languages
Sorsbie, Reuben	Physics
Stemper, Ben	History
Stout, Charlotte	History
Stuart, Thomas	Mathematics and Computer Science
Syska, Dominika	Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry
Tanner, Philippa	Medicine - Preclinical
Taylor, Casey	English Language and Literature
Taylor, Harrison	Economics and Management
Tennant, Joseph	Mathematics
Thomas, Chloe	Biology
Turculet, Daria	Chemistry
Tyrapak, Leo	Mathematics
Utracka, Barbara	Mathematics and Philosophy
Vaughan, Jesse	English Language and Literature
Veselinov, Valentin	Chemistry
Vitartas, Valdas	Chemistry
Von Mann, Alexandrina	Biology
Walker, Rebecca	History
Wang, Xiaoxi	Mathematics
Williams, Luke	Modern Languages
Wright, Miranda	History

## Visiting Students

Name	Subject
Carroll, Madison	Politics and Theology
Chen, Sabrina	Economics and Mathematics
Hu, Xinyu	Psychology
Hu, Jingyi	Mathematics
Jacobs, Evan	Philosophy and Politics
McGehee, Lucy	Politics
McMinn, Jessica	Economics
Nisco, Andrew	Politics
Ow, Abby	Mathematics and Theology
Rufael, Sara	Mathematics
Sarova, Dayana	Politics
Tan, Xue Mei	English and History
Thijssen, Pearl	Physics and Philosophy
Turunc, Mina	History
Wang, Bingxuan	Philosophy and Politics
Ware, Audrey	Psychology and French
Wei, Rachel	Philosophy, Politics and English
Yuan, Junyao	Biological Sciences and Psychology

## Graduates Accepted for Courses 2019

Name	Subject
Ahmed, Waheed-Ul-Rahman	Musculoskeletal Sciences
Ahsan, Mariam	Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Ait Hssayene, Salma	Public Policy
Alhinai, Sharifah	Migration Studies
Arun, Arya	Inorganic Chemistry
Ascari, Dario	Mathematics
Ashmore, Charlotte	BCL
Bandilovska, Ivona	Pharmacology
Bechmann, Nina Emilie	Criminology and Criminal Justice
Bitan, Jordan	Contemporary Chinese Studies
Bodochi, Marius	Teacher Education
Boldrini, Greta	Education (Child Development and Education)
Booker, Cameron	Atomic and Laser Physics
Botting, Luke	International Relations
Brown, Henry	History - History of War
Brown Cuevas, Aileen	MBA
Burgess, Simon	Energy Systems

Cao, Qian	Classical Indian Religion
Chang, Haoming	MBA
Chen, Haotian	Physical and Theoretical Chemistry
Childs, Danielle	Film Aesthetics
Costigan, Johanna	Contemporary Chinese Studies
Cottle, Daniel	Teacher Education
Das, Nilakshi	Education (Higher Education)
Davoudzadeh, Yasaman	Economics
De Silva, Olivia	Study of Religions
Dehtyriov, Daniel	Wind and Marine Energy Systems and Structures (EPSRC CDT)
Dongmo, Francis	MBA
Duffee, Emma	English
Fell, Charlotte	Teacher Education
Fernandez, Gabriel	MBA
Fiori, Matilde	Engineering Science
Firth, Michael	Religious Education
Forman, Lauren	Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Fu, Zixuan	Political Theory Research
Garcia Garcia, Natalia	PGCE - History
Gaviria Barreto, Andrea	MBA
Gedeon, Jillian	MBA
Gillbanks, Lucy	Musculoskeletal Sciences
Glynne-Jones, Jack	Pharmacology
Goncalves, Tomas	Medical Sciences
Graceffo, Eugenio	Neuroscience
Griffin-Hicks, Peter	Particle Physics
Grøgaard, Åsne	Philosophy
Guo, Zhaoqi	Economics
Guzik, Pawel	Law and Finance
Hanna, Jack	MBA
Harris Clements, Gabrielle	PGCE - Religious Education
Hass, Cynthia	MBA
Haughton, Thomas	English
Hildreth, Eden	PGCE - English
Hitchings, David	PGCE - English
Holland, Jessica	Teacher Education
Iarova, Iuliia	MFA
Ibarra Aizpurua, Naroa	Neuroscience
Izilein, Barbara	EMBA
Jin, Yihan	Engineering Science
Jolliffe, Rachel	PGCE - Physics
Jones, Jasmine	English

Jones, William	Jewish Studies
Kamau, Evelyne	Clinical Medicine
Knight, Gillian	Teacher Education
Kokkalia, Myrto	Classical Archaeology
Kruse, Philine	Refugee and Forced Migration Studies
Kupara, Muvirimi	EMBA
Law, Marianne	MFA
Leena, Aniq	Education (Child Development and Education)
Li, Pengling	Engineering Science
Li, Ruiqi	Sociology
Liban, Mohamed	EMBA
Lim, Alexandra	Psychiatry
Lipworth, Samuel	Clinical Medicine
Lucas, Benjamin	Biodiversity, Conservation and Management
Mak, Fai Ming Edward	BCL
Mak, Sue Ann	Theology
Makri, Gavriella	Archaeology
Malasincu, Alexandru-Gabriel	Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition
Manuel, Petra	Energy Systems
Marshall, Peter	MBA
Martinez Arias, Laura Ximena	Public Policy
McMenamin, James	EMBA
Meyer Tapia, Johansen	Law and Finance
Moilanen, Anna	Contemporary Chinese Studies
Mondada, Luca	Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science
Nguyen, Son	Teacher Education
O'Carroll, Emily	PGCE - Geography
Otake, Akiko	EMBA
Paget, Daan	Pharmacology
Park, Mi Youn	MFA
Patramanis, Demosthenes	Philosophy
Payamon, Masuma	Neuroscience
Pusparini, Wulan	Zoology
Rahmania, Naila	Law and Finance
Rai, Nikhil	MBA
Rauh, Franziska Monika	Jewish Studies
Richards, Jayda	PGCE - Religious Education
Sanan, Manu	Law
Sarker, Anjali	MBA
Sen, Navoneel	Physical and Theoretical Chemistry
Sennesael, François	African Studies

Shinagawa, Natsuno	Public Policy
Songo, Nokuzola	African Studies
Sotošek, David	MJur
Swarbrick, Catherine	PGCE - Geography
Sykes, Henry	Teacher Education
Thakkar, Drashti	Migration Studies
Thomas, Joel	Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience
Thykkathu, Nijin	Astrophysics
Timmons, Laurence	EMBA
Ujayli, Laila	Film Aesthetics
Van Dijke, David	Economics
Van Ommeren, Adrianus	EMBA
Van Tinteren, Christie	Comparative Social Policy
Vovk, Emma	Biodiversity, Conservation and Management
Wallin, Martin	International Relations
Walter, Alice	MFA
Wang, Xiaoting	Music
Wang, Zhaoyu	Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition
Whetstone, Oliver	Ancient Philosophy
Whittingdale, Eleanor	Socio-Legal Studies
Xie, Wen	Politics: Comparative Government
Yang, Kang	Particle Physics
Yau, Man Kay Christopher	Statistical Science
Zhang, Yaowen	Education (Research Design and Methodology)
Zhen, Xueqing	Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing

### Foundation Year 2019

Name	Subject
Brown, Chelsea	PPE
Chan, Augustine	Law
Farrelly-Holness, Jacob	English
Hussain, Iqra	Law
Kifle, Jonathan	Engineering
Loulas, Emilio	Physics
Martin, Ras.I	PPE
Pickering, Jake	Psychology
Roffey, Nicole	Music
Seidi, Cherif	Physics
Shah, Aneela	English

## EDITOR'S NOTES

The following is a reminder about *Brown Book* contributions.

### News items

News forms can be sent by post or e-mail to the Development Office and will be passed on to the Editor. Please quote your year of matriculation. News need not be confined to what has happened over the past year; if you have not sent anything in for some time, the Editor welcomes a report of what you have been doing since you were last in contact, but requests that it is succinct. The Editor normally exercises only a light editorial hand on News items, but it may be necessary to shorten, for example, lengthy entries and details of children's careers.

### Articles

Planning for articles starts almost before the previous *Brown Book* is sent out. Ideas may emerge from a number of sources: the LMHA Committee (which has formal responsibility for the editorial function), the College, the Gaudy talks, or discussions with alumni. Suggestions for the sort of items you would like, or would like more of, should be sent to the Editor.

### Reviews of publications

Potential publications for review are usually identified by books being sent to the Reviews Editor, from the News forms or from press notices; the publisher/author will be asked to provide a review copy. The Reviews Editor has discretion over the selection of a reviewer, and advises the potential reviewer on the format for the copy, word length and deadline. Word length is determined by the nature of the publication, the appropriate balance within the review section and the amount of space available. Some publications submitted for review may be given short notices or listed as 'Publications Received'. Publications for review in *The Brown Book* should be with the Reviews Editor by the end of the previous October at the latest.

### Obituaries

Obituaries are normally written by alumni, or in some cases by family members. Obituary requests are sometimes made by a friend or by the family, in these cases the Obituaries Editor would appreciate suggestions for a writer. The Obituaries Editor advises on format and length. As an alternative to a full obituary, we may include a short obituary notice, using material from the Register or available from College records with, where possible, some comments of a more personal nature.

*Editor*

## NOTICES FROM LMH

### Conferment of Degrees

The Development Office handles the administration of all degrees. Please contact Cathy Bygrave in the Development Office, telephone 01865 274362 or e-mail [development@lmh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development@lmh.ox.ac.uk). Full details, including dates of degree ceremonies, are on the alumni section of the website: [www.lmh.ox.ac.uk](http://www.lmh.ox.ac.uk).

Alumni holding BA degrees become eligible to take their MA in Trinity Term 21 terms from their term of matriculation. A fee (currently £40) is payable. Further information will be sent by the Development Office to those eligible to receive their MA each year, and a College event will take place to celebrate.

### Degree Transcripts

If you matriculated before Michaelmas Term 2007, you can order an official academic transcript from the Academic Office Office at LMH. Please e-mail [academic.office@lmh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.office@lmh.ox.ac.uk) allowing three weeks for processing. If you matriculated in, or after, 2007 please refer to the University website <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/graduation/transcripts>. For Degree Confirmation Letters, please e-mail the Degree Conferrals Office in the Examination Schools: [degree.conferrals@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:degree.conferrals@admin.ox.ac.uk). Copies of Degree Certificates are no longer issued by the Degree Conferrals Office, only replacement certificates.

## 2020 SUMMER GAUDY WEEKEND AND ALUMNI REUNION

As those booked will be aware, we sadly took the decision to postpone this summer's Gaudy celebrations due to the COVID-19 outbreak. A new date will be communicated as soon as possible.

For further information and to find all events organised by the Development Office, please visit: [www.lmh.ox.ac.uk/alumni/events](http://www.lmh.ox.ac.uk/alumni/events).

## SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

LMH has a number of social media accounts and encourages you to keep in touch with College news in this way:

 Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford – Alumni ([www.facebook.com/lmhalumni](http://www.facebook.com/lmhalumni))

 @lmhalumni ([www.twitter.com/lmhalumni](http://www.twitter.com/lmhalumni))

 lmhoxford ([www.instagram.com/lmhoxford](http://www.instagram.com/lmhoxford))

 [www.youtube.com/lmhoxford](http://www.youtube.com/lmhoxford)

## DINING IN COLLEGE

The Senior Common Room of Lady Margaret Hall is pleased to invite alumni to dine at High Table at a Guest Night once a year. Alumni may also bring one guest.

Each Tuesday in term is alternately a Guest Night (three courses) or a special Guest Night (four courses plus dessert), as is each Friday. A list of Guest Nights and Special Guest Nights is available on the LMH website. Please be aware that 1st Week and 8th Week dinners are very busy and are often fully booked. The charge for a Guest Night dinner is currently £37.50 per person and a Special Guest Night is £42.50 per person. The charges stated are subject to change and are inclusive of VAT.

College rules require alumni who dine at High Table to have an SCR host. If required, the Development Office will link alumni to an appropriate host.

There is a limit of three alumni and their guests (or six alumni without guests) per Guest Night. If you would like to book, please contact the Development Office, with at least one month's notice, on 01865 274362 or email [development@lmh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development@lmh.ox.ac.uk).

Alumni may also book SCR guest rooms, subject to availability. To confirm availability and to book a guest room please telephone the Conference Office on 01865 274320 or email [conferences@lmh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:conferences@lmh.ox.ac.uk).



John Cairns



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