

HERT FORD

The newsletter of Hertford College

ISSUE 29



News | Good germs, bad germs: citizen science and microbiology |
Pop-Up School | News from Hertford | College Archives | Graduate study at Hertford

Contents

College news..... 4

Fellowship news 6

Honorary fellows 8

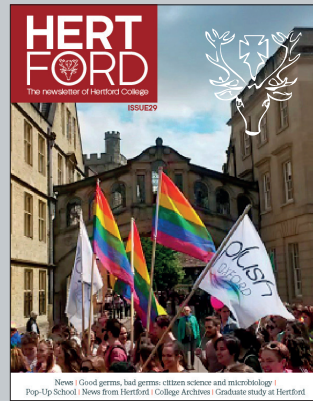
Good germs, bad germs:
citizen science and microbiology10

Pop-Up School.....13

News from Hertford College Archives15

Graduate study at Hertford17

A year in pictures19



Hertford College News is published by the Development Office for alumni and friends of the college. The opinions expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily the official views of Hertford College












Editor: Jonathan White
Design: www.dougdawson.co.uk
Cover photo: xxxxxxxxxx

Produced by:
Development Office
Hertford College
Oxford OX1 3BW
☎ +44 (0) 1865 279428
@ development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk
www.hertford.ox.ac.uk



Hertford College is a registered charity in England and Wales, number 1137527

Join in discussion with Hertford alumni on a range of topical subjects

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| 
Carrie Gracie
journalism | 
Bahi Ghubril
entrepreneurship | 
Marion Osieyo
international development | 
Todd Green
media and gaming | 
Nick Groom
literature | |
| 
Pip Wilson
tech startup | 
Gavin Brown
Finance and cryptocurrencies | 
Vanessa Collingridge
history | 
James Hawes
history | 
Alex Preston
literature and journalism | 
Will Hutton
journalism |

COLLEGE NEWS

LADYBIRD ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the latest subject to be added to the iconic Ladybird series, in a book written by the Department of Computer Science's Professor Mike Wooldridge, also Fellow at Hertford College. The Ladybird Expert Guide to Artificial Intelligence, chronicles the development of intelligent machines from Turing's dream of machines that think to today's digital assistants like Siri and Alexa. Mike's book describes how people have come to rely on embedded AI software and what a world of ubiquitous AI might look like. Mike says: 'AI is big news at present, but there is lots of misunderstanding about what it is and what it is capable of. In this book, I want to set the record straight. The reality of AI today is far from the Hollywood dream of conscious machines, but no less exciting for that – I want to convey some of the excitement around the most exciting areas in science.'



STARTUP SUCCESS

Oxford-based Veratrak, a startup headed by Hertford DPhil student Jason Lacombe, has been taking the investment world by storm. In April they were awarded first prize of £8,000 at the annual Tri-Innovate competition, held jointly with Hertford, Wolfson, Pembroke, New and Jesus colleges, having already being selected for the Oxford Foundry's Lev8 accelerator programme. They have also just been awarded £25,000 in investment from the Oxford Seed Fund and secured a massive £175k of pre-seed funding in a campaign led by Seedcamp. Veratrak uses blockchain technology to allow pharmaceutical companies to securely share private documents. The blockchain technology creates

an audit history of documentation changes, with the hope of mitigating the risk associated with documentation tampering.

Instead of the highlighted quote from the article can you insert the following text at the end instead: Efficient pharmaceutical supply chains are essential for delivering high quality, cost effective and increasingly personalised medicines. Traditionally, the pharma supply chain lagged behind other industries' supply chains in-part due to a lack of need to innovate in areas outside of R&D. Our cutting-edge solution gives supply chain companies a new way to work together with their customers, suppliers and partners to deliver medicine to patients in a safe, efficient and secure manner.



YES M'LORD

We are delighted to announce a further two appointments to the High Court for Hertfordians. Peter Lane (1971) read law at Hertford, initially training as a barrister. He became a solicitor upon moving into private practice, and worked extensively in immigration as an Immigration Adjudicator, Vice President of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal, a legal member of the Special Immigration Appeals Commission and as President of the General Regulatory Chamber. In addition to being appointed a High Court Justice, replacing Sir Michael Burton, he has also been appointed Chamber President for the Upper Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber.



Martin Spencer QC (1974) read law at Hertford, as well as subsequently studying for the BCL, before being called to the bar in 1979. He specialises in professional negligence, personal injury and disciplinary hearings. He took silk in 2003 and was appointed as a Recorder in 2001. He has been appointed a High Court Justice, replacing Dame Frances Patterson.

Hertford now has three of the 96 High Court Justices, along with Sir Henry Carr who was appointed to the Chancery Division in 2015.

TANNER PRIZES

Congratulations to the students who were awarded this year's Tanner Prizes for outstanding contribution to Hertford's outreach initiatives. The students recognised by this award, which is named for Hertford's former Physics Tutor Neil Tanner who kickstarted so much of the college's access work in the 1960s, are:

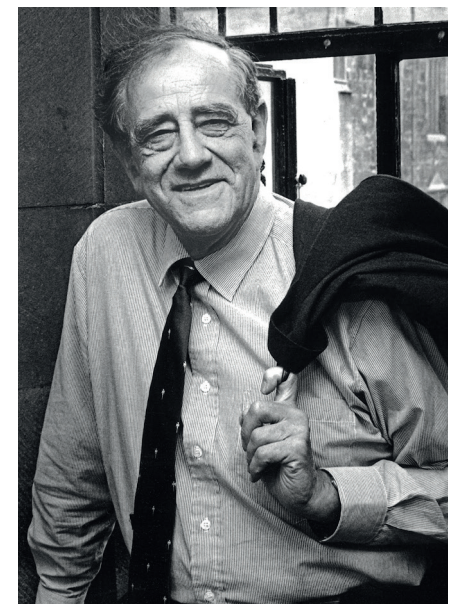
- Holly Kilner (2015), 3rd year, History
- Aisha Tahir (2015), 3rd year, English
- Alice Maynes (2015), 3rd year, Biology
- Joe Anderson (2016), 2nd year, Chemistry
- Katie Burke (2016), 2nd year, History
- Andrew Boczek (2015), 3rd year, Chemistry
- Elena Burges (2016), 2nd year, Arch & Anth

These prizes are funded by a donation from one of Neil's former students and his partner, who are keen champions of Hertford's proactive and inclusive approach. Their donation will also be funding two Physics Bursaries for research over the summer vacation. These have been awarded to Chris Mingard, a 2nd year Physicist who is doing a research project looking at simplicity bias, and Alexander Allison, who is using the award to turn his 4th year project about the 'lop-sidedness' of galaxies into a publishable paper.



HERTFORDIAN AT THE RA

Mark Alexander's (Fine Art, 1993) work 'Wrestling with Angels' is currently on display at the Royal Academy's 250th Summer Exhibition. Mark came to Hertford as a mature student with no formal qualifications having worked previously as a silversmith, factory worker, and quality inspector in the aerospace industry. His works include a number of portraits, reinventions of iconic artworks of the past, and even altar pieces which featured in an exhibition in St Paul's Cathedral, London. Nine of his works are included in the permanent collection of The Centre Pompidou Foundation, Paris. A number of Mark's works also reside in Hertford College, including the portrait of Thomas Graham Jackson which hangs in the Octagon, and a drawing of Richard Holder, former SCR butler.



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

In 2017 we welcomed two new academics to the college fellowship and will soon be welcoming a further seven who will join Hertford in the Autumn.



PHYSICS: PROFESSOR SIDDHARTH PARAMESWARAN

Professor Parameswaran graduated from the University of Rochester, USA, with a BS in Physics and a BA in Mathematics in 2006. He then moved to Princeton University where he received a PhD in theoretical physics in 2011 before accepting a three-year post-doctoral fellowship in Physics at the University of California, Berkeley. He came to Hertford in 2017 as Associate Professor in Quantum Condensed Matter Theory and a Tutorial Fellow in Physics following a period as Associate Professor in Physics at the University of California, Irvine. He now works as a theoretical physicist, focusing on quantum mechanical systems of many particles that are strongly interacting, far from equilibrium, or both.



ECONOMICS: DR TEODORA BONEVA

Originally from Germany, Dr Boneva graduated from the University of Mannheim with distinction before moving to Cambridge where she studied for an MPhil and later PhD in Economics. Her research focusses on Applied Microeconomics and Labor Economics, with additional interests in Behavioural and Experimental Economics. She is currently investigating the role of beliefs in educational investment decisions and the role of educational interventions in fostering skills in childhood. She will join Hertford in 2018 as an Associate Professor having been a post-doctoral research fellow at University College, London.



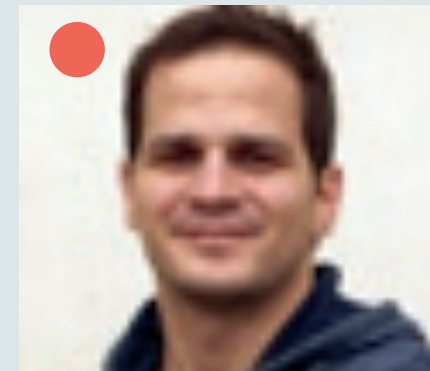
LAW: DR BENEDICT COXON

Dr Coxon read Law at the University of Adelaide before coming to Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar where he completed his DPhil at Magdalen College. Following a period of legal practice in London, he came to Hertford in 2017 as a Career Development Fellow in Law. His research focusses on statutory interpretation and public law issues, and extends to comparative public law with a focus on Commonwealth countries.



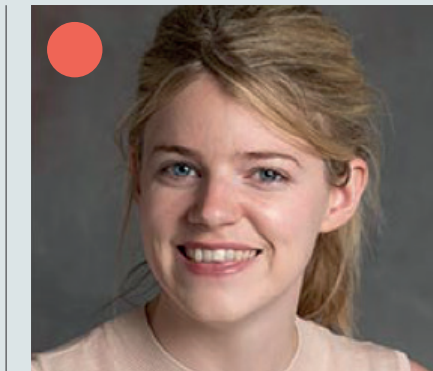
COMPUTER SCIENCE: DR ANDREW CROPPER

Dr Cropper studied at Imperial College, London, before coming to Hertford in 2018 as a Junior Research Fellow in Computer Science. His research focusses on inductive logic programming (ILP), a form of machine learning which learns logic programmes from data.



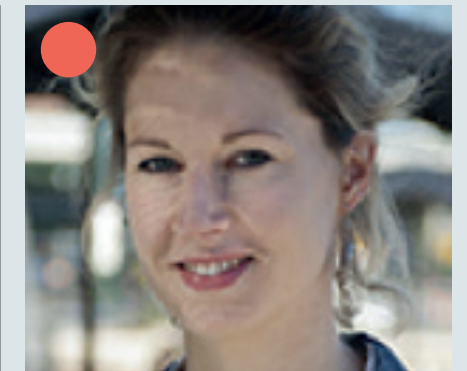
COMPUTER SCIENCE: DR ANDREAS GALLANIS

Dr Gallanis first studied at the University of Athens, before taking his PhD from the School of Computer Science at Georgia Tech University in Algorithms, Combinatorics, and Optimization. His research focusses on the interplay between approximate counting/sampling problems in computer science and phase transitions in statistical physics. He is currently a postdoctoral researcher in the Oxford Department of Computer Science and will join Hertford as Fellow in Computer Science in the Autumn this year.



LAW: DR KATE GREASLEY

Dr Greasley read Law at New College, graduating with a first-class degree, before studying for the BCL and later DPhil. Her thesis focussed on the notion of personhood in relation to abortion laws, a topic on which she continues to specialise. During her time as a research student she held a stipendiary lectureship at Hertford College, and later took up a Junior Research Fellowship at University College. She comes to Hertford in Michaelmas Term 2018 from University College, London, where she has been a lecturer in the Law Faculty.



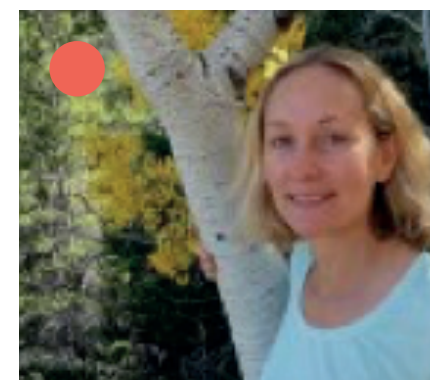
GEOGRAPHY: DR LOUISE SLATER

Dr Slater completed her PhD at the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of St Andrew's in 2014. She subsequently held positions at Queen Mary College, University of London, and the University of Iowa before taking up the position of Lecturer in Geography at Loughborough University in 2017. Her research focuses on understanding and predicting changes in floods and fluvial systems in the context of contemporary shifts in climate and land cover. She will join Hertford in 2018 as Fellow and Tutor in Geography.



ECONOMICS: PROFESSOR ELIZABETH BALDWIN

Professor Baldwin joined Hertford at the beginning of the academic year as Roger Van Noorden Fellow, and Tutor and Director of Studies in Economics. She first came to Oxford to read Mathematics at Wadham College, later taking a DPhil in the subject. She then returned to study further, this time in economics, completing both an MPhil at Nuffield, and a second DPhil at Balliol. Professor Baldwin's research follows two principal strands: firstly she studies consumer theory for indivisible goods: both the underlying geometry that preferences induce on price space, and the practical implications of this for auction design. Her second research interest examines the economics of climate change. Prior to Hertford she was a post-doctoral researcher at the Grantham Research Institute of the London School of Economics, and a research fellow at Nuffield College.

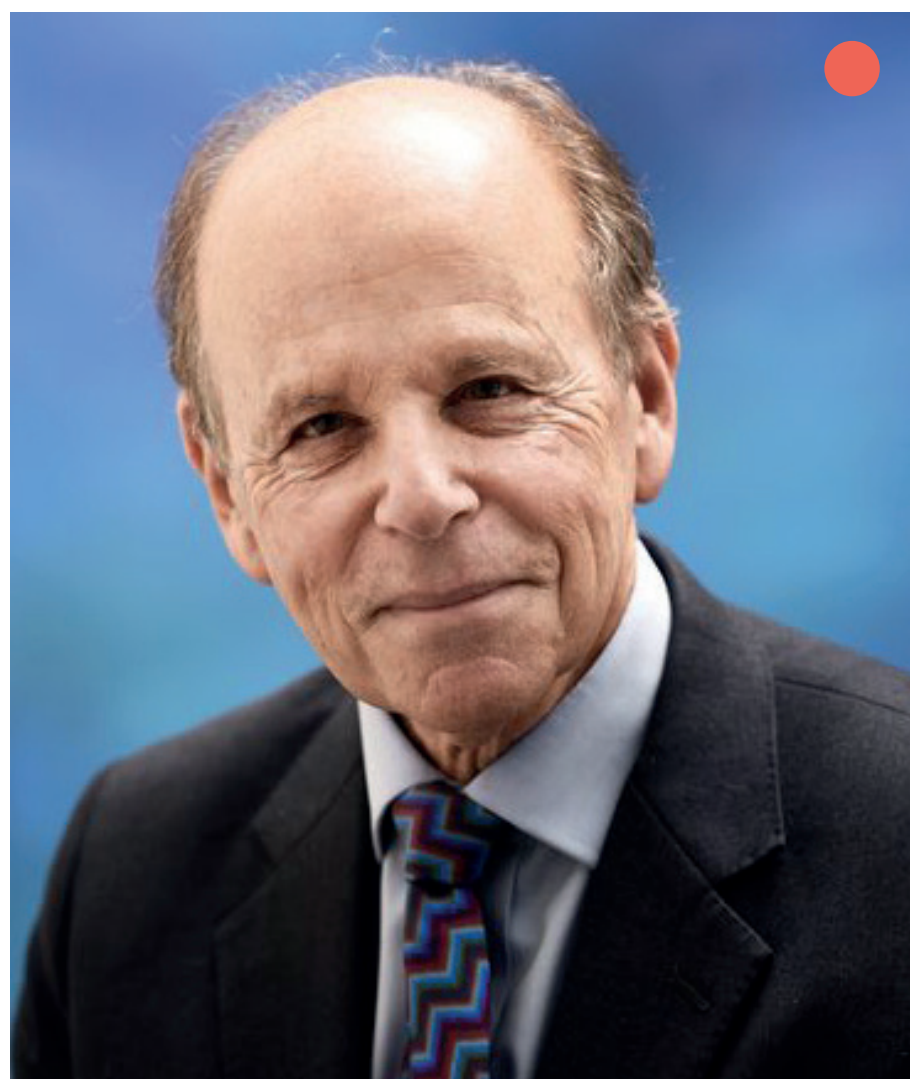


BIOLOGY: PROFESSOR GERALDINE WRIGHT

Professor Wright read Botany at Wyoming University before coming to Hertford College as a Rhodes Scholar to research a DPhil in Zoology. She held a postdoctoral fellowship at Ohio State University and is currently teaching at Newcastle University where she is Professor of Insect Neuroethology. Her research focusses on the behaviour, neurophysiology, and nutritional ecology of honeybees and bumblebees. Her lab studies how worker bees learn to identify floral traits like scent with nutrients they find in nectar, as well as studying how bees regulate their intake of macronutrients like carbohydrates and proteins. She will take up the position of Fellow in Comparative Physiology and Organismal Biology in Michaelmas 2018.

HONORARY FELLOWS

Honorary Fellows add an additional dimension to the college community through the knowledge, wisdom and experience they bring. In 2018 we were delighted to elect seven new members to the fellowship.



PROFESSOR SIR JEFFREY JOWELL, KCMG QC, JURISPRUDENCE 1961

• Sir Jeffrey is one of the UK's most eminent lawyers. He is leading authority on public, constitutional, and administrative law, and has also worked extensively in the human rights field. He was knighted in 2011 for services to democracy, human rights and the rule of law in Europe.



PROFESSOR MARTIN BRIDSON, MATHEMATICS 1983

• Martin Bridson read mathematics at Hertford before completing his PhD in 1991 at Cornell University. After teaching posts at Princeton, the University of Geneva, and Imperial College, London, he is now Whitehead Professor of Pure Mathematics at the University of Oxford. Specializing in geometry, topology and group theory, Bridson is best known for his work in Geometric Group Theory. His honours include the Whitehead Prize of the London Mathematical Society (1999), the Forder Lectureship of the New Zealand Mathematical Society (2005), and a Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award (2012). Professor Bridson was elected a Fellow of the American Mathematical Society in 2015 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) in 2016.



DR STEPHANIE WEST, TUTOR IN CLASSICS 1966-2005

• Stephanie West was a student at Somerville College, where she read Classics before completing her DPhil. She was Hertford's Classics tutor from 1966 to 2005, and Fellow Librarian from 1990 to 2005. She was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1990 and a Foreign Member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU) in 2012. Stephanie's main research interests are Homer, Herodotus, and Lycophron.



THE VERY REVEREND DR JEFFREY JOHN, CLASSICS AND MODERN LANGUAGES 1975

• Ordained in 1978, Jeffrey John was chaplain at Brasenose College and latterly Dean of Divinity at Magdalen College during the 1980s. He was a central figure in the promotion of Catholic practices and teachings within the Anglican tradition. He was created Dean of St Alban's in 2004, a position he still holds and is a leading advocate for same-sex marriage within the Church of England.



MR SOWETO KINCH, MODERN HISTORY 1996

• Soweto started learning the saxophone at the age of nine and developed a love of jazz music while a teenager. He is one of the UK's most successful jazz musicians, having won numerous accolades, including, in 2002, the Rising Star Award at the BBC Jazz Awards and the White Foundation world sax competition. In 2003 and 2007 he won the MOBO Award for Best Jazz Act, and in 2003, his debut album Conversations With The Unseen was nominated for the Mercury Music Prize.



DR NANCEE OKU BRIGHT, DPHIL SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY 1983

• Nancee Oku Bright is Chief of Staff of the Office of the Secretary-General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict. She served in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as Chief of the Humanitarian Affairs Section of the UN peacekeeping mission. Nancee has also worked as a journalist, and directed and produced the PBS Documentary, "Liberia: America's Stepchild," which examined the cause of Liberia's long-running civil war.



MR PAUL MANDUCA, MODERN LANGUAGES 1970

• Paul Manduca has spent his career in the financial sector, becoming CEO of Rothschild Asset Management in 1999 and latterly European CEO of Deutsche Asset Management from 2002 to 2005. He joined the board of Prudential in 2010 and was named chairman of the board in 2012. He is also Chairman of Henderson Diversified Income Limited, an independent global asset management fund, and in 2015 he became Chairman of the Templeton Emerging Markets Investment

Good germs, bad germs: citizen science and microbiology

Jamie Lorimer and Timothy Hodgetts

Have you ever wondered about the bacteria that live on your chopping boards? How about those in your sink, or the murky depths of the plughole? And if so, were you thinking only about pathogenic 'germs', or also about the wider microbial communities that might persist in your homes? And how does such thinking sit with contemporary understandings of 'good bacteria', and the popular discourse that we might be 'too clean' for our own good?

Taking advantage of recent developments in DNA sequencing, a citizen science project called Good Germs Bad Germs is exploring the ambiguously understood microbial ecologies found in peoples' kitchens.

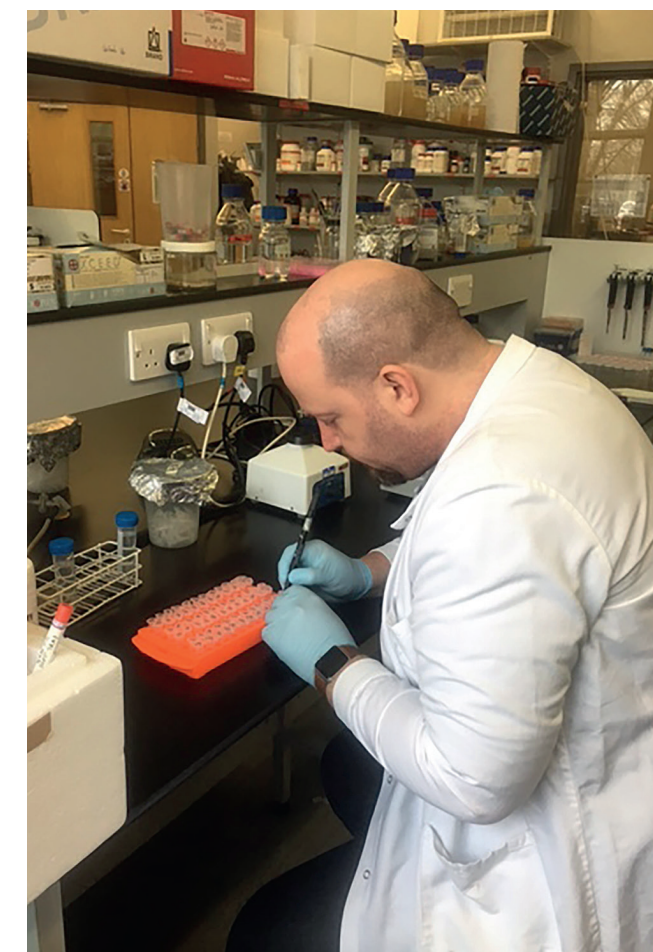
Working with a small community of public participants, the project is concerned with the questions people ask about bacteria in their homes, and what happens when they work with scientists to find out the answers.

In recent years, scientists from many disciplines have begun working more closely with the public when conducting research. These 'citizen science' projects have multiple benefits, including their ability to collate vast datasets and to enthuse the public about the conduct of science. For some practitioners, involving the public in the conduct of scientific research is also an ethical imperative. But 'citizen science' is something of a catch-all term. It is used to describe a range of experimental practices that may differ significantly in the forms and depth of public engagement they permit.

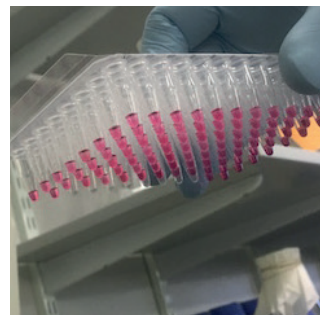
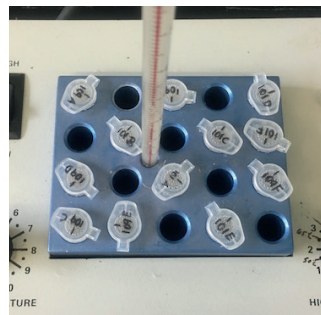
The riverine metaphors of 'upstream' and 'downstream' are often used to distinguish these different types of citizen science. Downstream citizen science aims to educate and enthuse the general public about scientific inquiry whilst also collecting big datasets, and it does this through asking people to collect data according to preset protocols. Common examples of downstream engagement include wildlife surveys, like the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch. By contrast, upstream citizen science aims to involve publics in shaping the goals, directions, and practices of scientific research. It is labelled 'upstream' because the public are involved at an earlier stage in the process. Rather than being educated by scientists (acting as the gatekeepers to knowledge), publics work with scientists to decide what questions to ask and how to ask them. While downstream citizen science is increasingly prevalent, especially given the communicative possibilities in a networked age, upstream citizen science remains somewhat rare in comparison.

The Good Germs, Bad Germs project is attempting to facilitate 'upstream' citizen science in the field of microbial ecology. It was inspired by recent 'downstream' citizen

science experiments that have investigated bacterial communities living in the built environment. Led by a cast of high profile microbiologists including Rob Knight, Rob Dunn, Jack Gilbert, Holly Ganz and Jonathan Eisen (amongst others), such work has been enabled by the revolution in DNA sequencing that has made identifying the manifold bacteria in an environmental sample increasingly affordable. Those projects and others like them invited people to swab inside their houses (their kitchens, toilets, beds, clothes, phones and even their pets), their workplaces, and on transport vehicles. They then utilised DNA sequencing (especially 16S rRNA sequencing) to identify the types of bacteria present in each site. These various experiments have produced important and robust scientific findings, and using public participants as 'data collectors' has enabled cost-effective science whilst simultaneously educating and enthusing people. But they remain resolutely 'downstream'.



The Good Germs, Bad Germs project takes citizen microbiology further upstream by asking the participants not simply to swab pre-defined sites, but to help design the experiments as well. The project group consists of the inhabitants of 14 households (all located within walking distance of a community centre in Oxford) working alongside a small team of social and natural scientists. It began by repeating an existing ‘downstream’ citizen science experiment, in which each household was asked to swab five common areas in their kitchens – a microbial ‘kitchen safari’. The aim for the first experiment was to introduce the participants to the technology, so that they might then shape the future experiments themselves. They were also given a sixth swab to sample somewhere they thought might be interesting, in a prelude of things to come. The swabs were processed using 16SrRNA sequencing, and the bacterial communities present in each site were characterized. The results were presented and discussed at a group meeting in the community centre, and the group then decided what they would like to explore in the next experiment.



Rather, the aim is to use upstream citizen science as a policy-relevant tool to investigate peoples’ understandings, practices and concerns.

There have been five rounds of these microbial experiments so far. In addition to their initial ‘kitchen safari’, the households have chosen to explore the bacterial communities on chopping boards, the effects of different cleaning products on microbial communities, and the changing microbial ecologies in fridges. In each round of experiments, the participant group has taken more ownership of the experimental design, with the academic team shifting into a consulting role about what might or might not work given the vagaries of the microbiological technologies being used. In the most recent round, this devolution of experimental choice and design has proceeded the furthest, with each household selecting their own inquiry – from tracing the microbial signatures of their pets, to the microecological changes in kitchens concurrent with the introduction of Christmas trees.

Given the small sample sizes in these various ‘experiments’, especially the recent round, the aim is not to produce particularly robust scientific findings. Rather, the aim is to use upstream citizen science as a policy-relevant tool to investigate peoples’ understandings, practices and concerns. As a result, the crucial site in this work is not the kitchen or even the lab, but the group meeting where results are discussed and new experiments shaped. Through allowing participants to choose what to investigate, and through in-depth discussion of the findings (and their limitations), the project can identify putative public concerns that would remain obscure in traditional ‘downstream’ citizen science models. The project is thus using upstream citizen science not simply to ‘educate people’, or even to ‘educate scientists about people’, but to provide important insights into peoples’ hygiene practices and understandings in a world characterized by both ‘good’ and ‘bad’ microbes. After all, the public policy message has, for generations, been to vilify all germs; but increasingly, such messages are becoming less tenable.



Pop-Up School

In the aftermath of the Grenfall Tower fire, Hertford College found itself host to a group of enthusiastic sixth-form students who had found themselves without a school at the beginning of the new academic year.

A year on from the Grenfall Tower disaster investigations into what happened are still ongoing. The tragedy claimed over 70 lives, and affected the lives of so many more. However, what was perhaps less obvious from the aftermath was the impact on the surrounding buildings, including a state-of-the-art academy school at the foot of the tower block. Kensington Aldridge Academy is a pioneering academy school with examination results in the top 10% of the country, whose sparkling new buildings had opened only a couple of years earlier by the Duchess of Cambridge. Although the fire claimed the lives of four current pupils, and one who had just recently left, the school refused to be stopped by the tragedy. On the day of the fire itself 56 students still showed up to sit their AS maths exam, and the school was operating again within 48 hours thanks to hastily made arrangements with neighbouring schools.

Although the school's site escaped largely without damage, it is still off limits while forensic scientists pore over its campus and while the tower site awaits securing. A new temporary school was needed, and fast. A plan was drawn up to provide short-term accommodation in an extensive set of portable, prefabricated buildings on a former military parade ground. Over 200 staff from Portakabin worked around the clock to ready the new facility but, despite efforts for this to be ready for the start of the 2017-18 academic year, it became apparent that this was an ambitious target. As such the school was faced with the unenviable task of finding alternative accommodation for almost 1,000 students for the first few weeks of the Christmas term.



The teachers noted the confidence of students grow as the week progressed, and one of the students remarked “just being in Oxford makes you feel smarter”.

The school's enterprising Principal, David Benson, made a call to an old university friend and Hertford's Director of Development, Julia Thaxton, to see if there was any way that the school could find a temporary home among the dreaming spires. Although September is one of the busiest months of the year for the college conferencing and alumni programmes, after some rejigging of arrangements, and with assistance from Queens College, Trinity College, and the School of Geography, Oxford became the short-term residence for the KAA's 200 sixth-form students and 22 of their teachers. In addition to their regular schedule of lessons, which took place in libraries and seminar rooms across the city, students from the KAA benefitted from nightly lectures provided by staff from the School of Geography, as well as a host of social and entertainment activities led by student volunteers and helpers from Hertford and Queens. They also benefitted from the opportunity of living and studying within the collegiate setting of Oxford, getting a brief taster of life as an undergraduate. The visit ended with a lecture from Sir John Vickers on the banking crisis in the awe-inspiring surroundings of the Sheldonian Theatre.

KAA's Principal, David Benson commented “This has been a fantastic start to the academic year for our sixth-form students and we are incredibly grateful to Hertford College and Queens College for accommodating us. The experience has been great for our students and gives them a superb start to the year and I'm positive it will

encourage students to apply for Oxford in the future.” Rob Pavey, Deputy Head of KAA agreed “We have been overwhelmed with the generosity we have been shown. Nothing has been too much trouble, and staff at all the sites we have used have been wonderful. For many of our students, this was their first time away from home, and they have had an unforgettable week. It's a real tribute to the university and to how serious Oxford is about widening participation.”

The students themselves were effusive in their appreciation of the experience. Several commented that the experience had totally changed their expectations of Oxford, and that it felt like “a breath of fresh air”. The teachers noted the confidence of students grow as the week progressed, and one of the students remarked “just being in Oxford makes you feel smarter”. In the Admissions round that followed in Michaelmas 2017, six KAA students received offers to study at Oxford – the icing on the cake for a very special week at Hertford.



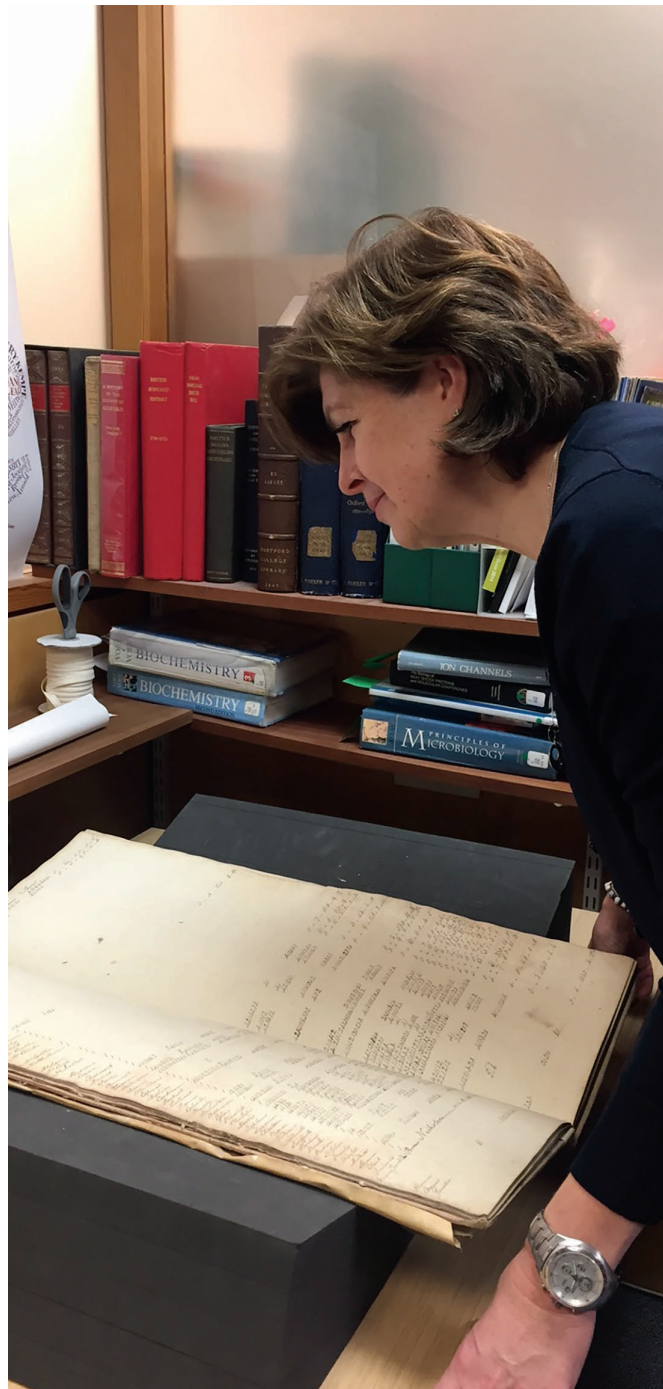
News from Hertford College Archives

Hertford's archival materials stretch back at least as far as the seventeenth century, containing a wealth of documents that give an insight into college life across its history. The curation of these is the responsibility of archivist Dr Lucy Rutherford, who explains more about the collection and its continuing importance.

The earliest records in the College Archives are the Magdalen Hall Buttery Books, which run from 1661-1874. In addition the Magdalen Hall collection contains Governance records, Admissions Registers (1849-1874), and a beautiful Benefactors' Book and Library catalogues. There is a small collection of similar records from the 18th and 19th centuries from the old Hertford College, the successor of Hart Hall. The majority of the records in the Archives, however, are those created by Hertford College after its foundation in 1874. These mainly consist of the administrative, financial and fabric records of Hertford

College, with some personal papers of former Hertford College staff and students and records of student life and societies. We also have also prints, engravings & photographic series from the 19th and 20th centuries. The Buttery Books are undoubtedly amongst the most significant items in the collections, but other highlights are the plans from the Sir Thomas Jackson restoration of the College and the diaries of John Dewar Denniston, Fellow in Classics at Hertford 1913-1949. All of these records have very different physical formats and present individual challenges in terms of storage and handling. Currently, my main task is to complete the catalogue of the College Archives, building on the cataloguing work carried out in the 1980s and by my predecessor who began the process of entering all the archive data into Adlib, our cataloguing software. This means editing existing entries and creating new records for uncatalogued items. Each item needs to have its physical location and condition checked and recorded, before cleaning and repackaging with conservation standard materials.

In addition to the cataloguing of the existing archives, there is new material coming in on a regular basis which needs to be accessioned into our collections before it can be catalogued. Recent accessions include Bursar's working papers, Boat Club Society Records, College Chapel records and Matriculation and Sports photographs. We have also had donations of personal papers from Fellows and Alumni, and have recorded an oral history interview with an Alumnus who was a student at Hertford in the late 1950s.



It is crucial that the Archives are catalogued and physically well looked after; as they are an important resource for the College, both as an internal support to College administration and as a public facing resource for academic and private researchers. So part of my job can be to look in the records for information which will be useful for the development of new building projects – for example, researching previous building works in order to support current works and planning applications. Another important part of my job is to make the records available to researchers from our own College and elsewhere. At present the number of visitors in person to the archives is small (6 in 2017), although as the cataloguing is completed and we make more information about the archives publicly available I expect these numbers to go up. Most enquiries to the Archives are made by email or letter, and the range of these enquiries is surprisingly wide. Many people are researching their family history and want to find about a former student, College servant or Fellow. Some are interested in the College buildings, or the history of pieces of land owned by the College and documented in title deeds held in the archives. Others are interested in broader themes such as the First World War or Empire, and are looking for information that will contribute to a wider research project.

I also enjoy making our archive accessible through exhibitions – either by putting on our own displays, or contributing information and images to external exhibitions. In the past eighteen months we have contributed images to an exhibition held in Worcester Cathedral on the history of the King's School, and an exhibition at the Weston in Oxford on Evelyn Waugh. In December we put on a display of 'highlights' from the archives at a reception for College Donors.

Plans for the coming year include a trial project to conserve a few of the earlier Magdalen Hall Buttery Books and to explore their potential for digitisation, planning how to manage our modern and digital records and considering our future storage requirements. We also hope to make more use of social media to publicise the Archives. Please do visit our web pages at <https://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/hertford-college-archives> for further information. I work in College two days a week and am always happy to talk to anyone interested in our collections.



Graduate study at Hertford

Oxford has built its reputation on the quality and uniqueness of its undergraduate teaching. But increasingly graduate research and study is becoming an equal partner in this endeavour for international excellence.

Living and working alongside Hertford's 400+ undergraduates are 250 graduates – just over a third of the student body. Some come for a single year to study on a masters programme before going into the professional world; others embark on unique research to doctoral level. Engaged in a wealth of different pursuits, from medical discoveries, political research, and historical revelations, Hertford's graduates are contributing to an ongoing stream of investigation and analysis.

The graduate journey is not always easy. Funding is hard to find, meaning that many students try to fit their studies alongside paid employment, which can draw out the duration of a doctorate. Many postpone or abandon doctorates partway through. To counter this, colleges, including Hertford, have worked especially hard to provide as much financial support as we can to assist these fledgling researchers, and to ensure that we attract the best talent from around the world.

Who are our graduate scholars?

Our scholarships have attracted talented individuals from all over the world. Louis-David Lord, who arrived at Hertford via Bowdoin College in the USA, Imperial College London and Harvard Medical School, is investigating the dynamics of human brain networks using mathematical and computational models. He says "I expected postgraduate life in Oxford to be academically intense... and it has certainly met, if not exceeded, my expectations on that front! The opportunities for intellectual and professional growth in Oxford are basically limitless".

Natalya Din-Kariuki, from Kenya, is looking at how classical rhetoric influenced the way that English travellers experienced and wrote about life on the road. 'Oxford has been the ideal place to conduct this research,' she says. 'I have had the opportunity to work with and learn from leading scholars in my field, including Hertford's Professor Emma Smith. Thanks to the Bodleian Library's exceptional collection of early modern books and manuscripts, I have also carried out a substantial amount of archival work. At Hertford, I have

had stimulating conversations with graduate students and Fellows from a range of disciplines (often over a glass of wine), and participated in the unveiling of a portrait of the black American philosopher Alain Locke in Hertford Hall.'

Lillian Hingley is one of our UK students. After completing her first degree at Warwick, she has just started her studies here – but that was after a year's interval because she simply did not have the finances. Her mother is a dress-maker in Manchester, and the prospect of a graduate degree was completely unaffordable. She says that 'A year ago, I thought a PhD was out of the question. I'd taken a year out of academia after only securing unfunded doctoral places.' But after winning a scholarship at Hertford, Lillian now spends her days looking at how great literature can give us insights to who we are and how we live, and particularly the limits of those insights. After the war Theodor Adorno, a great Jewish writer who fled his native Germany in the wake of the Holocaust, declared that no literature or poetry was possible given the black depths to which humanity had sunk. Poetry was now 'barbaric'. Lillian aims to test that thesis both by studying Adorno's own writing, and other writers including Ibsen and Joyce. Will her research show that the human spirit can triumph? She is intensely grateful for the opportunity. 'Joining an Oxford college still has its surprises. On my matriculation day, I was taken aback when I realised that a group of tourists were not actually snapping Hertford's ornate front doors – they were taking pictures of me in my gown!'

Brian Josephson is an enterprising American student, who is now working with Professor Ben Davis on a Chemical Biology research programme. Brian convinced his professor at Oregon State University 'to let me attend the 2016 Genetic Code Expansion Conference for free in exchange for picking up attendees and helping run the conference' which is where he first heard Professor Davis speak about his research group and the work they were undertaking. 'His group was developing novel techniques for attaching various chemicals onto specific sites of biomolecules, allowing atomic precision and insight into an enormously complicated area of biology desperately needing new tools to study it'. Brian says he simply wouldn't be here now without the support of



the scholarship he now holds through Hertford. He has also found the collegiate environment of Hertford especially helpful in settling into life in a new country: 'Moving internationally to a place you have never been before and leaving behind everyone you know is a test of character. In one way you get a fresh start to build yourself up and accomplish things in a new place, but on the other hand you lose your support network. Luckily, I quickly made lots of other graduate friends in the Hertford MCR. I bonded with the other international students and marvelled with them about how amazing but weird this city is.'

As an institution, Hertford has had an open-doors policy for decades, long before others began to join our ranks. We want students to come to Hertford to study, learn and grow, before taking their passion and enthusiasm out into the world. We also hope that their gratitude for the opportunities these scholarships have given them will encourage a virtuous circle of ongoing support. Quite simply, without funding of this sort, Hertford would find it increasingly difficult to attract and support the top young talent from around the world. A huge thank you to all those who have given towards graduate scholarships at Hertford, who make this possible.

A year in pictures



Conquering the Cotswold



College Open Day



Management Day



The Gina Millar Case



Sports Day



Christmas Donor Drinks



San Francisco Dinner



John Donne Lecture



John Donne Dinner



Tri-Innovate



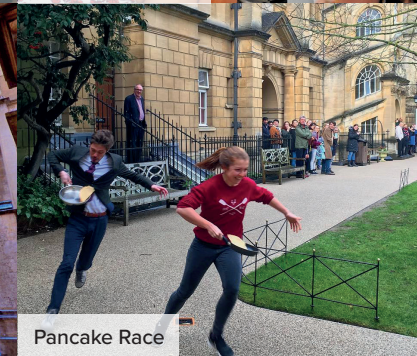
Speed Mentoring



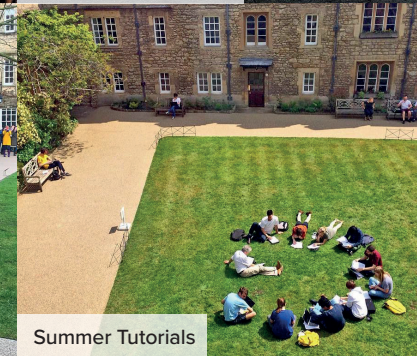
Early Morning Rowing



Snow



Pancake Race



Summer Tutorials



Votes for Women



Upcoming Hertford Events

2018

3-5 August

Hertford Festival

14 September

Gaudy for Matriculation Years 1986-88

14-16 September

Alumni Weekend

17 September

Hertford in Manchester

25 September

Hertford in Edinburgh

12 October

Law Dinner

9 November

English Dinner

1 December

Christmas Donor Drinks

2019

5 January

Gaudy for Matriculation years 2008-09

22-24 March

Alumni Weekend in Tokyo