

# MAGAZINE

THE RECORD OF  
HERTFORD COLLEGE  
2023-24



**HERT  
FORD**  
MAGAZINE  
2023-24





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# EDITOR'S NOTE

Our thanks, as ever, to everyone who has contributed to the Hertford Magazine, including Sophie Carp, Edith Critchley, and the whole Development Team. This year we won't be publishing a separate Donor Report; a short fundraising overview can be found at the back of the Magazine. You can review and change your contact preferences online or by contacting the Development Office: [development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk)





# PRINCIPAL'S REVIEW: 2023-24



**Tom Fletcher  
writes:**

**T**his has been another action-packed year for Hertford. I am hugely grateful to staff, students, fellows and tutors, and alumni – our fourth common room – who make this community so special.

For the 2023 academic year we welcomed two brilliant new fellows, Mark van der Wilk (Computer Science) and Dylan Gaffney (Arch and Anth). I encourage you to explore their work, and we are delighted that they are making Hertford their base. Another new arrival includes Chaplain Anthony Buckley, who has quickly settled into his role and is doing a wonderful job uniting our college community. We also welcomed Jane Corrigan, who is leading our work on student welfare, and Hannah Towndrow in another new position: Director of Music. These are essential elements of college life that need close attention as we continue to move beyond the period of lockdowns and distancing. Meanwhile, Vlad Vyazovskiy took over as Dean. Vlad has encouraged me not to shorthand his distinguished and illustrious academic record as being about sleeping penguins and human hibernation. He won't get much sleep in the new role. We also welcomed a new Visiting Fellow, Schona Jolly KC.

As you'll know from my bulletins, this was also a time of farewells, including to Senior Fellows Tony Wilson (Engineering), Charlotte Brewer (English) and Pat Roche (Physics). I was privileged to interview outgoing Chancellor Chris Patten at his last public event in the role. He has been a wise and humane figurehead, and a great friend to Hertford. We were honoured to host the funeral of alumnus and Hertford Society legend Jeffrey Preston; and we also lost Hertford alumnus Daniel Dennett, one of

the most significant figures in modern philosophy and AI.

As ever, our fellows continue to gain recognition for their scholarship. Emma Smith was shortlisted for the prestigious Wolfson Prize for *Portable Magic*, Hagan Bayley received a Royal Society medal, and Senior Tutor Claire Vallance together with alumnus Dean James received a Royal Society of Chemistry prize. Congratulations to Siddharth Parameswaran, Louise Slater and Dawid Kielak on their success in the Recognition of Distinction round: in non-Oxford language, they become full professors. Fernanda Duarte was a Blavatnik UK finalist. Sid also secured a prestigious ERC grant, and Carissa Véliz a Leverhulme. Hertford fellows are closely engaged in important work on Oxford's future: Kay Davies led the University's review of pay and conditions, while Martin Maiden led the overhaul of health and safety.

Our staff were also recognised. The library team was nominated for a Vice-Chancellor's Award for their vital work in maintaining access to the library while we prepared to start its transformation. Not content with feeding the entire Hertford community, head chef Carl Isham cooked at Oxford's biggest charity Christmas lunch on Christmas Day, and he, Simon Robinson and the team set another new record for May Day brunches.

I could spend all year just soaking up Hertford content. Mike Wooldridge's Royal Institution Christmas Lectures on artificial intelligence are all available on BBC iPlayer. Do look out for podcasts from alumnus Krishnan Guru-Murthy (who also took part in *Strictly* this year!), Adam Fleming and others. There is a BBC documentary on Honorary Fellow Paul Muldoon's life and poetry, which features musical interpretations of his work by Bono, Paul Simon, Van Morrison, Paul McCartney and others. Not a bad supergroup. The irrepressible

Will Hutton produced the book that has influenced the new PM more than any other: *This Time No Mistakes – How to Remake Britain*.

Our students and staff continued to excel beyond the tutorial. We are turning into a quiz powerhouse, with a Cuppers win and a valiant University Challenge run. Host Amol Rajan told me we had the friendliest team in the competition. We also held a memorial football match for the great Kenny Lewis. We missed Kenny's bustling, exuberant presence on the pitch, just as we miss it in the quad. Our women footballers won Cuppers. Anya Tregay led Oxford to a victory in the national cheerleading championship, and Zed Nott and Lilla Berry made the Blues Rugby team. Alfie Deere-Hall, fresh from masterminding this year's admissions process, won the college pancake race with panache in a treacherously wet quad. The Music Society, the largest in Oxford, goes from strength to strength, as demonstrated in their termly Principal's Recitals. College Boatman Jim Ronaldson rowed across the Atlantic in a boat named after late alum Paul Gleeson. Both Jim and Paul have Hertford boats named after them ready to compete next term.



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The college was pulsating with events and visitors, including two Presidents, four candidates for Chancellor, and many more. We were delighted to welcome home the 1974-76 and 1994-95 Gaudies. Both evenings were full of nostalgia and camaraderie, and I was glad to come through the dubious milestone of being the first Principal to host their own Gaudy.

2023-24's speaker series continued with the Peace Process of the Future programme. In Hilary term we kicked off our 150th anniversary year with a series of *Hertford Made Me* talks, which gave a fascinating insight into the work our alumni have gone on to do, from analysing politicians' trustworthiness to running the Rubik's brand. Meanwhile, Management Fellow Anette Mikes has been challenging us to think about how we could be a Ministry for the Future, connecting with recent guest Kim Stanley Robinson and other global thinkers.

A particular highlight of the year was a dinner to celebrate the great Roy Foster. The recent accolades to Roy have piled up faster than we can toast them, but the latest include a prestigious lifetime achievement award. Helping us mark the occasion in the 'Irish College' were the Chancellor, Bob Geldof, writers, academics and ambassadors, all marshalled deftly by Ian McBride, who holds the Chair named after Roy. A great night, with the Old Hall even experiencing some Irish singing.

I greatly enjoyed visits to Singapore and Hong Kong to spend time with alumni. Thanks to everyone who joined us, and to alumna Pauline Yeung for projecting a Hertford welcome onto the Hong Kong skyline.

Governing Body worked hard throughout the year. We took measures to strengthen governance, ensure our size and shape is genuinely sustainable, and pursue our ambitious estate plans. This of course includes our library redevelopment, which after a long period of planning and optimisation was approved and is taking over the quad outside my window as we speak.

We are now well into the plans to deliver the Hertford 2030 ambitions set by students, academics, staff, and alumni in 2021. At the heart of the Hertford 2030 project is excellent teaching and research. It is heartening to see how much of this connects with our aspiration to be a frontline for a better society. On climate, for example, we again hosted the top 30 chief sustainability officers to connect our academics with the urgent challenges they face. During October's big AI Summit, organised by Hertford's Heywood Fellow Jonathan Black, much of the expert media commentary was led by three other fellows: Mike Wooldridge, Carissa Véliz and Ciaran Martin.

Another key theme of Hertford 2030 is the effort to be a good neighbour. Carl's Christmas lunch is a great example of this, building on Summer Eights, Pride, the record-breaking May Day brunch, and the Hertford Festival, where we put the emphasis on throwing the doors to the quad wide open rather than closing ourselves off.

Thank you for all your extraordinary support in another extraordinary Hertford year.

# HERT FORD HIGHLIGHTS





# VOLUNTEERING IN THE COLLEGE ARCHIVES



**Ryan Hamilton  
(MPhil History,  
2022) writes:**

**I**n Trinity term 2024, I began to volunteer in Hertford's archive. Lucy Rutherford, the college archivist, suggested a cataloguing project that proved to be a window into another world. In the mid-1980s, the Development Office at Hertford sent their alumni a questionnaire asking about life at Hertford before 1945. They asked a wide range of questions from 'Why did you choose Hertford?' and 'What can you recall of the layout and furnishings of your rooms?' to asking about the chapel, whether students addressed each by first name or last and for me, an MPhil in history, the most interesting question – 'What was the most memorable event that occurred during your undergraduate career and what role did you play in it?'

The Development Office wanted to turn these surveys into a piece in the college magazine about student life at Hertford in the 1930s and 40s, but that piece was not written. I suspect it was because the project exceeded their wildest expectations – they received dozens of responses ranging from single pages covered in a handwritten scrawl to 20 meticulously detailed typewritten pages to (in my favourite case) someone literally copying out and sending their diary from Michaelmas term 1932. The surveys ended up forgotten in the library until they were handed over to the archive several years ago, where they remained uncatalogued.

The surveys paint a colourful and vibrant picture of student life at Hertford from the 1920s to the 1940s. The famous 'King and Country' debate at the Union is mentioned again and again by students as the most notable event that happened in their time, and others vividly describe student Communists or life in wartime Oxford. One of the best things

about this collection is the way you see the same story told multiple times from different points of view. Some events, places and ideas show up again and again: Lucy and I laughed at how many of the accounts began with 'I did not choose Hertford,' and I possess more knowledge of the bathroom situation in Hertford in the thirties than anyone should have (students had to cross the Bridge!). I often found myself flipping back and forth to compare one person's story to another. Often they aligned and added more detail and sometimes they would contradict – leading me to wonder who was right.

Some of the best accounts in the collection concern the General Strike of 1926. Numerous Hertford students describe lining up at Oxford Town Hall and being driven to Hull to act as strikebreakers and work as dockworkers or drive trams amidst the strike. One student, George Waterson, went to Birmingham to work as a special constable. He was given a truncheon and instructed not to use it. Halazy de Chabas, a Hungarian noble, matriculated at Hertford in October 1925. However, as Waterson recalls, he was widely known as 'Halash de Dabash'. Tom Boase, a fellow at Hertford, tried to discourage him from volunteering in the general strike, as he was not a British subject, but he replied, 'It does not matter, everywhere I go I hate the lower classes!'

There are numerous characters like this who appear over and over again in these stories. Akatani Genichi, a Japanese student known as George Akatani, was well liked and described as 'universally popular.' Nevertheless, according to John Poole Hughes, he 'openly warned us that the Japanese would wipe us all out'. He returned to Japan in 1939 and joined the Japanese foreign ministry in 1945 – there is no record of what he did in between. He acted as translator for the Japanese

Prime Minister in a summit with President Nixon in 1969 and ultimately had a high-ranking role with the UN.

CRMF Cruttwell, a long-time staple of Hertford who served as Principal in the 1930s, also makes frequent appearances in these memoirs. He is almost always described as a 'character'. Cruttwell's misogyny was legendary, and he banned women from attending his lectures – though Gerald Bowser, a student of Cruttwell's at Hertford, wanted it recorded that he only pretended to be a misogynist. Cruttwell was known as 'fearsome' and intense, but nevertheless generally well liked. He hosted students at his cottage during vacations. One student called him 'quite approachable' and another called him 'extremely kind' but he could behave strangely at times and walked with a limp. James Phelps remembered in his own survey that they all attributed this behaviour to his service in the First World War.

One other figure who makes repeated appearances is Cruttwell's nemesis: the novelist Evelyn Waugh, author of the great Oxford novel *Brideshead Revisited*. Waugh generally hated his time at



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Hertford and the feeling seems to have been mostly reciprocated – Waugh's classmate Waterson described him as 'committing his own peculiar brand of academic suicide'. Waugh detested Cruttwell, his history tutor, so much that he gave numerous villains in his books the name Cruttwell. Waugh made little impression on Waterson besides wearing 'very light-blue tweed plus four' that they all found 'outlandish'. Bateson, a scout, described Waugh to Robin Miller as a 'man of gloomy mein'. In *Brideshead Revisited*, the character Sebastian Flyte soon 'appeared at [Charles Ryder's] window...with unfocused eyes and then, leaning forward well into the room, he was sick'. Postlethwaite, Waugh's former scout, later confirmed to Donald Browne, who lived in Waugh's ground floor rooms



Student life was tightly regulated by the college in a way that is starkly different from now. Graham Phipps remembered that the front gates closed just after 9pm, when Great Tom tolled, and all visitors, especially women, had to be out of the college by then

twenty years later, that this had actually happened to Waugh. John Flynn, a classmate at both Lancing and Hertford, simply wrote that 'my recollections of [Waugh] are not suitable for the archive'.

One of the most famous events that took place at Hertford in the 1930s occurred during the Bump Supper in 1937. Grover Cronin, an American student from Boston, was dating a fellow American at one of the women's colleges, the daughter of a judge from New York. She was named either Jane Hasset or Joan Watt – depending on who is telling the story. Bill Atkinson, the JCR President and President of the Boat Club, recalled that Cronin had been unable to see his girlfriend due to the last two weeks of rowing training before Summer Eights and Atkinson then insisted that Cronin not skip the Bump Supper. Accordingly, Cronin and his friends hatched a plan. She cut her hair and wore a suit; they made sure she was surrounded by Cronin's friends (KAB Roberts walked behind her to disguise her 'wobbly female bum') and they smuggled her into hall, passing her off as the St Peter's cox.

Hertford in 1937 was an all-male college and even mentioning a woman's name at dinner would lead to a scolding – having to drink 2½ pints in one go. Needless to say, her presence was a major breach of the rules. However, it seems to have gone smoothly and Cronin's friends thought they had got away with it, though one remembered that she 'lost her nerve' despite being a 'tough American'. Several days later, the girlfriend's landlady discovered the man's suit in her room. The girlfriend, 'to clear her reputation' as Atkinson phrased it, clarified that a man had not been in her room but that she had worn it herself to the formal dinner. The landlady promptly called Dean Felix Markham, though some accounts suggest it was Bursar WLF Ferrar. Atkinson remembered that

Markham had sat very close but not recognised her. Perhaps more plausibly, organ scholar Robin Miller wrote that Markham told Cronin that he had realised she was a woman but decided to let it slide as it was 'a good lark'. However, now that he had been told by the landlady 'he had to do something', and poor Grover Cronin was soon rusticated for a term. This story shows up again and again in the alumni memoirs. It seems like just about every student at Hertford in 1937 remembered it – it must have been the talk of a very different Hertford than the one we know now.

There are other differences too. Student life was tightly regulated by the college in a way that is starkly different from now. Graham Phipps remembered that the front gates closed just after 9pm, when Great Tom tolled, and all visitors, especially women, had to be out of the college by then. Students could return until 11pm, after which they were required to pay a fine of 9d. Students who tried to re-enter after midnight needed either a 'special arrangement with the porter' or to sneak in through a window at New College Lane. As someone who has come and gone through those gates after midnight, I can confirm that these restrictions are long gone.

Yet, in many other ways, accounts of Hertford felt strikingly familiar. Allan Kerr lived in the Octagon in the late 1920s,

a room above the JCR where I spent a great deal of time, as it is now the Middle Common Room for graduate students. Kenneth Robinson also lived in the Octagon and wrote about its 'wonderful view of the Sheldonian' – the view is as wonderful today. Kerr also remembered that, due to the small size of the college library, he worked at the Codrington Library at All Souls – I wrote much of my dissertation at All Souls due to the ongoing library renovations. Much has changed, but much has stayed the same.

My job as a volunteer was to catalogue these documents – this consisted of first reading through the collection to understand what it looked like and then filling out a detailed spreadsheet where I provided biographical information on the writer, recording their name, matriculation date and subject, and summarised what they wrote, writing this summary in a way that would be useful to researchers. I also identified the most interesting ones to be digitised and available through the college website. This work was time-consuming and requires knowledge and training, but it was incredibly enjoyable and now these records are accessible to any student or researcher who wants to see them. This is the value of supporting college archives. The archives and library at Hertford are a wonderful place and it was my pleasure to be a small part of their team for a few months!



# TRANSLANGUAGING AND THE K-POP PHENOMENON



**Professor Jieun  
Kiaer writes:**

I am presently interested in how K-pop has become a global movement reshaping how audiences engage with Korean culture and language. This genre is marked by a unique linguistic dynamic, coined as translanguaging, that rhythmically blends Korean and English. My research centres on this phenomenon, exploring how hybrid forms of language shape and redefine identity. In a recent publication from Yale, *Whose Language is English?*, I discuss the evolving, hybrid nature of English, particularly among young people, as a language that mixes influences and adapts to new cultural contexts.

In K-pop, translanguaging is more than a linguistic strategy; it's a cultural bridge and a dynamic entry point to contemporary East Asia. Global fans interact in innovative ways, adapting Korean words to make them more accessible. For instance, 'eonni' (elder sister, said by women) is commonly respelled as 'unni', and 'nuna' (elder sister, said by men) becomes 'noona' in fan communities. In 2021, the Oxford English Dictionary added 26 Korean words, including these adapted spellings, acknowledging that K-pop fans actively shape a shared global language that crosses traditional boundaries.

International mobility is at an all-time high, and we see young generations with diverse roots and heritages navigating this landscape. They live in the UK, speaking English daily, yet the complexity of their identities often extends beyond what English alone can capture. The experiences they explore are not easily translatable into the languages of their parents. They crave new words and seek ways to innovate, expressing themselves without the constraints of linguistic rules. In this context,

K-pop becomes a vibrant space for experimentation and self-expression.

This week, Blackpink's Rosé climbed to No. 2 on the British Official Singles Top 100 chart with her single APT., a collaboration with American pop star Bruno Mars. Interestingly, the title APT – pronounced 'aparteu' and signifying 'apartment' – carries a particular cultural significance in Korea, notably different from its equivalent in the UK or US. Since the 2000s South Korea has created a unique urban landscape where dense clusters of high-rise buildings resemble mountains, leading to the popular term 'APT mountain'. Apartments have become neo-liberal symbols of financial success and aspirational living, marking a cultural shift where apartment ownership is highly prized. Unlike apartments in the UK or US, Korean APTs often include shared amenities and foster a distinct community life, reflecting the country's rapid economic growth and changing social values. Rosé's song is one example of how K-pop creates an intriguing space for linguistic and cultural experimentation, weaving together Korean, English, and more, inviting listeners to enjoy multiple layers of cultural inference.

The creativity of K-pop fans also extends to creating new expressions. In 2016, BTS fans (known as the ARMY) adopted the colour purple as a symbol of love, inspired by BTS member V's description of purple representing eternal love. This led to phrases like 'I purple you' and 'borahae' (from 'borasaek', meaning 'purple', and 'saranghae', meaning 'I love you'). These terms have transcended the fandom, even appearing in global advertising, highlighting K-pop's reach and its economic influence.

In the wake of Brexit, the UK is looking for opportunities to redefine its role on the world stage. According to the most recent census, the UK is richly diverse

in languages. However, English as a global lingua franca often overshadows the country's multilingualism, especially its non-European languages. Asian languages in particular remain marginalised in broader cultural conversations. Yet the rise of K-pop suggests there is a collective yearning for new cultural connection with Asia. In this context its influence extends beyond entertainment and embodies a form of cultural diplomacy. British K-pop fans play a vital role in cross-cultural exchange, organising fan-led events, learning Korean, and sharing Korean culture through social media. This grassroots engagement serves as a cultural bridge,

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breaking down traditional barriers and making Korean culture accessible to British audiences.

K-pop is also at the forefront of technological innovation. Recently, a South Korean songwriting competition awarded first place to a song co-written by artificial intelligence (AI), a landmark in music. Kim Hyung Suk, a respected K-pop producer and head judge of the competition, upheld the award, seeing AI as being essential to the future of music. Kim and I share a keen interest in exploring AI's role in music. He has even produced a virtual singer who topped the K-pop charts, hinting at a future where AI-driven artists may become integral to the genre. As an academic visitor at Oxford's Humanities Division and Kellogg College, Kim will discuss AI's role in music, examining whether virtual singers can resonate with audiences as deeply as human artists. This exploration positions K-pop as a pioneer in both cultural and technological realms, reinforcing

its relevance in an evolving digital landscape.

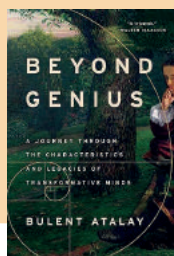
Beyond entertainment, K-pop is emerging as a platform for education. Working with Kim, I have explored ways to make Korean accessible to K-pop fans eager to engage with Korean culture. One of our significant projects, the Ganada song, introduces young listeners to Hangeul (the Korean alphabet) and is now available for educational purposes on Spotify. I wrote the lyrics for the song which was released following a concert at Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre. For me, it shows one way that translanguaging might be at the intersection of research and practice. At the concert, Kim announced that he was waiving the copyright on 1,400 of his songs to enable educators worldwide to use them in classrooms to foster a connection between language learning and music. This project embodies the spirit of translanguaging, blending K-pop with language education.





# HERTFORD IN THE MEDIA

## BOOKS



### Beyond Genius

*Bulent Atalay (MSc Theoretical Physics, 1972)*

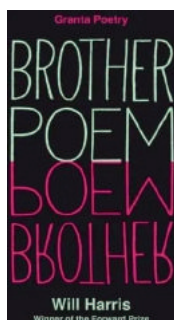
Who among us hasn't read *Hamlet*, listened to the Fifth Symphony, gazed at the Mona Lisa, or marvelled at the three laws of physics and the Theory of Relativity and been struck with the same simple question: *how on earth did they do it?* Genius is a broad and elusive concept, one that is divisive and hard to define – and gravely misunderstood. With clarity and attention to detail, Atalay expertly traces how certain individuals ascended to immortality, and what their lives and legacies reveal about how transformative geniuses are made.



### Never Was

*H. Gareth Gavin (History and English, 2002)*

Part hallucination, part queer bildungsroman, *Never Was* is a beautifully strange novel about grief, addiction and working-class masculinity, taking us from a limbo of lost dreams to a small salt-mining town and exploring the way identity is both inherited and re-invented.



### Brother Poem

*Will Harris (English, 2007)*

At the heart of *Brother Poem* is a sequence addressed to a fictional brother. Through these fragments, Will Harris attempts to reckon with the past while mourning what never existed. With pronominal shifts, broken dialogisms, and obsessive feedback loops, it reflects on the fictions we tell ourselves, and our attempts to live up to the demands of others. From a dimension uncannily like our own, intuited through signs, whispers, and glitches, *Brother Poem* is shadowed by the loss of what can't be seen.



### This Time No Mistakes

*Will Hutton (Principal, 2011-2020)*

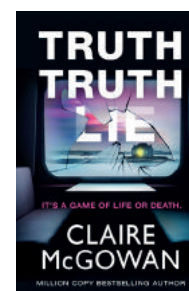
Ex-principal Will Hutton's passionate book shows how the right and left have gone wrong over the course of the last century – and how we can remake a better Britain. Britain's inability to invest in itself is at the heart of our problems. The malevolent thread linking the grievous errors of the last 45 years is the attempt to create the utopia of free markets and a minimal state. The terrible consequences scar our country today. He argues that we need an alternative economic and political philosophy, especially if we are to ward off a nihilist populism.



### Who Needs Gay Bars?

*Greggor Mattson (MPhil Sociology, 1997)*

Jarred by the closing of his favorite local watering hole in Cleveland, Ohio, Greggor Mattson embarks on a journey across the country to paint a complex picture of the cultural significance of these spaces, inside the 'big four' gay cities, but also beyond them. No longer the only places for their patrons to socialise openly, Mattson finds in them instead a continuously evolving symbol; a physical place for feeling and challenging the beating pulse of sexual progress.



### Truth Truth Lie

*Claire McGowan (English and Modern Languages, 2000)*

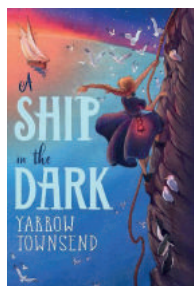
Amira's less than thrilled to be spending the weekend with her husband's university friends. Two of them are hosting a joint fortieth on a private Scottish island, with vintage champagne, expensive gifts, and soaks in the wood-fired hot tub. Despite the luxury, Amira knows she's going to feel left out, not to mention freezing cold and cut off. When they decide to play 'two truths and a lie', anonymously posting three statements about themselves into a box, years of resentment start bubbling to the surface. And as tension rises and secrets are spilled, they can't shake the feeling that they're not the only ones here. Is someone watching them? Someone who wants them dead? Or is it one of them who has murder in mind?



## Backlogues

Joseph Minden (English, 2008)

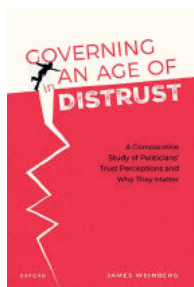
In *Backlogues* Joseph Minden explores how the act of remembering recreates spaces of oppression and how complicity in ancient power structures sustains modern-day violence. Minden writes about the detritus of British history, from the Birkenhead Iron Works to the Bay of Biscay to Cape Town and the Straits of Malacca, all the time weaving a rich tapestry of troubling repetition alongside lenitive melodies and epicurean imagery.



## A Ship in the Dark

Yarrow Townsend (English and Modern Languages, 2009)

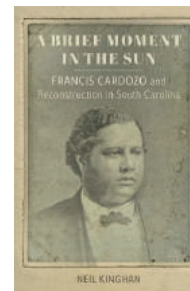
A stunning adventure from the Branford Boase Award-shortlisted author of *The Map of Leaves*. Anna lives on remote Windrose Island, caring for its birds. When her stepfather Caleb is arrested for smuggling, she must prove his innocence. The truth may lie on board the Albatross, a missing whaler. Anna and her friend Mina travel the high seas to find the lost ship before ruthless Society Man, Bartholomew Rime...But without a map, only migrating birds and the song of whales can show the way.



## Governing in an Age of Distrust

James Weinberg (History, 2009)

Dr James Weinberg examines our perception of trust within politics to consider when, why and how politicians do or do not deliver on the promise of democracy.



## A Brief Moment in the Sun

Neil Kinghan (PPE, 1969)

Dr Neil Kinghan completed a PhD at University College London in 2019, 44 years after his MPhil at Hertford. He rewrote his dissertation as a book which was published by Louisiana State University Press. *A Brief Moment in the Sun: Francis Cardozo and Reconstruction in South Carolina* is the first scholarly biography of Francis Lewis Cardozo, one of the most talented and influential African Americans to hold elected office in the South between Reconstruction and the civil rights era. Born to a formerly enslaved African American mother and white Jewish father in antebellum South Carolina, Cardozo led a life of extraordinary achievement as a pioneering educator, politician, and government official. In March 2023 the book was awarded the George C. Rogers Prize by the South Carolina Historical Society for the best history book published in 2022.



## PODCASTS, TELEVISION, AND DOCUMENTARIES



### **The News Agents**

*Tom Fletcher, Principal*

During the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East Tom Fletcher has been featuring on The News Agents podcast as the Middle East expert. He draws on his experience as a diplomat to answer pivotal questions about Lebanon, Israel and Palestine and Iran.



### **The Royal Institute Christmas Lectures**

*Mike Wooldridge, Tutorial Fellow in Computer Science*

Fellow Mike Wooldridge was this year's Royal Institute Christmas lecturer. The prestigious Royal Institute Christmas lectures are the world's longest-running science lecture series, inviting one speaker each year. The three-part title contained 'How to build an intelligent machine', 'My AI life', and 'The future of AI: dream or a nightmare?' In the lectures Mike revealed the huge role AI already plays in our daily lives – sometimes without us even realising it.



### **Grand Theft Hamlet**

*Pinny Grylls (Archaeology and Anthropology, 1996)*

Pinny's debut feature *Grand Theft Hamlet*, co-directed with Sam Crane, is shot inventively entirely inside a computer game. In January 2023 their live *Hamlet* production in Grand Theft Auto won the Stage Innovation Award. Later, the documentary about their crazy adventure staging the show won the Jury Best Feature Documentary at SXSW 2024, and screened at CPDox, Visions du Réel and Hot Docs.

# HERT FORD YEAR



# ACADEMIC OFFICE



**Registrar Megan  
Roper writes:**

**F**ollowing a rather tumultuous 2022-23 academic year, which saw a slew of staffing changes in the Academic Office, the 2023-24 academic year felt comparatively calm. Of course, each academic year brings its own unexpected challenges, and this year was no different in that respect! The members of our team supporting current students, for example, managed a tricky exam season in which the University was juggling more formats of exams than ever before, from traditional three-hour written papers sat in Exam Schools, to computer-based exams sat in Exam Schools, to the online open-book exams that were first instituted in the dark days of the Covid-19 pandemic. The University and its colleges also support ever-growing numbers of students with unique exam adjustments such as extended time, specific equipment, and alternative exam locations, to ensure that all students regardless of disability or condition have a level playing field in their assessments. This requires a vast amount of behind-the-scenes work which is undertaken tirelessly throughout the year, but is particularly a feature in Trinity Term when the bulk of our students' exams take place. And it's not just the Academic Office team who are key players in this task, but also our colleagues in the IT team, the domestic teams, the lodge, and the welfare team who all play important roles in the smooth running of exams in the college. It is just one of the many aspects of student life that can often go unseen despite the dedicated and complex efforts to make it happen.

Our student-facing support team acquired a new member in September 2023 in the form of

our first-ever full-time Student Welfare Lead, Jane Corrigan. Jane's immediate previous career was working as a trained counsellor in schools, and although she is not a counsellor to our students (who enjoy the support of a college counsellor one day per week, in addition to access to all of the counsellors working at the University Counselling Service), her professional background means that she is an excellent first port of call for any of our students who might benefit from confidential, compassionate support. Much-loved by staff and students alike, Jane has truly carved out her niche in college, and we are grateful for her expertise, her good humour, and her dedication to supporting our students in handling the trickier parts of their lives.

While Jane is busy supporting our current students, our Admissions and Outreach team are working hard to support potential and current applicants. Our Outreach Officer, Lucy, spearheaded efforts to work with those schools in our link regions (Medway, Essex, Thurrock, Southend-on-Sea, Peterborough, and the London borough of Camden) that had previously had little or no engagement with Hertford or Oxford more generally. By the end of the academic year, we had seen a 15% increase in the number of schools engaged as well as a 33% increase in the number of students engaged in our various activities and initiatives. We offered pupils a mix of taster days onsite at Hertford, outbound visits to their schools, and online events. We have also started holding online parents' talks to help support parents whose children are considering applying to university but who themselves may not have direct experience with post-secondary

education. Our fabulous team of student ambassadors are an integral part of our outreach work, whether by leading college tours, sitting on panels to take questions from prospective applicants, and occasionally even delivering their own academic taster sessions. Their enthusiasm, lived experience, and empathy provide reassurance to pupils who may otherwise find it difficult to imagine themselves as Oxford students.

Through their work with school pupils, offer-holders, and current students who are anywhere from the first day of their undergraduate degree to viva submission day for our DPhils, the Outreach, Admissions, Academic Office, and Welfare teams work hard to ensure that they provide a welcoming, friendly, inclusive, and supportive environment where all can flourish to the best of their abilities. Whether their work is obvious or behind-the-scenes, they are all vital components of the student experience.



**The University and  
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specific equipment,  
and alternative exam  
locations**



# BURSAR'S REPORT



**Jamie Clark writes:**

I'm delighted to open this short report by recording that we have now broken ground on one of the most significant building developments the college has undertaken in many years – our new library. While the loss of OB Quad for an extended period is regrettable, the end result will be worth the inconvenience. And despite the occasional nuisance of the noise, I do find that overlooking the building works so directly from my window gives a rare insight in to how works of this scale operate and progress. As I write, holes are being drilled in the old chapel foundations, to allow 'pins' to be inserted to prop it up while we excavate underneath. It seems to me a unique privilege to watch parts of buildings being revealed that will not have seen the light of day for a couple of hundred years or so – especially as this exposure will be fleeting, and they will soon be buried again for many more.

Sticking with the theme of building projects, we have quite a few in the pipeline. We set an Estates Strategy five years ago, which was the catalyst for a number of these. This seems an appropriate time to reflect on how we have progressed our ambitions.

Several projects have been completed, and reported on previously. These include a refurbished lodge, relocated academic office, renovation and refurbishment of all Holywell Quad rooms, upgrades to several college houses, and sub-station replacement (rather less glamorous, but vital to meet our power needs as we try to move away from fossil fuel heating). In the process of moving facilities round to support major works such as the library, we have

also repurposed the gym to provide a new games room, relocated the JCR, and opened up new reading rooms on main site and in South Oxford. Most recently, we have opened a brand-new café – 'The Buttery' – in the Old Library in OB3/4. The latter has proved particularly popular, and is a nice counter to the temporary loss of other areas of OB.

Several others are underway:

- The plan first contemplated in the Estates Strategy to establish an underground link between OB and NB continues a steady progress through analysis and feasibility stages.
- Our plans for the sports grounds have developed and expanded far beyond our original thoughts, following a partnership with Exeter College. We are in the midst of a joint planning application for a major development of our respective (adjacent) sites, to establish brand new facilities, including a padel tennis centre, for college and local community use.
- We are now progressing the appointment of a developer to undertake the build of new graduate accommodation at our Winchester Road site, jointly with Kellogg. Once completed, this will provide a dedicated graduate site for around 120 students.
- We have appointed a design team to develop ideas for establishing a new lecture/seminar and meeting centre in Holywell Quad, along with new en-suite student rooms.

On top of this, we have purchased four Oxford properties to expand our student accommodation stock, and a small hotel with 15 high quality en-suite

rooms that extends our range of guest and conference accommodation.

Overall, I think it's fair to say that our Estates Strategy remains a very active programme of work. So forgive me for devoting my report to it, but hopefully readers will find it, as I do, a very tangible measure of progress on which to reflect.



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## LIBRARY



**Librarian Alice  
Roques writes:**

The library team's past year has been spent in our compact but comfortable temporary library in Holywell Quad as the major extension and renovation of the library's main site in OB Quad got underway. Our 'capsule' collection of the 4,000 most heavily used books from the collection is available 24/7, along with 19 study spaces on the main site. Students in South Oxford have also been using our newly created 30-seat reading room in Geoffrey Warnock House. We are delighted to report that Simpkin has relocated his favourite chair in the temporary library. Portraits of the Simpkin dynasty also now adorn the walls of our temporary space. They were commissioned by the JCR and created by Hertford students (Simpkin I and IV: Layla McLeod (Human Sciences, 2022), Simpkin II: Alexander Graham (Chemistry, 2021), Simpkin III: Molly Walker (Biology, 2023)).

Students Evie Craggs and Seerat Gill have been excellent student assistants, ensuring that our temporary library and reading room are used to their best potential and advertising them to the JCR and MCR. We've also enjoyed hosting three work experience pupils from local schools and colleges. Katherine, Hertford's Assistant Librarian, has had excellent results in her first year of her professional library qualification and undertook a work placement in the Kent prison library service. Katherine, Fellow Librarian Professor Emma Smith and I also had a memorable afternoon at the Vice-Chancellor's Awards as nominees in the 'Support for Students' category.

Our temporary library has been very well used over the past year – both in the sense that it's often full and that the students appreciate the space and resources. It has been helpful to



observe our students adapting to a new space as we plan the final details of our newly renovated spaces. Demand for conveniently located quiet, communal study space remains high, but students are also seeking out study spaces for group work, calls with supervisors and online taught classes. Having a water cooler and toilet have been predictably popular improvements. Our print collections have continued to be in demand, and we have made good use of the delivery service from our offsite storage. We were also pleased to have a steady stream of students dropping by our staff office to ask advice on navigating reading lists, referencing, and accessing resources.

Our special collections cataloguing continues in a temporary workspace, with expert cataloguer Sophie Floate unearthing rare and unusual items in the library collection. Recent finds include the only Oxford copies of Streete's 1716 *Astronomia Carolina* and Greaves' 1650 Latin and Persian parallel text edition of Mahmūd Shāh Khuljī's *Astronomica quaedam*. Sophie has also been researching our manuscript collection and you can read more about this on our blog: <https://sites.hertford.ox.ac.uk/library-archives/>

*alchemy/*. We were grateful to alumnus Nick Graves (Chemistry, 1974) for his generous donation of a collection of five works to Hertford. Ranging from the 15th to the 19th century, these texts will be particularly useful in teaching our students about the development of printed books, illustrations and bindings.

Seeing rare books in real life is a particularly special experience and it is always a pleasure to introduce our college members and their guests to items from the collection. Our French

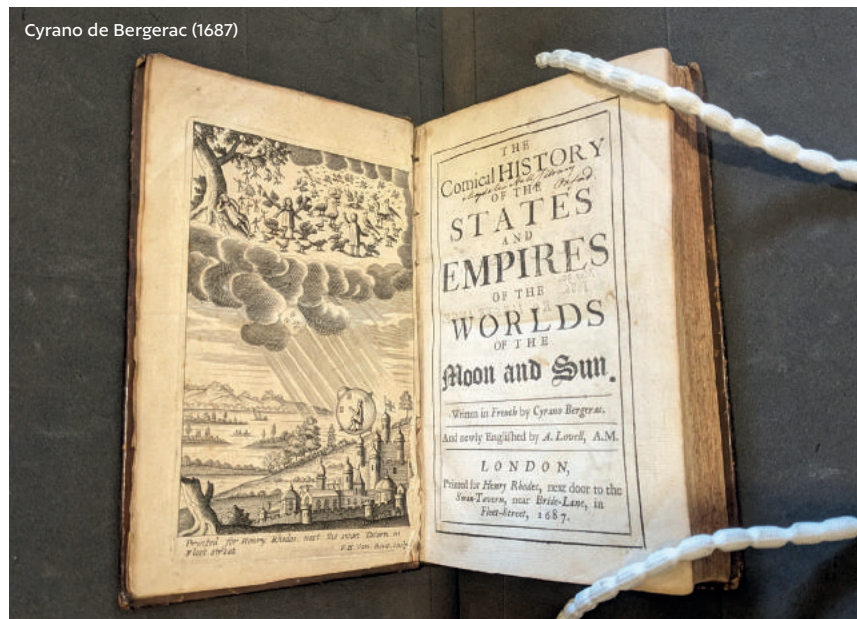


It has been helpful to observe our students adapting to a new space as we plan the final details of our newly renovated spaces





IWD 2024 book display



Cyrano de Bergerac (1687)

undergraduates enjoyed a special session in February, which included *Cyrano de Bergerac* and a large and colourful 18th-century French atlas. We've hosted termly exhibitions of rare books over the past year (one of which we have made available online at <https://sites.hertford.ox.ac.uk/library-archives/library-treasure/>). We also curated a display of modern texts selected by our members for International Women's Day. We rounded off the year with a joint display with Wadham College Library for the 50th International Hume Society Conference, which was organised by Prof Peter Millican. It was a pleasure to share early editions of Hobbes and Descartes alongside treasures from Wadham's collections with such an enthusiastic group of scholars.

While the library has continued to operate as fully as possible from our temporary spaces, the library and archives' building project has continued in the background. Preparatory works have been undertaken over the past year to allow the major stages of the build to be carried out in 2024 to 2026. We are very much looking forward to the new library and the quality and flexibility of the spaces it will offer for study, teaching and sharing our special collections with members, visitors and researchers. If you would like to know more about the library's redevelopment project, please visit our website: <https://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/support-us/library> or contact our Fellow Librarian Professor Emma Smith [emma.smith@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:emma.smith@hertford.ox.ac.uk).

# COLLEGE ARCHIVES

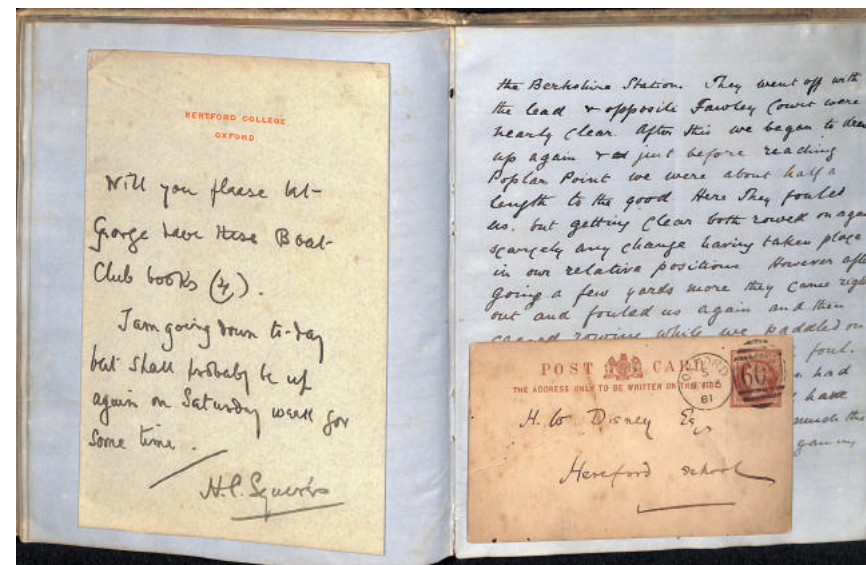


**Archivist Lucy Rutherford writes:**

**T**his year the focus has been on our uncatalogued material. With a lot of help from the Library team we have continued to keep a close eye on the condition of the buttry books and have made good progress checking, listing and photographing the remaining volumes. The buttry books never fail to throw a light on the earlier years of Magdalen Hall in particular and it will be good to be able to make more detailed catalogue descriptions of these unique volumes available to researchers.

The routine work of processing and cataloguing new acquisitions, whether from college departments or external donors, continues. A favourite accession this year has been a book of minutes kept by the Boat Club Secretary from 1868 to 1880, discovered by the donor whilst clearing a relative's house. This volume covers the transition from Magdalen Hall to Hertford College and is a lovely addition to our collections. We have also received a set of photographs relating to Bill Young, the former scout who recorded his memories of working at Hertford between the 1930s and 1960s, donated by his son Paul Young. There is more detail about both these accessions on our blogsite (<https://sites.hertford.ox.ac.uk/library-archives>).

This year for the first time we have benefited from some very helpful volunteers. I am particularly grateful to Ryan Hamilton, a Hertford MPhil student, who volunteered with the archives to catalogue a set of questionnaires sent out in 1985 to the inter-war generation of students. Ryan has written an article for the college magazine (see page 10) and some posts for our blogsite about this fascinating collection, and I am very grateful for all the time and hard work which he put into this project. We also had



An entry from the Boat Club book with a postcard to Henry Disney dated 1881 announcing that Hertford had just won Head of the River

two school student placements for a few weeks in the summer and were delighted to find that the task they most enjoyed was the rather time-consuming activity of digitising the completed questionnaires from this collection!

For information about any of our collections you can browse our catalogue (<https://archive-cat.hertford.ox.ac.uk>) or contact the archivist on [archives@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:archives@hertford.ox.ac.uk).



A favourite accession this year has been a book of minutes kept by the Boat Club Secretary from 1868 to 1880, discovered by the donor whilst clearing a relative's house



## CHAPEL



**Reverend Anthony Buckley writes:**

**L**ife in Hertford Chapel continued apace in 2023-24 and it has been a great privilege to begin as Chaplain last October, following in the footsteps of Mia Smith who was rightly held in such affection and respect. Hannah Towndrow became our Director of Music, leading our large and vibrant choir through until Easter, when Helen Smee continued the good work in Trinity Term. Guiliana Trito was our faithful and skilful Organ Scholar. Our Sunday themes for the three terms focused on the insights of faith with regard to the environment, wisdom and courage.

As well as a range of services through the week, and the welcome of a rich variety of visiting speakers on Sunday evenings, the Chapel continues to be used as a place for personal quiet and peace. In our sometimes busy and complicated lives it is good and valued to have an accessible space that speaks of something bigger than ourselves, that has been used for reflection, hope, prayer and comfort by so many generations of Hertford friends.

And there are the more focused moments: coming in to light a candle for a friend, rushing in to pick up a carnation for an exam, pausing to write a thought or prayer on a pebble, picking up a book to read.

We were reminded in moving and poignant memorial services that this is a place that is good at holding memories, relationships and hope. It is a space for the whole college community, past and present, and it is good to see it used for many concerts and events. It is noticeable how on Sundays we often welcome visitors who have seen the sign in Catte Street, or are family and friends of Hertford students and staff.

The Chapel seeks to be outward-looking, and we were pleased to support two charities through our retiring collections: close to home was Oxford Winter Night Shelter, which offers accommodation to the homeless of Oxford during the winter months, further afield was Mission Aviation Fellowship, which supports isolated communities around the world.

As Trinity Term drew to a close it was a privilege to welcome alumnus Bishop Graham Kings to share some of his story, and the opportunity he had as an undergraduate to grow in faith and understanding (and to mark the 25th anniversary of walking with camels from Oxford to Cambridge, but that is another story).

It has been a new chapter for me and I am very grateful for all the support and wisdom, and particular thanks to Tendai and Bea and an excellent team of Chapel Assistants. Hertford is indeed a friendly community (and a community that wants to be friendly). It is a privilege to be here and my thanks to many who have guided and forgiven as need be! And, if any alumnus would like to be blind copied into my very brief emails with thoughts, quotes and notices, please let me know.



And there are the more focused moments: coming in to light a candle for a friend, rushing in to pick up a carnation for an exam, pausing to write a thought or prayer on a pebble, picking up a book to read



# OPEN ALL HOURS



**A conversation with  
Derek Lear, Head  
Porter**

## How long have you been a porter at Hertford?

About 15 years ago, whilst working with Oxford University Security Services, I popped in to see the former Head Porter Dave Haxell to ask if he had any casual work. Within a week I was covering lodge shifts on a casual basis during my stand downs. In 2018 I left Security Services and joined Hertford on a full-time basis as the North Oxford caretaker and one of the day porters alongside Martyn. As they say, the rest is history...

## How do you start a typical day?

Living in South Oxfordshire, my day starts (and ends) with a ten-mile cycle journey to and from work. I especially enjoy the journey home; it gives me the chance to relax and unwind.

## What happens when you arrive at college?

I always take note of my surroundings when I arrive; the first impression I get is the same one our visitors will share that day.

## What are your normal morning tasks?

The day porters will have just taken over from the nightshift, so will brief me on anything that happened overnight. I will then check the daily occurrence sheet to see what we are expecting for that day and confirm all keys and passes have been correctly accounted for. By the time I have done this, one of my colleagues is handing me a cuppa and we will all have five to ten minutes together catching up and discussing the day ahead.

## What is working in the lodge like?

Working in the lodge is very different to other departments due to its 24/7 365 coverage. The job and its demands change depending on the time of day or night and what day of the week it is. Generally, weekdays tend to hold more reception-based activities, dealing with enquiries and visitors, accepting and sorting incoming deliveries, telephone calls, room bookings, etc. The porters hand over at 3pm and as we move towards the evening things start to change with the arrival of overnight guests and those attending formal dinners. Lockouts tend to be more common during the evening, as are fire alarms, and then it slowly dovetails into the night cycle of college with more security-based activities and responding to any welfare needs, checking and locking down the college, performing regular security checks throughout the night, and responding to any incidents around college and its annex properties. Finally coming full circle, at dawn the night porters will unlock and pass over to the dayshift as the college comes back to life, with most completely unaware the nightshift has been watching over them.

## Talk us through your day.

Unless I have something urgent that requires my immediate attention, I will start with emails, moving on to normal day-to-day tasks – investigating porters' incident reports, lost keys, fire alarm reports, security events, etc., moving on to the more complex regular tasks such as rostering, updating lodge-held information, staff training, security planning or working on annual projects such as bike culls, fire evacuations and

key audits. I also spend a lot of my day responding to requests and dealing with situations that arise as the day progresses.

## How do you keep the team of porters happy?

We work very closely as a team and so our relationships with each other reflect this. My door is always open for any of my colleagues, and for any reason. I have a huge amount of respect for those working shift and know from experience how demanding it is physically, mentally and also socially, having to miss out on things you would like to do or attend because you are required to work. Some of the porters will be covering the lodge while we sit down to our Christmas lunch or head out for our new year's celebrations. This year I have organised a social evening



Working in the lodge is very different to other departments due to its 24/7 365 coverage. The job and its demands change depending on the time of day or night and what day of the week it is

for the full-time porters (with very grateful thanks to my casual porters for stepping in!) to enjoy some very rare social time together that we can all attend at the same time. Besides that, lots of cake and sweets are always welcome.

### What do you like about your job?

I enjoy the variety of my role: every day is different and you never know what is coming next. The job requires a methodical approach coupled with experience gained over a long period of time. I enjoy puzzle-solving, which is very useful for this role.

### Do you have any funny porter stories?

As the official keeper of the cat, I am sure most would like to know of my companion's exploits! Simpkin and I have an unusual relationship. He tries to scarper whenever I am close just in case I am going to whisk him off to the vet or stick some horrible stuff on the back of his neck. I do, however,

receive the calls and emails to 'please come and collect your cat!' He has on occasion broken into Trinity lodge and scoffed all the cat food, been evicted from Exeter Library, found his way into Teddy Hall and refused to leave the nice comfy chair in their bursary, but his greatest achievement was when the college put a tracking collar on him to get some idea of where he was going. Late that night, somewhere between Merton College and St Catz, Simpkin managed to do a Houdini, escaping the collar which then duly ran out of battery and was never seen again. Guess he let us know what he thought of that idea!

### What do you like to do on your day off?

I am very lucky to live in the countryside very close to the river and some beautiful walks. I also enjoy a bit of pleasure cycling, swimming and something called Piyo (you can Google it). I also find cooking very relaxing and rewarding, especially when you get it right!



# SUBJECT REPORTS



## ARCHAEOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY

Professor Lambros Malafouris writes:



Many congratulations to all our students for their academic achievements. We were particularly delighted that Evie Raja was awarded a First Class degree. We wish our third-year students the best in the next step.

Last year we welcomed Dr Dylan Gaffney as the new Tutorial Fellow in Archaeology, taking up the position of Associate Professor of Palaeolithic Archaeology held since the early 2000s by Professor Nick Barton. Dylan has been busy teaching lectures on human evolution alongside tutoring Hertford students in world archaeology. Dylan's research is focused on early human dispersal and behavioural changes in the islands of Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Research released this year by Dylan and his team reported the earliest known settlement of the Pacific

over 55,000 years ago, along with the earliest known plant artefact made by our species outside of Africa. In July and August, he took Oxford Archaeology & Anthropology students (including from Hertford; see image) to undertake survey, excavation, and ethnography in the Raja Ampat islands at the far western edge of the Pacific. Excavation focused on cave and rock shelter sites where students learned the basics of digging, finding pottery and stone tools from thousands of years ago. Survey involved exploring tropical beaches and mountains for sites left behind by early island colonists. Ethnographic studies included discussions with local people about how they hunt, garden, gather food, and perceive the wider environment, as well as how people are negotiating traditional technologies like pottery and canoe production in the 21st century. This is a long-running project and Dylan hopes that it will support Hertford students doing their first-year fieldwork for several years to come.

Last May, in collaboration with our undergraduate students, we organised an academic enrichment seminar with Patrick Roberts, who is Lead Scientist of the Department of Archaeology at the Max Planck. The seminar was funded through the Hertford Academic Enrichment Fund. Professor Roberts gave a talk on the topic of 'Geoanthropology' followed by questions and discussion with the students.

Professor Lambros Malafouris continued his anthropological research in Greece for the HANDMADE project <https://handmade.web.ox.ac.uk/>, which is funded by the European Research Council. He also convened the *EnvironMental: Material Engagement and Basic Self-Disorders*



Hertford students look out over lowland rainforest and marine bay during archaeological survey in the Raja Ampat Islands of West Papua (photo Dylan Gaffney).

in *Schizophrenia* workshop at Hertford from 30 June to 3 July 2024 (see <https://www.arch.ox.ac.uk/article/dr-lambros-malafouris-hosts-environmental-material-engagement-and-basic-self-disorders>). The workshop is part of a new cross-disciplinary collaboration aiming to investigate how materiality (in the broadest sense of things, spaces, technologies and environments) relates to those aspects of embodied self-experience that we see disrupted across the schizophrenia spectrum. In September 2024 Lambros was Visiting Fellow at the 'Umberto Eco' International Centre for Humanistic Studies and the Institute of Advanced Studies, Università di Bologna.



Excavation focused on cave and rock shelter sites where students learned the basics of digging, finding pottery and stone tools from thousands of years ago

## BIOCHEMISTRY

Professor Alison Woollard writes:



No fewer than seven students graduated in Biochemistry this year – the largest ever cohort from our expanding subject. As usual we were proud of everyone in equal measure and felt privileged to be part of all the individual journeys that go into undergraduate life. Challenges overcome, as well as prizes won, provide an important opportunity for celebration, reflection and zest for what comes next. We tutors are very lucky to be a part of that. This year, over half the cohort are staying in biochemistry of one sort or another, working on problems as diverse as the cellular basis of memory formation, *Drosophila* development, and structure determination of proteins involved in parasite infections. The others are taking their well-honed scientific skills and applying them to the financial and other sectors. They all have excellent

plans, and we are looking forward to following their various careers with great interest. Whatever our students do, we hope they stay in touch, update us on all their achievements, both personal and professional, and come to visit!

One of the best things about our students is that they all seem to learn together through the good times and the bad – supporting, encouraging, teasing and chastising as required. We had a wonderful couple of evenings hearing the fourth-year students present their final-year research projects (together with pizza and beer!) – a real highlight of the year, and a fantastic insight into what research projects entail for the students coming next. Just as seven students have graduated, we have seven Freshers coming into the first year. I love the sense of renewal that the beginning of each new academic year brings and can't wait to get to know the new lot.

A busy year, as ever, for us tutors. Petros is on sabbatical for the next year – and off to China to work with collaborators. It'll be fascinating to hear all about that! Delia has been very busy with the new MSc in Genomic Medicine that she is leading, and I have been heavily involved in a new project establishing my favourite nematode *C.elegans* as a new model system for exploring the evolution of pesticide resistance – a big problem in agriculture akin to antimicrobial resistance in human health.

Overall, another year of great students, impressive results, interesting research and frenetic activity. I wouldn't have it any other way.



“

One of the best things about our Biochemistry students is that they all seem to learn to learn together through the good times and the bad – supporting, encouraging, teasing and chastising as required



## BIOLOGY

Professor Martin Maiden  
writes:



This year saw seven Hertfordians complete their Biology degrees with either a BA, from the three-year version of the course, or MBIol, after completing four years of study with us: very many congratulations to Amy, Carola, Flynn, Harry, Nell, Poppy, and Stefania. Every Oxford journey is unique and completing it is a great achievement, but this year special mention must go to Nell, for being top of the Biology cohort in both the third and fourth years of her course, and Flynn for achieving an almost unbelievable 92% mark for his MBIol year. Unsurprisingly, Flynn was awarded the Departmental Research Project Prize for Animal Behaviour and Physiology. As a consequence, this year the Hertford Biology Prize is deservedly shared between Nell and Flynn for their outstanding achievements. We shall miss all our graduating students and

wish them the very best for the future.

The four-year Biology course is now very well established, along with Biology being a two-fellow subject at Hertford. We missed Beth this year, who was on maternity leave following the birth of her son Aidan, and we are looking forward to her returning in Michaelmas. Jeri, Beth's predecessor, also gave birth to a son, Finlay, last summer – many congratulations to them both. We were very fortunate to have Talya Hackett ably covering Beth's teaching and congratulate Talya on being appointed to a lectureship at the University of Leeds – Oxford's loss is most certainly Leeds's gain – and we wish her every success in her new role. Timothy has continued to be a fantastic support to our students, doing his best (with regular success!) to convert at least some of them to the 'green side'. Very much to his surprise, Martin was elected by his colleagues to be the Head of Department of Biology for five years from October 2024. He will be the first single head of the new department, following the recent merger of Plant Sciences and Zoology, and will have the responsibility of overseeing the move into the new Life and Mind Building, which shall certainly be a challenge. He shall continue to be closely involved in Hertford teaching, a job that he has now been doing for 20 years and which he would not relinquish for the world.

Socially, the Darwin dinner, joint with Biochemistry and Human Sciences, continues to be a highlight of the year, and we look forward to welcoming recent(ish) alumni back again next February. This year we were ably entertained by Tom Hart of penguin watch – a Hertford alumnus himself – giving amongst other things invaluable life advice on footwear and a novel



perspective on the Hertford hardy perennial, Clive Hamblen. Finally, we have the Schools Dinner photograph for 2024 (L-R: Harry Savage, Carola Pagano, Flynn Bizzell, Talya Hackett, Timothy Walker, Nell Miles, Poppy Emson, Martin Maiden, Beth Mortimer, Stefania Karlsdottir).

“  
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February



## CHEMISTRY

Fernanda Duarte writes:



This past academic year at Hertford has flown by. It feels like just yesterday that we welcomed five new chemists into our ranks: Applelin, Kelvin, Thomas, Tresa, and Tyron.

The academic year began with an exciting trip to the Diamond Light Source, a synchrotron light facility located at the Harwell Research Complex just outside of Oxford. During this visit, the students attended a lecture on the science being done at this facility, from drug discovery to material science and more. The group then toured the facility and heard first-hand from researchers about their ongoing projects and experiments. This trip served as a nice welcoming event, enabling students, especially new ones, to interact with peers, broaden their horizons, and learn more about cutting-edge chemistry research. Opportunities for socialising also came during the Christmas drinks

celebration and the College Chemistry Dinner, where the fourth years entertained us with amusing after-dinner puzzles and quizzes.

Our group had much to celebrate academically. Lizzie, Sam, Joe, Krystian and Alice successfully completed their Part II research. Joe has since joined Budweiser, a major brewery, and visited the largest wine cellar in the world, located in Moldova. He has promised to visit us and tell us all about it! Sam has started his PhD in ultrafast condensed-phase dynamics at the University of Bristol, while Lizzie and Krystian are pursuing DPhil studies, in chemical biology and computational chemistry respectively, at Oxford. Last year, Sam also took the initiative to create the Hertford College Squash Club, which won the inter-college league division; he is keen to see more chemists joining the team in the future.

The summer also provided unique research opportunities for many of our students, giving them hands-on experience in scientific research. Abi (third year) received a highly competitive Royal Society of Chemistry Bursary to work in the Fishwick group at the University of Leeds. Her two-month placement focused on synthesising allosteric DNA gyrase inhibitors as potential treatments for antimicrobial resistance in tuberculosis. Abi used a computational approach to design novel molecules and synthesised key intermediates for their generation; these potential inhibitors are now undergoing biological testing. Joe (third year) took on a summer project in the Duarte group, funded by the Hertford Summer Bursary, where he gained further expertise in Python and explored novel approaches for studying metalloenzyme inhibitors. Kelvin (first year) was introduced to

quantum chemistry and reaction modelling, gaining knowledge of the theory and techniques and research methodologies.

Our academic team has been just as active. While we were sad to see Patrick go, we are thrilled about his new appointment as an Assistant Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Nottingham, where he will focus on developing experimental techniques to study the ultrafast electronic and nuclear dynamics of ionic molecules.

Mike expanded his already impressive clarinet collection; after purchasing a lathe, he has been using his spare time to create an extension for the contrabass to play even lower notes. His chemistry has come in handy, too, applying it to nickel-plating his metal work.

Claire, after a busy three-year term as Senior Tutor, is enjoying a well-deserved sabbatical and will resume teaching in Trinity Term. She is also founding a new spin-out company, Mode Labs, with Hertford alumnus Dean James, former Oxford Chemistry postdoc Daniel Miles-Barrett, and Jason Smith from Oxford Materials. The company's initial aim is to help water companies comply with environmental regulations and, in doing so, help clean up UK rivers. Also related to rivers, but not directly to Chemistry, Claire won a silver medal at the Marathon Kayaking National Championships in July and was the fastest woman (just!) in the recent Glasgow to Edinburgh kayak challenge.

It has been a bustling and rewarding time for me. I was honoured to be a finalist for the 2024 Blavatnik Award in Chemistry, a recognition that reflects the incredible work of my team (I was also lucky to have the first years join me

for the video filming!). I was also proud to see my first PhD student, Alistair Sterling, establish his own research group in the USA.

Reflecting on the past year, we take pride in the accomplishments and contributions of every member of our community. We look forward to another busy and exciting year and we wish all of our chemists and their families an excellent year ahead.



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## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Professor Michael Wooldridge writes:

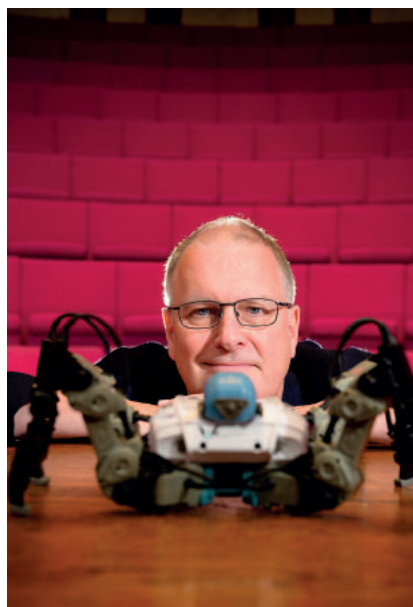


simply couldn't happen in the UK.

Much of 2023 for me was taken up with dealing with the explosion of interest in Artificial Intelligence (AI) caused by the success of ChatGPT. It is often hard to know when we are living through a watershed year in technology, but we can be confident that 2023 was such a year. It was the year that AI went viral, with ChatGPT becoming the fastest-adopted online tool in history (it took the World Wide Web six years to get to 100 million users; ChatGPT acquired that many users in as many months).

I found myself giving briefings to a wide range of government groups on how Large Language Models work and what they can do. This led to my appointment as Specialist Advisor (SPAD) to the House of Lords Inquiry on Large Language Models and Generative

By the start of 2023, the traditional academic cycle of conferences and meetings had reverted to pre-pandemic norms, and it was wonderful to see my DPhil students have the opportunity to travel and meet other academics in a way they hadn't been able to since March 2020. Having the opportunity to present and defend your work to other academics is a crucial part of becoming a member of the academic community, and the networks one builds up are essential for careers. You can't do this over Zoom. For me, the opening up meant travel to Singapore and Macao. I visit Singapore regularly, but Macao was a first. While the Macao climate in mid-August was punishing, the experience was something else: everything cheerfully over the top, on a scale that



Paul Wilkinson Photography



Paul Wilkinson Photography

AI. I met with the inquiry members to help them understand the technology, formulate their various evidence sessions, and review evidence. We met in the Lords more or less weekly from September through to January. It was an extraordinary thing to be part of, and immensely refreshing to see such a crucial part of UK government in practice. The report was published in February, and I am delighted to endorse its findings.

As if regular visits to the House of Lords was not enough excitement, in the summer of 2023 I was invited to give the 2023 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures, in the 198th year of the series. The Christmas Lectures are one of the most cherished events in the UK science calendar – I grew up watching luminaries like Carl Sagan

and David Attenborough give them. Since the 1960s, the lectures have been broadcast on TV. Autumn was spent planning and rehearsing, with activity reaching a climax with filming week in mid-December. And then, at about 7pm on the evening of 12 December, I stood outside the famous lecture theatre in the Royal Institution. The AV team gave me a thumbs-up, and I was on. I don't think I can convey the full range of emotions in that moment – a mixture of pride, excitement, and sheer terror is probably closest. Over the next few days, we welcomed a huge range of guests, and saw some fantastic state-of-the-art AI demos and experiments. The three lectures were broadcast by the BBC over Christmas week, reaching more than 1.5 million viewers.

## ECONOMICS

**Professor Elizabeth Baldwin writes:**



she has recently finished her doctorate in econometrics. Sadly this was our last year with her, as she is now a lecturer in the University of Manchester. Priya is still working on her doctorate, looking at tax and industrial policy in developing countries.

Our undergraduate Finalists worked hard and did well – including one getting the highest First Class degree in PPE in the University! And our Freshers made a terrific start, with half of both PPE and E&M being awarded distinctions. We look forward to following their future progress, and to hearing back from those who have left.

This has been another successful year for Economics. It was bookended by two excellent reunions.

In September 2023, we had a fantastic PPE reunion. It was great to catch up with our more recent graduates, as well as meeting many from the past. And in September 2024 we finally held the Schools Dinner for the E&M cohort finishing in 2020. A wonderful bunch who worked very well together throughout their degrees – including, importantly, that final term when they were exiled from Oxford – and who were wildly successful. I hope we'll have the rest of the 'catch-up' Schools Dinners soon.

Our core teaching team of myself (Elizabeth), Federica and Richard was joined this year by Judith Guo (teaching QE) and Priya Manwaring (joining me in teaching Prelims microeconomics). Judith taught with us last year as well;

**In September 2023, we had a fantastic PPE reunion. It was great to catch up with our more recent graduates, as well as meeting many from the past**

## ENGINEERING

**Professor Thomas Morstyn writes:**



**I've greatly enjoyed my first year of tutorials with our students and I'm grateful to Manolis and the rest of the college community for making me feel welcome and at home here at Hertford**

In the 2023-24 academic year, we welcomed five new Engineering Freshers to the college. Our five second-year students had their first form of examination this year and progressed well into year three. Six of our third-year students progressed into year four with strong performances, with three of them currently performing at a First-Class level. Our three fourth-year students performed very well, and Sam Bailie graduated with a First. They have all had four excellent years with the college and we wish them all the very best with the next chapters of their careers. We have also very much enjoyed having Nal Xaviera with us from Princeton University this year. Umar Ash-Shafi completed his fourth year at Princeton, and next year Finlay Jordan will be taking up the exchange program.

This year I joined Hertford College

as Tutorial Fellow in Engineering to work alongside Professor Manolis Chatzis and the rest of the engineering teaching team. My teaching is focused on electrical engineering, and in the Department of Engineering Science my research group works on the design of power grid control systems and energy markets to help with the net-zero transition. I've greatly enjoyed my first year of tutorials with our students and I'm grateful to Manolis and the rest of the college community for making me feel welcome and at home here at Hertford. My predecessor, Professor Tony Wilson, taught at Hertford from 1984 to 2023. He established a strong foundation for engineering teaching at the college and made significant research contributions in optical microscopy, leading to two spin-out companies and multiple prizes including a Queen's Award for Enterprise.



## ENGLISH

**Professor David Dwan writes:**



about creative and critical writing. Noreen is an award-winning non-fiction writer, as well as an academic at the University of Bristol, and her inspiring guidance was especially appreciated by third years working on dissertations.

Tutors' news: warm congratulations to our Old English lecturer, Dr Rachel Burns, who has secured a fellowship at Jesus College. We have appointed Dr Amanda Holton to teach early literature from Michaelmas 2024. David Dwan has been finishing a book on ethics and fiction for Princeton University Press. Emma Smith has been working on an edition of *Twelfth Night* for the Arden Shakespeare, and has joined the Board of the Royal Shakespeare Company. She was a consultant on the BBC series 'Shakespeare: Rise of a Genius', broadcast in autumn 2023.

A highlight for Hertford English this year was the alumni reunion in the spring. It was great to see so many people from different generations of the subject, and to see the places their subject had taken them since Hertford. Post-English careers were a prominent topic of discussion. English is thriving at Oxford, but there are problems for subject numbers across the higher education sector, and a declining number of students opting for literature A-level. In part this is about career pathways, so we want our current students to have a wider understanding of where to go next, including towards creative industries. The Development Office's evolving work on careers connections will build on these conversations.

For current students, an all-year writing workshop with Dr Noreen Masud was a great opportunity to think



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## GEOGRAPHY

**Dr Janet Banfield writes:**



Hertford Geographers have enjoyed another productive and successful year, with three of our Finalists securing First-Class degrees overall and four students achieving First-Class marks for their dissertations. Special congratulations go to Ellie Micklewright, who received the J.C.A. Meldrum Fieldwork Prize for the best physical geography fieldwork report and the H.O. Beckit Prize for the best physical geography dissertation. Not only that, but Ellie's dissertation has been put forward for no less than three external awards, from the British Hydrological Society, the Rural Geography Research Group, and the British Society for Geomorphology. First years are also celebrating a strong set of results, with three Distinctions among them. It is always exciting, and a great pleasure, to watch the early dissertation ideas develop into fully planned projects, and this year's array

of topical interests, methodological preferences and travel aspirations are fully consistent with the diversity, ambition and thirst for knowledge that so characterise Hertford Geographers. From the navigation of food allergies in the shifting geographies of progression from school to university, through the geopolitics of football and the biopolitics of the scarred body in the fashion industry, to the dynamism of identity in relation to diasporic practices of citizenship, among others, we look forward to seeing what second years will discover during their fieldwork, whether undertaken in the UK or abroad. As always at this time of year, we wish the departing Finalists well for their future endeavours (keep in touch – we love to hear from you!), and we look forward to welcoming the first years back for the start of FHS in October, when they will no longer be newcomers but 'old hands'. With the size of the Geography cohort being reduced in recent years, this year will be the last when we have such a well-populated School's Dinner (see next page), but what a dinner it was!

The students are not the only ones who have been hard at work this year:

Professor Jamie Lorimer, Tutorial Fellow, has continued his research on how farmers and other land managers are adapting UK land management to the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss. This has involved a range of projects including work with postdoctoral researchers and PhD students exploring: the rise of regenerative agriculture as a new model of farming practice; why we disagree about the aesthetics of rewilding; and the emergence of urban rewilding focusing on London. This work is carried out under the umbrella of three large research projects:



the Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery, the Wellcome Trust funded *Livestock Environment and People* programme; and the *Canadian Institute for Advanced Research* programme on *Humans and the Microbiome*. Jamie recently published a new textbook introducing the field of 'more-than-human' geography. This approach explores what happens to human geography when we take seriously how plants, animals, and technologies shape spatial practices. It challenges the idea of humans as separate from the world and outlines an approach to geography that understands humans as immersed in the world and entangled with other beings and landscapes.

Dr Janet Banfield, Stipendiary Lecturer, has focused on innovative

approaches to academic skills support this year, applying her non-representational and arts-based research interests to her teaching practice, including giving visual as well as verbal feedback on some tutorial essays. By working with essay narratives in visual form, whether while drafting an essay or evaluating it, Jan sought to make accessible those qualities of an essay that do not reside within the words themselves but that are important to an essay's overall quality: how it 'hangs together' or feels. In striving to translate written text into visual expression, the limits of language are encountered and that which lies beyond words can be explored, with this more intuitive dimension casting new light on the explicit cognitive

aspects of the work. Jan wrapped up the year with a workshop for interested students (thank you one and all!) to evaluate these approaches and consider options for their further development. At the time of writing, a paper to present and promote such approaches is under development.

Dr Linda Speight, Career Development Fellow, continues to explore making better use of weather forecasts to improve preparedness for extreme events. In January Linda co-organised a successful workshop with the Environment Agency and the University of Leeds to bring together the forecasting community and develop innovative ideas to address the challenge of surface water flooding, an ever-growing risk in urban areas. As a keen wild swimmer, Linda has also been following the debates about pollution of our waterways closely. She has supported PhD research to publish a comprehensive review of how bathing water quality is forecast at beaches around the UK, and has a new John Fell funded project starting in August looking at how to make better use of the growing body of citizen science data on water quality. One of our excellent first years was awarded a Hertford studentship to start work on this with Linda over the vacation. Linda continues to serve on the Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) of the UK Flood Hydrology Roadmap. Alongside other colleagues in SoGE, she is looking forward to welcoming the British Hydrological Society conference to Oxford in September.

During 2023-24 Professor David Thomas, Professorial Fellow, completed, with contributions from four colleagues, his latest book, a major public-facing accessible science book on deserts: *The World Atlas of Deserts and Drylands*, published by Princeton University Press, which at 400 pages with over 250 illustrations is actually much more than an atlas! He also continued work on his Leverhulme-funded grant focusing on the relationship between changes in the Indus Valley civilisation and environmental change, and worked on several projects in southern Africa's drylands.

Dr Louise Slater, Tutorial Fellow, is entering the fourth year of her 'Future Leaders Fellowship', where she leads a team exploring the factors driving changes in global flood risk. Her group has recently developed a high-resolution map of global rivers called 'GRIT' (Global River Topology) which includes essential details like river bifurcations, and the first global dataset of bankfull river discharge – key components for improving global flood models. As of 1 October 2024, Louise will take on a new challenge as the Associate Head of the Social Sciences Division for Research and Impact. In her research time, Louise continues to contribute to her field by editing the journals *HESS* and *Earth's Future*. Louise recently became Science Officer for the European Geosciences Union, where she chairs the subdivision on Hydrological Forecasting. Additionally, she currently chairs the Scientific and Technical Advisory Group of the UK Flood Hydrology Roadmap.

## HISTORY

Professor David Hopkin  
writes:



Congratulations to the History Finalists in 2024, four of whom got Firsts, while five received upper second degrees. Particular mention should go to Lorenzo Galli-Zugaro, who wins the College History Prize, and to Zoe Davis (History and Politics), who wins the college's Boase-Dangerfield Prize, awarded for best performance in one of the joint schools with History. We should also mention the achievement of Jenny Grehan-Bradley, who achieved her First in very difficult circumstances. Perhaps one of these will go on to emulate our last year's graduate Ciara Garcha, recently named one of '30 under 30' young historians to watch in the *BBC's History* magazine.

The Hertford History tutors also congratulate Bridget Phillipson MP on her appointment as Secretary of State for Education. Bridget graduated

from Hertford with a degree in History and French in 2005. The History and Modern Languages (HML) degree continues to be one of Hertford's great strengths. We take more applicants for this degree than any other college: for example, in 2024 we have four HML Finalists, two in Spanish and two in French, and we have four HML Freshers, three in French and one in Spanish.

However, this commitment is threatened by the decline in language teaching in UK schools. Only about half of all UK state sector schools make any provision for language tuition at A-level, and the number of students taking a modern language A-level has declined by about a third over the last 20 years, with German particularly badly affected (while Spanish has bucked the trend somewhat). Brexit, and the decision to leave the ERASMUS scheme, has also affected the ability of schools to organise school trips and exchanges, hire language assistants, etc. They have also made it much more difficult (and expensive) for universities to enable their students to study abroad. (For more information see the British Council report *Language Trends 2023*.) No doubt the new Secretary of State has a lot in her inbox, but we hope that language learning will feature somewhere on her to-do list.

## HUMAN SCIENCES

Clive Hambler writes:



Both Finalists won Firsts this year, and we have had seven Distinctions in Prelims in the last three years. Well done to the last three cohorts for a remarkable set of results after remarkable teamwork.

One of our incoming Finalists comes back from her sabbatical year as a University Student Union welfare representative – where the anthropology, sociology, behaviour, physiology and other topics of her studies may have helped in such sensitive and vital work (I've not asked her!).

The subject feels more secure in the University since Anthropology has linked some fellowships at a few colleges with responsibility to teach the degree and admit students. But there is a long way to go to turn the many fine words about interdisciplinary

work into substantive and indefinite support from the University.

My research has been largely paused to deal with domestic matters this year. Despite ample opportunity, nobody has yet produced scientific evidence disproving my published work on carbon dioxide, oxygen, methane, argon and sea ice. Indeed, new satellite measures of global carbon dioxide distributions support it – with the Greenland Sea area showing curious dynamics, as I predicted. So I remain



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convinced that Net Zero will have near zero effect on carbon dioxide, but wildlife and the economy will suffer increasingly seriously under extensive, expensive development of renewable energy and the inevitable storage and backup for it.

Related to this – for obvious reasons – I've been increasingly involved in public efforts to protect free speech in Britain and in universities. My conclusions are not very remarkable amongst academics globally, yet many are now too afraid to express views openly. I remember when my proposal of rewilding in Britain was aggressively and widely rejected, so I am not afraid of the 'mainstream', and that's a benefit of what I learned as a tutorial student.

My co-authored report on improving scientific advice to governments has been published, drawing lessons from Covid and climate debates. It may be no coincidence that the Public Inquiry into

Covid has advocated the 'red teams' I argue are vital for strong challenge to advice and policy. This should reduce the number of policy, financial, welfare and ethical mistakes. Similarly, crowd review, including on social media, will more rapidly spot scientific and policy errors.

So, the careful, critical and original thinking that has served our students so well in exams is a life-skill Oxford can still reward – but students and alumni and staff need to continue to guard against erosion of academic freedom. Human Scientists have the cross-disciplinary skills to do this particularly effectively, and I look forward to the next cohort of three arriving this October, wishing them the best of luck – with no pressure – for building on the successes of our alumni. And I look forward to more Gaudies and other reunions, expecting lively constructive criticism and fun.

## LAW

Dr Aruna Nair writes:



This has been an exciting year for Law at Hertford. We held our inaugural Law Network Drinks in London, which included an excellent and eye-opening panel discussion on the theme of 'how to be a human in the legal profession'. Several of the second-year students were able to attend and gained a good deal from the experience; their reflections on the evening can be found online at <https://sites.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge/the-hertford-law-network-event/>. Cameron Samuel Keys, a second-year lawyer, won an essay competition hosted by the Tolerance Means Dialogue organisation and joined a panel discussion on the theme of intersectionality at Exeter College, sharing the stage with Professor Jonathan Herring of Exeter College and Professor Robin Fretwell Wilson of Tolerance Means Dialogue and the University of Illinois; many congratulations to him! We also

congratulate all this year's Finalists who achieved good results this year. We are delighted by their accomplishments and particularly congratulate those who have combined excellent results in Finals with success in the difficult task of obtaining training contracts, securing pupillages, and obtaining places on excellent postgraduate programmes for further study.

In other news, Dr Kate Greasley was awarded a substantial grant from the AHRC to undertake a project entitled *Sexual Consent in the Post-#MeToo World: A Study in Philosophy and Law*; do keep an eye out for the related series of filmed interviews with scholars working on questions concerning consent that will begin to appear online next year. Meanwhile, Dr Aruna Nair has been awarded a British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship for the 2025 calendar year to work on a monograph on the theme of priorities in property law. Finally, and most excitingly of all, we welcomed the most recent addition to the Hertford law community, Kate's daughter, June Rose Kimel, who was born on 5 June 2024. June has already attended an informal seminar on the theme of deception and consent at Kate's home in August 2024, undoubtedly the first of many to come.

## MANAGEMENT

Dr Steve New writes:



The ever-growing community of Hertford Economics and Management alumni were cheered by the news that Eamon Jubbawy (2010) was rewarded for his efforts with his firm Onfido (started with other Oxford students Husayn Kassai and Ruhul Amin while an undergraduate), which was sold to US firm Entrust for a reported \$650million in February. Management Tutor Steve New periodically picks up the original business plan and wistfully wonders if he should be a bit more proactive in seeking to invest in student startups...

The year also saw a welcome return of Hertford MBA alumnus Dave Shull (2003) who in January gave a riveting talk to current students on his career, leading to his now senior position at HP, after successfully leading The Weather Channel, TiVo and Poly. Students also appreciated an online talk from more recent Economics and Management superstar Kresimir Krajnovic (2017),

who offered wise words on exam preparation and careers.

Accounting Tutor Anette Mikes led an outstanding event at the end of the academic year, building on our relationship with science fiction grandmaster Kim Stanley Robinson. He and green economist Kate Raworth (author of *Doughnut Economics*) participated with other Oxford luminaries (including Hertford's own Jamie Lorimer) on a successful event at the Sheldonian Theatre, 'Inventing a Sustainable Political Economy for the Climate Crisis', which formed, along with a return visit of the 'S30' group of Chief Sustainability Officers, the launchpad for 'The Oxford Ministry for the Future' – an emergent Hertford College initiative to galvanise debate and progress in the face of the climate crisis.

Steve New was surprised to find himself on the front page of the *Daily Telegraph* in December, which ran a story headed 'Oxford encourages students to use AI when writing essays'. The report (happily, accurately!) described our efforts to steer students towards using generative artificial intelligence as an augmentation rather than a replacement for thinking.

We were again delighted by excellent results for students reading the BA in Economics and Management, the MBA and the Masters in Financial Economics, and value greatly the ongoing contact we have with alumni from these and related degrees from across the years.

## MATHEMATICS

Professor Alan Lauder writes:



This last academic year has been a welcome one of continuity rather than upheaval in Mathematics at Hertford. Dawid and I have continued to be supported by our excellent lecturers Bohao, Maria and Thiziri. Both Maria and Thiziri are working on their doctorates (in mathematical physics and statistics) while inspiring the next generation at Hertford.

Bohao finished his DPhil some time ago, but happily has been able to stay on teaching while working part-time for an AI start-up, developing some kind of clever tool for medical testing. Sounds fascinating (and perhaps lucrative) to me, and just goes to show how useful and versatile mathematics can be. Indeed, Bohao was explaining to me recently over lunch that in fact 'Artificial Intelligence' is just some ingenious rebranding of statistical programming. In other words, mathematics.

I'm pleased to report that our Mathematics students have overall been doing very well, with a sprinkling of First-Class degrees among their good results. I can't help feeling, though, that this generation have been hit rather hard by the pandemic, after having had a bumpy few years. In Mathematics, and I think too across the college, we have seen a rise in the number of students suspending studies for a period. I do feel for them all and hope we can eventually put this well behind us.

On a personal level, I was lucky enough to have a sabbatical in Hilary Term and spent my time figuring out patterns in my work in number theory.

It was very taxing but tremendously enjoyable, and I would be embarrassed to call such an indulgence work. I won't bore you with any details. What is more exciting, though, is that my famous colleague in number theory in Oxford, Andrew Wiles, during Hilary Term gave a seminar announcing something. No one is quite sure exactly what that something is. But some readers may recall in 1993 he announced a proof of Fermat's Last Theorem at a seminar in Cambridge, having worked on it in secret for seven years.

He has been silent for the last 25, and it seems for much of that time has been working secretly on another impossibly difficult but rather more esoteric problem. And his new announcement is that he has 'almost' solved this one too. What is not yet clear to us all (and this is why the corks have remained in their bottles so far) is exactly what he has done, and whether the gap that remains can be bridged. Andrew does feel confident it can, and he has something of a track record.



## MEDICINE

Professor David Greaves  
writes:



In Medicine we have two Vaughan Williams medical dinners every year which were set up and endowed by Miles Vaughan Williams (1918-2016) with the intention of bringing together Hertford pre-clinical students (years 1-3) and clinical students (years 4-6). From their inception in 1999 Miles always invited a medical student he had tutored to give a pre-dinner speech in which they talked about their time as a student at Oxford and shared some advice on how to establish a career in clinical medicine.

The number of medical students in Hertford has doubled since Miles retired, so that we can no longer fit everyone into Miles' preferred venue for these dinners, the Lower Hall. In recent years we have relocated the VW speaker's lecture to the Baring Room and the dinner to the Main Hall. This has allowed us to invite medical alumni

and alumnae back to Hertford to extend interactions between recently qualified members of the Hertford medical family and current medical students.

In Michaelmas 2023 our VW speaker was Andrew McDonald (matric. 2003) a consultant interventional radiologist who spoke about how he uses imaging technology (such as x-ray, CT or ultrasound) to look inside patients and perform minimally invasive procedures. Unlike key-hole surgery, the holes Andrew makes are even smaller and operations are performed through a hole the size of a large needle. In Trinity 2024 our VW speaker was his classmate Patrick Garfield-Roberts (also matric. 2003) who gave a thoughtful and thought-provoking talk about his extensive training in orthopaedic, plastic and general surgery and a recent surgery fellowship in Oslo.

Another college dinner that lives long in the memory found me presiding at high table with guests invited by my colleague Vladyslav Vyazovskiy. It was fascinating to talk with Ayu Yoneda, a 28-year-old surgeon who is the youngest ever woman to be selected for training as an astronaut by the Japanese Space Agency. It was fascinating to hear about the physical and psychological tests by which over 4,000 applicants were reduced to the final two candidates, who are currently training to be astronauts. I will follow Ayu's progress with great interest; her ambition is to be the first woman to walk on the moon.

The ambition of my own terrestrial laboratory on the South Parks Road is to understand the role that cells called macrophages play in regulating inflammation, and their role in initiating tissue repair processes. In the past year our work on anti-inflammatory drug development has been published in peer-reviewed journals including the



*British Journal of Pharmacology, The European Journal of Pharmacology and The Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.* Our most recent work on the role of macrophages in human disease has been published in the journals *Cells* and *Diabetes*.

Ella Gallagher (matric. 2022) writes, 'VW dinners have always been a highlight of my year as a medical student. Hertford's medical community is brilliant at providing advice and support from both current students and alumni. As a second-year preclinical medic, hearing from practising clinicians and clinical students provides a light at the end of an essay-filled tunnel! The speeches at dinner range from highly entertaining attempts at poetry to heartfelt goodbyes from sixth years.'

Dr Sujata Biswas writes:

It was my pleasure to take over the role of coordinating tutor of clinical medicine from my colleague Simon Brewster this year. We are grateful for Simon's hard work over more than a decade. He continues to tutor our students and is an integral part of the Hertford medicine community.

This year we congratulated all of our sixth years in qualifying as doctors. Well done to Drs Ahmed, Appanna, Baldelli, Carrington, Gandee, and Ignatius. The winner of the Vaughan Williams prize for excellence in clinical medicine was Nathan Appanna. The joint runners-up were Sofia Baldelli and Alison Carrington. We had an especially sporty year group and we were proud of Alison for competing in the Women's Varsity Boat Race 2023. All sixth years were supported via the Vaughan Williams fund in their medical electives which spanned Vanuatu, Trinidad, Peru, Nepal, India, and Japan. They had memorable experiences which we enjoyed hearing about at their graduation (pictured). We wish them well in their clinical careers.



## MODERN LANGUAGES

Dr Katherine Lunn-Rockliffe writes:



The Modern Linguists graduating this year are the cohort which matriculated in the Michaelmas Term when induction meetings took place in the marquee and students were confined to household bubbles, and many of their exams this year were still gruelling five-hour papers sat online, so it was a particular pleasure to enjoy their company at a very congenial Schools Dinner. Students this year graduated in a particularly wide array of subject combinations, including three in Portuguese and two in the joint school with Philosophy. Two students were awarded University prizes: Niamh Mateer won the Gibbs Prize and the Pagett Toynbee Prize for her performance in Medieval French, and Amy Griffiths shared the Ramón Silva Prize for her performance in the Spanish Orals.

In Spanish, the new Prelims literature

papers (only a decade in the making!) are bedding in well. The wider range of Latin American works has so far proved popular and there seem to be few calls to resuscitate either Lope's *barquilla* poems or the Duque de Rivas. On the German front, the Diversity Translation Project which Francesca Topel and Charlotte Davies, outgoing Finalists, were involved in as second years in 2021-22 has now been published with our in-house Taylor Editions; their translation is here (co-created with St Peter's students): [Taylor Editions / Editions / Spitzweg : a digital edition and translation \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://taylor-editions.github.io/Spitzweg/)

This year Katherine Lunn-Rockliffe and Claire Williams have been on research leave and we thank Sebastian Dows-Miller and Georgia Nasseh for covering their teaching. We also say goodbye to Sven Luder, German Lektor, and thank him for two years of teaching.

Katherine has used her leave to finish a draft of her book *Victor Hugo's Poetry of Progress*, the writing of which has seemed, rather like its subject, to be endless, open-ended, and impossible. As light relief, she has published an article on how the transcriptions of the seances Hugo participated in during the 1850s generated visionary images for revolution.

Oliver Noble Wood has been enjoying returning to the day job after his stint as Dean and is currently gearing up for a conference on theatre in the work of Salas Barbadillo and Castillo Solórzano, two prolific but little-studied 17th-century writers. He will be continuing research into the former during his sabbatical in Hilary and Trinity 2025.

The tutors haven't forgotten their promise to organise a dinner for students in the two years that missed out on a more traditional Schools Dinner and would encourage anyone still in touch with the rest of their year group to contact us if so inclined.

## MUSIC

Dr Oliver Chandler writes:



Dr Benjamin Skipp, Director of Studies in Music at Hertford College, was on secondment at the music faculty during the 2023-24 academic year, and so I had the privilege of taking over the reins in Michaelmas. And what a busy, exciting year it turned out to be!

Second-year music student James Norton continued to blaze a trail through under-performed repertoire with the Hertford Symphony Orchestra. A personal highlight was hearing the British premiere of Emilie Mayer's Second Symphony in the Hertford chapel. (Think Mendelssohn, but better...) Not only that: James was also elected as the principal conductor of both the Oxford Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras – something not achieved since the days of the music faculty's own Professor John Traill!

Another second-year music student, Evie Brenkley, in addition to a veritable shedload of playing, singing, and

orchestral board meetings, was heavily involved in the organisation of the RETUNE festival: a series of events celebrating the commitment, courage and creativity of underrepresented music-makers. The event was a huge success and its vision chimes well with the expanded and increasingly diverse music curriculum that the music faculty is currently developing.

Our Finalists did themselves proud in their exams; they are a credit to their subject. Pursuing bold interdisciplinary research on AI and on kinaesthetics in cello performance, I was encouraged to think that they were developing knowledge that I would never have had the opportunity to encounter during my own undergraduate degree.

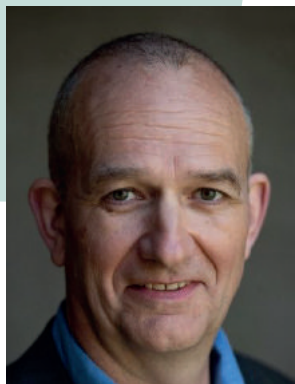
Our Freshers settled in brilliantly, too. I apologise to the lecturers who share the office next to mine: they will no doubt have heard a lot of pastiche 18th-century compositions, which I played through for the students on my guitar. (If you heard mistakes, they were meant to be there, obviously!)

I'd like to extend my gratitude to Hertford's two other college lecturers in music, Dr Tom Czepiel and Dr Alice Barron, for their expertise and their humanity. I can't imagine more supportive colleagues, nor more supportive tutors. I'm particularly happy to note that Alice has recently had a daughter, Hazel. Congratulations, Alice! I will be suggesting that she begins classical guitar lessons with me as soon as she is able...

We look forward to welcoming Ben back in October. In the meantime, I'd like to thank everyone for having made me feel so at home. Hertford is, for me, an unprecedentedly welcoming community. And, while music might be the smallest subject, it sure has a lot of heart.

## ORIENTAL STUDIES

Professor Bjarke Frellesvig writes:



At this point, late summer, it is pretty much business as usual: our first-year students are preparing to go to Kobe in Japan and to Taiwan for their year abroad; our second years have just completed their years abroad and are gearing up for resuming their studies back here at Hertford; our third years are getting ready to transition to becoming Finalists; and our incoming Freshers – no fewer than five new students of Japanese this year, making up more than half of the University-wide cohort – will hopefully be enjoying the last of their summer vacation before coming up to study at Hertford and starting a new, exciting part of their life. Our Finalists completed their exams back in June, with some very impressive results in the mix, particularly impressive because they were a cohort who had less than half a year abroad because of the pandemic. Overall,

it's been a quiet year for Japanese and Chinese at Hertford, which seems like a bit of a blessing in a world that is increasingly anything but peaceful and quiet.

For myself, I had a successful and productive trip to Japan in December last year, including a visit to our year abroad students at Kobe University, and with resumption of contact with colleagues I had not been able to see in person since before the pandemic. And in April of this year, I finally saw the long-awaited publication of the *Handbook of Historical Japanese Linguistics* which I have been working on for much longer than I want to talk about. This is the first volume (although one of the last to be published) in the twelve-volume series of Handbooks of Japanese Linguistics published by De Gruyter/Mouton, and the whole series is bound to be of lasting value for the academic community of linguists of Japanese. Editing this book has been a time-consuming and at times frustrating task – for example when the typesetter set all the Japanese script in the book in a Chinese font and found it difficult to understand why that was a problem – but finally being able to hold a physical copy of the book was rewarding and made up for the frustration. Completion of that project has left me with a bit more time to work on the online *Oxford-NINJAL Corpus of Old Japanese* (<https://oncoj.ninjal.ac.jp/>) of which I am the editor-in-chief. Related to this is a new spin-off project (in the academic, sadly not the commercial, sense), namely an online textbook of Old Japanese which will form part of a suite of online textbooks for ancient languages, hosted at Rice University in Texas.

Finally, in happy individual student news, our Finalist Iseult De Mallet Burgess (Japanese) won the *Oxford-BNU Creative Writing Award* for her short story *Jellyfish*. One of the judges in the panel was the Nobel literature laureate Mo Yan, and I am sure this is not the last we'll see from Iseult's hand. Big congratulations.

## PHYSICS

Siddharth Parameswaran writes:



The past year was again an eventful one for Hertford Physics. The year began on a somewhat bittersweet note, celebrating Pat Roche's retirement after nearly 30 years as one of Hertford's Physics fellows, with celebrations of his contributions occurring both in the college and in the Physics Department. While Stipendiary Lecturer Samuel Henry and I just about managed to hold the fort for a year, Physics will soon return to being a two-fellow subject: as hinted at in the previous edition of the Magazine, we will be joined in the new year by a new fellow and tutor Maria Vincenzi, who will also take up an Associate Professorship of Astrophysics.

Maria is an observational cosmologist who comes to us from a stint as a postdoctoral researcher at Duke University in the USA, most recently as the holder of one of NASA's coveted

Einstein Fellowships. Before moving to the USA, she completed a PhD between the Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation in Portsmouth and the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of Southampton – work for which she won the 2021 Michael Penston Thesis Prize of the Royal Astronomical Society, and Graduate Thesis Award from the Universities Research Association that operates the US Department of Energy's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory ('Fermilab'). Maria's research primarily focuses on measuring the expansion history of the Universe using Type Ia Supernovae. She led the SN cosmological analysis of the Dark Energy Survey and is now deeply involved in designing and planning the next generation of Type Ia Supernova



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cosmology experiments, particularly the Legacy Survey of Space and Time (LSST) at the Vera C. Rubin Observatory. She looks forward to meeting Hertford students and alumni, having already participated in the 2023 admissions exercise to select the incoming group of freshers.

On the academic front, our Finalists acquitted themselves well with a clutch of First-Class results in both the MPhys and MMathPhys exams. Hertford students also received a Physics Prize for the best Theoretical Physics MPhys Project and a Gibbs Prize for the best use of experimental apparatus. I'm particularly pleased that three of our Finalists have secured fully funded places for doctoral study



On the research side, my work at the boundaries of quantum condensed matter, quantum information, and quantum many-body dynamics has received renewed funding support in the form of a Consolidator grant from the European Research Council

in astrophysics (at Oxford), quantum optics (at Cambridge), and experimental condensed matter (at Harvard), and two others are in the process of applying to PhD programmes over the coming year. Given the extremely competitive market for PhD places worldwide, this is a remarkable outcome and a testament to the resilience of this cohort, who started their studies in the throes of the pandemic.

On the research side, my work at the boundaries of quantum condensed matter, quantum information, and quantum many-body dynamics has received renewed funding support in the form of a Consolidator grant from the European Research Council. Although, due to the complex post-Brexit negotiations over EU-UK research cooperation, the grant will ultimately be administered through UK Research & Innovation, it still means that I will be able to maintain a high level of research activity on these exciting topics over the next five years, where I hope to understand new types of highly tunable experimental platforms for studying many-particle physics.

In particle physics, Sam Henry is working on the design for the ePIC detector, to be built at the planned Electron Ion Collider at Brookhaven, New York. By taking precision measurements of electrons scattered off quarks and gluons, this new machine will create the highest resolution images of the structure of the proton. Meanwhile production of components for the next upgrade of the ATLAS detector at CERN is now underway. Every silicon module, electrical bus tape, and pot of glue, has to pass through a rigorous quality control procedure to ensure the new detector will function and continue to search for new science at the high energy frontier.

## POLITICS

Dr Ian Carroll writes:



Hertford Politics this year said farewell to Dr Blake Ewing, who has taken up a post as Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Nottingham. Though he will be keenly missed by his students and colleagues, we wish him all the best in his new role. Despite his Nottingham commitments, Blake was able to join our PPE Finalists for their Schools Dinner in June, celebrating with them the successful completion of their degrees.

As of January 2024, Dr Ewing's political theory teaching has been taken on by Dr Ian Carroll. Originally from Ireland, Ian completed his doctorate at Oxford, specialising in contemporary social contract theory (neo-Hobbesian theory, as it happens, which means he's particularly excited to be joining Hertford). Ian's research interests sit at the intersection of the PPE subjects, with a focus on political philosophy but with subsidiary interests

in the philosophy of economics, in the design of electoral systems, and in applying game theoretic approaches to problems in liberal political theory. His most recent project is a collaboration with a colleague at the University of Hong Kong examining the implications of aspects of modern monetary theory for liberal accounts of state neutrality and anti-perfectionism. One spin-off from this project has been a paper aimed at developing a way of measuring degrees of coercion, allowing one to say that X is more coercive than Y, and by how much. Though his professional interest is no longer in elections, Ian remains an avid amateur enthusiast. 2024 has already served up historic elections in France, India, and Britain. Michaelmas will bring US presidential and congressional elections (and maybe an Irish general election) which he will be eager to discuss and dissect with anyone who wanders into range.

In collaboration with colleagues at UCL in London and the EUI in Florence, Professor Rad Zubek has been researching the origins of centralised agenda control at Westminster. The results from this work are now published in *Legislative Studies Quarterly* (with DOI: 10.1111/lsq.12480). The paper challenges the conventional account of how government ministers in the United Kingdom came to have such extensive control of the agenda of the House of Commons. It argues that close analysis of roll-call data from the key 'Balfour reforms' in 1902 shows that the centralising of agenda control in the government was not the product of a consensus between the government and the opposition. Rather, it was imposed by the government in the face of clear and cohesive resistance by the opposition.



# STUDENT LIFE

## JCR

**Eimaan Fatima**  
writes:

**T**he 2023-24 academic year has been eventful for the JCR, to say the least. The first thing the committee and I did was to sort out the election procedure written in our constitution, for there were no appropriate or clear instructions on how best to approach a situation when a draw between the two presidential candidates occurs. This then allowed us to revise the standing orders and come up with a system to ensure a second election with the two candidates to come to a fair outcome.

The next key event was the JCR garden party at the start of Trinity Term. This seemed to have been a great success, with everything paid for by the JCR, as we don't want finance to be a reason why people can't come to events held by us. With catering sorted out by our wonderful Simon, and the sunniest day, it could not have been better. It was nice to see the Hertford community come together to enjoy our grounds (whilst we still had them) and it fostered the spirit needed for such a wonderful day.

The final thing I think was most significant during the year was the motion which passed on a statement in support of the condemnation of the Israeli genocide on the Palestinian people. The discussion surrounding the motion saw some of our biggest turnout, with discussion lasting

over two hours in order to create a statement which best represented the entire Hertford student body. This was a great example of students discussing in a respectful manner topics which are more emotional and sensitive, done in a way to harvest freedom of speech and thought without repercussions of being socially outcast for having such views. And with that, our motion passed and became a symbol of unity for the Hertford people who used their power to reject such injustice.

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## MCR

**Julia Olivares Abril**  
writes:

**I** joined Hertford right after the pandemic, and the MCR welcomed me with its characteristic open arms. I've been very active in the community since: the afternoons working in the cosy Octagon, the evenings chatting in Hall and the (no, really!) more than 200 events hosted in my first two years pushed me to become President during 2023-24. And it's been quite the year!

I am now gearing up to start my fourth and last year in Hertford, and as I look back to the year that just flew by, I feel very nostalgic. Michaelmas Term was full of excitement: we welcomed the Freshers with energy, hosting our traditional boat party and matriculation ball, getting to know them over games nights and movie nights. We hosted our first themed cocktail party of the year. In the early morning of matriculation day, college filled with excited (cold) students wearing their sub fusc, who were invited to a brunch in the MCR where Principal Tom Fletcher did his traditional welcome toast standing on the window ledge (shhh).

Autumn slowly transitioned to winter: we decorated pumpkins for Halloween and did a second themed cocktail night, travelled back to the past century for Evelyn Waugh's birthday formal, and got to mingle with other colleges in an abundance of exchange events thanks to our wonderfully sociable social team. We decorated the Christmas tree just in

time for Oxmas (and a month early for everyone else), warming ourselves with hot chocolate in front of the fireplace in the Octagon, and said farewell for the holidays to the brand new cohort of students, who had now fully settled into life in the college and were excited for more.

Burns Night was a brilliant success, and so was the Valentine's themed formal. There were several academic soirées, where MCR students were able to present their research to fellow members. The MCR was also invited to join the SCR for research talks. Opportunities to get dressed up and sit with fellow members to discuss courses, research and life in general were not missing. We organised a painting class and a pottery workshop, bi-weekly movie nights and welfare teas, wine and cheese nights and even more themed cocktail nights. We also hosted the Hertford Society for a wine and cheese evening, and enjoyed hearing the experience of college of those who came before us. On May Day, a new tradition was born, with a floral-themed MCR formal.

But the MCR year was not only events: we were also able to open a renovated tea room and a very popular study space in the upper floors of the tower, discuss other renovations for the tower with college, propose changes and discuss them with fellow members at GMs (followed with a pizza dinner, of course). The MCR continued to be what first welcomed me to Oxford and what will make it hard to leave: a space for students to discuss, laugh, socialise and sometimes even cry.

It has been both a very long and very short year. I leave it feeling extremely grateful to the committee members who made it possible, and excited for the upcoming year.

# MUSIC

**Evelyn Brenkley  
writes:**

**M**usic at Hertford has had another successful year, with many dedicated Hertfordians organising, promoting, and performing in and outside of college. Our very own Hertford College Music Society (HCMS) has organised a series of concerts, maintaining a vibrant musical community.

The Principal's Recital in Michaelmas Term was a particular highlight, with Hertford's top musical talent performing in the Holywell Music Room. Thanks as always to Principal Tom Fletcher for his support at this event, and indeed throughout the year. The weekly Lunchtime Recitals continue to prove popular with town and gown population alike, and our termly concerts – featuring all of the HCMS ensembles – have enjoyed similar successes.

All our ensembles are entirely non-auditioned and open to all, in keeping with Hertford's inclusive ethos. Jazz Band continues to be one of the friendliest ensembles in Oxford, and their performances always bring joy and energy! Hertford College Orchestra has seen significant growth under the leadership of new conductor (and recipient of the Paul Coones Memorial Award) James Norton (Music, 2022). They have tackled ambitious repertoire with aplomb, marking the Oxford premiere of Emilie Mayer's Symphony No. 1 in Michaelmas Term. Hertford College Chapel Choir has also gone from strength to strength under the direction of new organ scholar, Giuli Tritto (Music, 2023). It was super to see them outside of their usual Evensong setting in Trinity Term, when they took to the stage in a student-organised Spring Concert.

Beyond our society-organised ensembles,

Hertford bands and music makers have been as active as ever in Oxford's vibrant music scene. Louis Thompson (ComSci Phil, 2021), Tom Abeyawardene (Maths, 2021), Ross Baker (Maths, 2022), Ruby Livingstone (Biochemistry, 2022), and Zoe Vereker (ComSci Phil, 2022) in particular have led the Hertford charge in the jazz/funk/folk groups in events across the city (including the JCR Garden Party, and frequent band nights in the College Bar). Additionally, James Norton has taken on the role of conductor for two of Oxford's premier student ensembles, the Oxford University Philharmonia (OUPhil) and the Oxford University Sinfonietta (OUSinf). Trinity Term marked his debut with both ensembles, producing two stellar concerts; we eagerly anticipate what the next two terms will bring. Meanwhile, Evelyn Brenkley completed her tenure as President of the Oxford University Music Society, and played a crucial role in organising the inaugural RETUNE Festival in March, a two-week celebration of underrepresented voices in music, reinforcing Hertford's own commitment to diversity and inclusion in the arts.

A small but dedicated team has been at the heart of the thriving musical provision in college this year. The Freshers hit the ground running, with many of them performing in the Michaelmas Term Freshers' Recital. They have since taken on key roles in running HCMS and delivering outstanding performances throughout the year, all while balancing the demands of their Prelims exams. At the other end, we are losing some exceptional talent from all ensembles, and we are grateful to those who have gone above and beyond in supporting the Society administratively and logistically. Special thanks go to Music

students Macy Tryer and Eleonora Savvidou (both 2021), who join the ranks of alumni. Their contributions have set a very high bar for Music at Hertford, and they leave behind big shoes to fill. We will miss them dearly and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Thanks must also go to all college staff who have supported us this year, with particular thanks to Dr Olly Chandler: his support (academic, pastoral, logistical, or otherwise) has been invaluable for Hertford musicians.

It has been another year of fun, lively, and high-quality music-making at Hertford – we look forward to what next year holds.



**A small but dedicated  
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# ROWING

**Finlay Jordan  
writes:**

**I**t has been an unprecedented year, to say the least, with the UK clocking up some of the wettest weather on record.

However, that did not hold HCBC back. We kicked off the year with a busy taster weekend in Michaelmas, where we got 80 people in a boat for the first time and gave them a introduction to rowing. With the hard work of the vice-captains, the novice programme got off to a flying start, with the largest number of novices we have had in years. Meanwhile, the senior squad got to train for UTAH and Autumn Fours. The rain put a hold on this in third week, which led to the cancellation of races for the rest of the term. However, we hopped on the erg and had a great number of land sessions and group training, and at the end of term our novices absolutely smashed at the replacement novice 'ergatta', with the Men's A team narrowly missing out on a podium spot.

The start of Hilary kicked off with Oxford flooding. There were a couple of large puddles but thankfully the erg room remained just about accessible! With the Isis still unusable, HCBC undertook some away days to Swindon Lake to get some training for Torpids and a good opportunity for the novices to have some water time.

Halfway through the term, W1 got an opportunity to race on the Tideway at Hammersmith Head in preparation for WeHoRR; they put in a very strong showing in the Academic Vllls category and it was a great experience for the crew.

We were also lucky to unveil two new boats;

a new Men's second eight named after our long-standing boatman Jim Ronaldson who celebrated his 40th anniversary with the club, and a new pair named after HCBC legend Paul Gleeson who sadly passed away in 2022, kindly donated by the Gleeson family. We celebrated with a boat naming ceremony with current students, alumni and the Gleeson family.

For the first time since 2017 HCBC was ready to enter six boats into Torpids; a huge achievement considering the lack of water time. Torpids was then unfortunately cancelled, but we still got to celebrate the hard work of the term at the boat club dinner.

Easter holiday took HCBC out to Porto for our first training camp in many years, which was kindly sponsored by Martin Dunsby. Fittingly for the year, we arrived in Porto to be met by several storms and heavy rainfall! There were some soggy outings but we got the chance to utilise the stunning 10-km stretch of river, experiment with some matched Vllls and really improve our fitness and technique in preparation for Summer Eights.

Trinity Term led to some better weather, which meant that we could get back onto the Isis! The term started with four crews entering into City Bumps, which for many was their first race of the year. Training for the term was full steam ahead, making use of the better weather and longer days. For Eights, we saw the resurrection of M3 which had not entered since 2017. Due to exams, we did lose some Finalists, which led to some of our novices gallantly stepping up into our first boats – M1 and W1 put in some gutsy rows, both avoiding spoons! W2 had a great campaign and narrowly missed out on a double-over



bump on the last day, finishing top of Division 5 with fixed divisions awaiting them next year. M2 brought home the third set of blades for the Men's side in two years with five decisive bumps taking them back into fixed divisions – an incredible achievement for them. Post-Eights, we have continued with outings including the smaller boats and some bigger ones in preparation for some summer racing.

It is onwards and upwards for next year, which will be HCBC's 150th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of women joining the club. So stay tuned for the exciting events we will have planned. Thank you to all the alumni for your continued support and make sure you follow us on Instagram @hecbe to stay up to date!

## SPORTS

Lilla Berry  
writes:

**T**he 2023-24 sporting season has been an extremely successful one for Hertford College. From rugby to rowing, frisbee to football, our students donned their red hart-crested T-shirts week in and week out to represent the Deer.

So what did our year look like? With so much to report and only so many words to write with, let us briefly reflect on Hertford's sporting highlights.

We'll begin on the Cherwell, with the esteemed Hertford Boat Club, which claims over 50 members across every year group, making them the college's largest sports team – an impressive achievement, despite the challenges their popularity brought to picture day. When the Michaelmas Torpids were cancelled due to inclement weather, the rowing team swiftly turned their attention to the next challenge, Summer Vllls. When Oxford's own river proved unavailable, the team travelled to other exotic locations, such as Swindon and Porto. This was a fruitful endeavour, which saw M2 achieve blades, whilst an M3 boat took to the water for the first time in a decade.

From the river to the pitch, Hertford Rugby Club has also had an impressive year. In the early hours of Michaelmas Term, Hertford Men's Rugby joined forces with former rivals Balliol College RFC to create a star-crossed super squad. This talented team made their way to the Cuppers Tournament semi-final game, where they narrowly but honourably lost to St Hilda's.

Outside of the domestic leagues, HCBRFC went international. In the autumn the squad were hosted by the Japanese Embassy in London to play a memorial match for Hertford's



own alumnus Katsushiko Oku on the 20th anniversary of his assassination. Later in the season, they played a friendly against a touring side from Kyoto University. And that's not all, for in September Hertford/Balliol Rugby trekked across the continent to play one of the leading rugby teams in Malta. Here they experienced a triumphant game, 'one of the greatest moments in Hertford history', according to a reliable source, which saw the team beating the Maltese home side 22-17 with a last-minute try.

And as women's rugby is rapidly growing across the nation, Hertford has naturally followed suit. This year Hertford women, combined with Keble, made it to the Cuppers quarter finals, and in doing so brought several players into OURFC's development pathway.

Our female sporting success does not stop there. This year, the

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Hertford/Keble women's football cluster, popularly known as 'Hertble', achieved an incredibly impressive winning streak, triumphing in every game this season. Of course, this included a glorious victory in the highly anticipated Cuppers final, which resulted in an impressive 4-1 score against St Hughes/Trinity College.

The Hertford men's football team have also had a consistently good year, sitting comfortably in the league and enjoying extracurriculars such as football formals and the traditional Old Boys Game, a distinguished annual event which unites Hertfordians old and new.

Football was not the only sport to host an alumni game. This season, Hertford Netball Club held their first Old Girls Game in Hilary Term, which will be known as the dawn of a new tradition. Beyond this achievement, the Netball Club also delivered frequent strong performances across both the women's and mixed division, proudly placing first in their respective leagues. The squad then impressively reached the Cuppers semi-finals in Trinity.

Meanwhile, the Hertford Hockey Club have delivered us everyone's favourite underdog success story. Beginning the year in the middle of Division 2, by Hilary Term the squad had been promoted. Unfortunately the competition could not conclude due to pitch conditions, but when it came to its abrupt end Hertford stood at the top of the league. One

trustworthy source comments that 'only the tyrannical forces of OUHC pitch bookings could prevent Hertford getting their hands on the title'.

However, whilst one sport-with-a-stick was denied victory, another succeeded in bringing home silverware: the Hertford Lacrosse Club. In Trinity Term the Hertford Mixed Lacrosse Team wrote one for the history books by winning the Cuppers Trophy. An intense 2-1 victory against last year's champions cemented the win. This was all the more impressive considering the team's history, which is that they have none. Hertford Mixed Lacrosse formed their outfit very last-minute – legend has it 20 minutes before the Cuppers draw.

Bringing it back to home ground, Hertford College hosted its own intra-college croquet tournament right here on OB Quad. Sixteen teams battled it out one Trinity Sunday, with Olly Brewster and Chris Carnegie crowned victors by the evening.

Hertford students enjoyed many other sports on top of these highlights, taking part in cricket, tennis, frisbee, and even something called 'Punting Cuppers', all of which were thoroughly enjoyable. As the new academic year dawns upon us, we look forward to another season of sport as such a fundamental part of college life; whether that includes playing it, engaging in sports socials or, not least, supporting from the sidelines, sport is what continues to bring our Hertford community together.





# ENVIRONMENT AND ETHICS

**Molly Walker  
writes:**

**H**ertford is a community of students who are keen to see sustainable changes around the college. The Oxford Student Union is more focused on the environmental impact of colleges than ever before, and there are two main systems used to judge ecological awareness: the CLOC system, which is partnered with Cambridge, and the SU demands. The CLOC system focuses on divestment, delinking and governance and ranks each college based on these achievements. This year, Hertford came 21/36. The SU ranking uses a traffic light system to mark our response to three demands after six months: adopting a target for a net zero gain and biodiversity net gain; publishing a strategy to achieve this target; and implementing governance to act on this. Hertford scored three oranges. While these rankings show room for improvement, actions are being taken to change, both small and larger scale.

The environmental representative is a member of the JCR who encourages sustainability in college. They meet regularly with a group of staff, including the Principal, to discuss the actions and next steps for the college. They also engage on a student level to encourage environmentally friendly practice in day-to-day lives. Following in the footsteps of the previous environmental rep, donation bins were placed in the accommodations at the end of term for students to place unwanted items to be taken to charity shops, preventing a large amount of waste accumulating. Starting in Trinity Term, eco newsletters were sent through the JCR with tips and tricks to help the environment

as a student, and facts about nature. The catering team recently switched the plastic cups in Hall to glass cups, showing the small steps that can be taken to reduce waste in the long run.

There are still many actions to be implemented to increase college sustainability and the ranking of the college by the SU. This could include switching to a more sustainable bank, further utilising the green spaces in south accommodation to encourage biodiversity, and events run with the environment in mind.

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The catering team recently switched the plastic cups in Hall to glass cups, showing the small steps that can be taken to reduce waste in the long run

## ART

**Skye Yi-Hardie**  
writes:

**I**t's been a brilliant year for art at Hertford; from music and drama to paints and poetry, we've seen all sorts of creative ventures flourish between last October and now!

Hertford College Music Society has been absolutely thriving, with a thorough programme of recitals and concerts all year round. From the orchestra and choir, to the jazz band and our soloists, every performance is packed with real talent and enthusiasm. I personally had the pleasure of attending the final recital of Trinity Term: accompanied by ice lollies, courtesy of our dear organ scholar, this marked an incredibly pleasant conclusion to the term and a thoroughly impressive display of musical skill.

Our dramatists have also been hard at work, developing productions both in and out of college. Our Drama Cuppers team of Freshers performed their comedy take on a 'Hamlet rewritten' to resounding success, which I personally had the joy of watching come together – the script made entirely from scratch. 'The Sun King', a production starring Hertford's very own Matt Sheldon, is yet another highlight of this year's theatrical achievements; overall, huge congratulations to every Hertfordian who has been involved in the bustling theatre scene throughout the year!

I'd also like to congratulate Hertford's many writers for their creative success. From the Cherwell to the Isis, the Ox-Stu to the Ox-Blue, and our very own *Starch* magazine, Hertford students have been involved in producing some wonderful literary pieces. It has been a pleasure to keep up with current events through student journalism and to learn and feel something new

or familiar through poems and stories written by peers, and I look forward to seeing what the next year will bring!

Taking over in Trinity Term, I've had the pleasure of running this year's Arts Week. I want to offer a huge thanks to everyone involved: whether you helped organise or run an event, or just came along and took part, we couldn't have done it without you. From crochet and origami, games and presentation nights, paint and sips and our inter-college social (two of our most popular events!), we've had a real blast with arts and crafts. Thank you all so much for coming along and getting creative with us – I hope we provided a little respite from the academic pressure that is the summer term.

To conclude, I've loved being the arts rep for Trinity 2024, and I can't wait to see what we can do in Michaelmas and Hilary: with new Hertfordians joining us in October, we'll be doing our best to get even more people involved in the arts in and around college.



Our Drama Cuppers team of Freshers performed their comedy take on a 'Hamlet rewritten' to resounding success, which I personally had the joy of watching come together – the script made entirely from scratch

# CHARITIES

**Saskia Gotts**  
writes:

**C**haritable pursuits and people have thrived at Hertford in 2024, with many wonderful initiatives to uplift and celebrate. Several members of Hertford have contributed to fostering a positive culture of raising and giving, and they deserve recognition for their brilliant efforts.

This year, the JCR food basket initiative continued; a wonderful community project we inherited, which will be running again in Michaelmas of the coming year. Matilda organised Hertford's participation in the Pasta and Rice drive, which was run centrally by Oxford Mutual Aid, a brilliant charity that provides food to around 800 people in need every week. Molly collected end-of-term donations to send to charity shops, helping to reduce waste. Shareen promoted the Oxford Hub initiative, offering students the opportunity to become volunteer tutors for Schools Plus. Louis raised an incredible £1,800 by shaving his head to donate to mental health charities. Sara and ISoc ran a bake sale to raise money for Mercy Relief, which helps orphans around the world by providing food, shelter, and educational resources. Daniel introduced the college to Conversations Unbound, a charity that pairs refugees with student tutors to help them learn second languages. Manon shared information about R:Ed Oxford (Right for Education), an independent Ghanaian NGO currently serving as Africa's largest online educational resource. Hertford JCR's Movember efforts surpassed last year's total, raising over £2,000! Finn cycled 100km for the cause, from Leckford Road to Abingdon House 40 times in one day, raising

£400! Incredible and quite mad. All of these ventures were carried out independently of the college charities team, which I believe is a fantastic testament to Hertford's philanthropic spirit.

As the JCR Charity Representative starting in Trinity Term, my work focused on sharing opportunities and supporting the charities championed by members of the JCR. Additionally, we, as charity reps from various colleges, have been discussing the resurrection of RAG (Raising and Giving), the charitable arm of the Student Union. Thanks to the hard work of various members, RAG's future looks bright. They are recruiting a new team, and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the 2024-25 academic year.

Finally, I am very grateful for the JCR's support in sending financial aid to organisations contributing to relief efforts in Gaza. The JCR voted unanimously in favour of our motion to donate £1,500, which has been shared equally across three charities: Médecins Sans Frontières, UNICEF and the World Central Kitchen. All three are providing vital humanitarian aid, and we will continue to stay informed and offer support as we can.

Next year, I am confident that the JCR will continue their brilliant work. The continued generosity of time and effort amidst full-on academic courses is really wonderful. I look forward to seeing great work continue and Hertford's engagement with charity grow.



**Matilda organised Hertford's participation in the Pasta and Rice drive, which was run centrally by Oxford Mutual Aid, a brilliant charity that provides food to around 800 people in need every week**





# AFTER HERT FORD



# FROM FINE DINING TO FRACTIONS



**Kate Weatherell  
(Biochemistry, 1982)  
writes:**

**A**rriving at Hertford back in 1982 was like entering a sweet shop. In college and out, in every corner of Oxford's astonishingly beautiful stage-set of charming buildings, there was something to stimulate my overactive brain. 'Catherine has a lively mind, which often lacks direction' was a comment I recall from my first-year Collections.

Back in 1981, having opened the letter to see the astonishing Hertford Scheme offer of two Es, both baffled and ecstatic, I waited in the dormer bungalow in Leeds for my working parents to come home from their respective school and university. Both were of course delighted, but Dad puffed with astonishment and, eyebrows raised, plonked himself down onto a dining chair. 'Well! You will never be contented now. Anything is possible.'

And so it felt. I had to work out who I was going to be, this Oxford Biochemistry student, and there was plenty of time to think about it while my friends waded through the UCAS process. I was many things; academic, yes, but also political, spoke languages, had my piano and guitar, loved debating, was a passionate cook, and fashioned my own clothes from charity shop purchases, including one of my favourite outfits, a bright blue fake tartan suit, which I wore on my first day, striding into OB Quad in my Doc Martens.

The confident ambience of Hertford sat easy with me. I ran with it in every direction. I found wonderful college friends, but outside also beckoned. I was a rowing cox, joined a band, had an affair with a beautiful flautist, took part in the bizarre Thatcher humming protest at

Somerville and joined a collective at Greenham Common. I barely slept. Anything was possible. I would talk into the night with the most fun-loving, controversial, political, artistic, clever, talented, fascinating individuals from all over the world. At endless parties in diverse colleges, the poshest would at times look blankly at me, turning their backs at the sheer irrelevance of a Northern state school biochemist. These over-confident individuals were unavoidable and deflating. But when I stumbled, my room in Holywell Quad was a haven, warmed by the humour and friendship of my Hertford family.

I relished the intensive Oxford tutorial system and the routine of interrogating, summarising, and interpreting the research of others. After four stimulating and academically fruitful years at Hertford, the employment opportunities were many. The slow, meticulous pace of biochemical research was not for me, however, and, lurching sideways, I fell into a marketing job. Lasting two years, I left with a bang to run a dining club in Chelsea set up by a mismatched pair of deluded investors. After six weeks, the enterprise failed and I was out of a job. The cannonball had hit the ground.

But at this point at the end of the 1980s the capital was buzzing with exciting new bars and restaurants: a gastronomic renaissance; a vibrant world of endless possibilities. A chance meeting with a well-known chef led to my being invited to manage a club for chefs and restaurateurs in Kensington. I leapt at it. My state-school background and my privileged Oxford years had taught me how to communicate with anyone. I might be explaining amuse bouches to royalty and then helping a kitchen porter with immigration issues. I might be negotiating around

highly strung celebrities and the next minute giving first aid to an injured chef. Ultimately, however, it was the managed madness of the kitchen itself that fascinated me and at 26, I shelved my Whistles jackets and heels to become a commis chef. While my Hertford contemporaries were riding high in the city, at the BBC, in politics, or the Civil Service, I was to train as a chef, a career path I could have taken as a teenager. I felt a tinge of guilt that I may have taken a career change too far and squandered my Hertford Scheme fortune.

“

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I worked hard for two years in busy kitchens, acquiring new skills daily. Once again, I was jumping at every opportunity. I was whisked away by the Chef Patron to help at cooking demonstrations and appeared as his sidekick on television shows. I wrote articles about life in underground West End kitchens and was profiled in magazines. But best of all, I loved the satisfaction of sending a beautifully presented plate of food to the pass.

In the mid 90s, restless, but loving food and with terrific contacts, I jumped ship again, setting up a catering business, and was soon involved with media parties, legal seminars and weddings, not least, deliciously, for one of the private school 'Beautiful Young Things' who had blanked me back at Oxford. Over the ensuing decades, I wrote books. I met my incredible life partner of 30 years and counting. I worked as a television and cinema food designer, peaking with Luc Besson's *The Fifth Element*, where I was working with Bruce Willis. Eventually, my business evolved into a corporate canapé enterprise, supplying flavour-packed mouthfuls to distracted clients. 'Delicious, thank you.' Ultimately,

this was lucrative, but was becoming shallow fun. I wasn't learning anymore.

In 2019, I tended to a recurring itch and at 55, changed tack again into education, inspired by Now Teach, an energetic and resourceful organisation that supports career changers into teaching. Dusting down my degree, I trained locally and today I teach Maths in an inner-city London secondary school. Being among young people, and that includes many of the teachers I work with, is constantly stimulating and surprising. My age gives me advantages, in terms of life experience and perspective. I am purely focused on being the best teacher I can be; not looking ahead to the next career opportunity or promotion. Nothing beats 'Oh! I get it now, Miss,' and the all-time best 'Thank you, Miss,' both in class and at results day. I would urge any alumni to consider teaching as a final career high, or in early retirement. You won't be doing it for the money, but if you can change just one young person's life, how worthwhile. I have never been more fulfilled, but who knows, I still haven't quite decided what I want to be when I grow up.

Further info at [www.nowteach.org.uk](http://www.nowteach.org.uk)





# GROUND- BREAKING RESEARCH IN ANT BEHAVIOUR



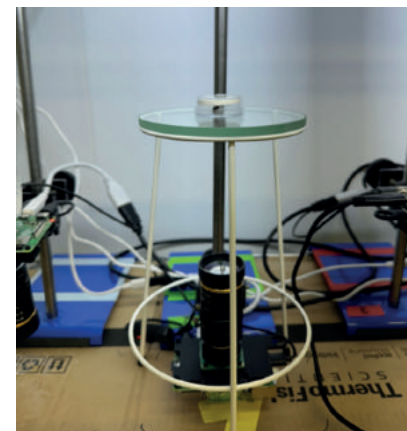
**Flynn Bizzell (Biology, 2020) writes:**

**D**uring my Master's project, I discovered a remarkable behaviour in the ant queens of the common black garden ant, *Lasius niger*. These queens, when confronted with infections in their offspring, engage in cannibalism, consuming their infected larvae to halt the spread of disease. At first glance, this may appear brutal, but it serves a crucial purpose: safeguarding the entire colony from potential annihilation.

Ant queens embark on their reproductive journey with a 'nuptial flight', an event you might recognise as 'flying ant day'. Following mating, they shed their wings, burrow into the earth, and begin laying eggs for their new colony. These queens will not leave their nest to forage and must survive without external nourishment until their first workers emerge and begin foraging, which can take up to three months. For my study, I collected these mated queens after they landed and housed them in small petri dishes to mimic their underground nests.

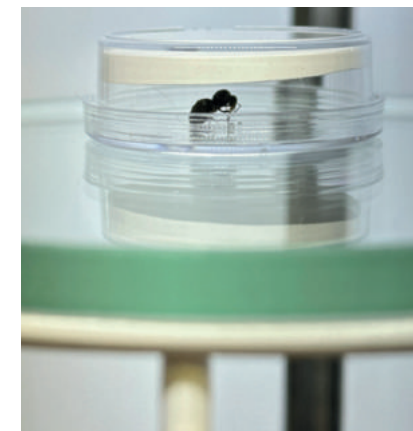
Initially, my research aimed to understand how the queens care for their larvae when exposed to a generalist fungal pathogen. After exposing the larvae to the fungal pathogen, I set up cameras to capture the queen's response, expecting the queen to groom or potentially abandon their offspring. However, to my astonishment, I found that many larvae had seemingly disappeared from the petri dishes.

Subsequent experiments confirmed my suspicions – the queens were cannibalising their infected larvae. This revelation was



Experimental set-up to video the ants from below.

The images show the observation setup, with the camera mounted beneath the queens so that they can be viewed from underneath; this prevents the queen's cannibalisation behaviour from being concealed by her head.



startling, as while filial cannibalism (the consumption of one's offspring) is known among ant queens, cannibalising infected larvae had never been documented. Indeed, no parent in the animal kingdom is known to consume their infected offspring.

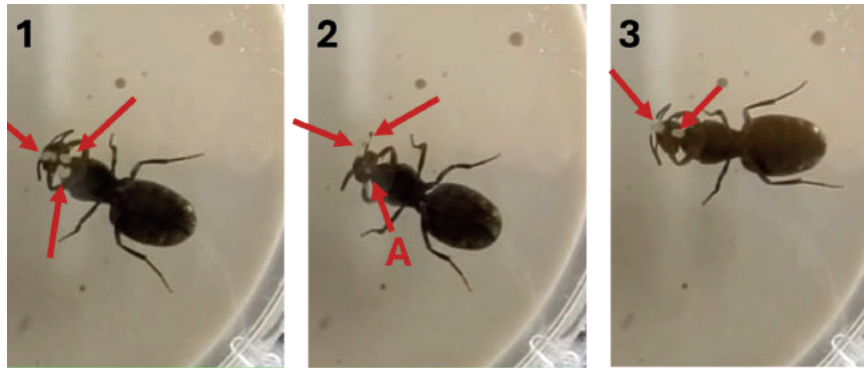
The first image in the series overleaf shows the queen before she has begun cannibalising the larvae. It is important to note that there are three larvae in this image. The second image shows the queen mid-cannibalisation; notice how the larva indicated with the arrow labelled A has a reduced size. The final image shows the queen post-cannibalism, and in this image, there are only two larvae left.

To ascertain if this behaviour helped prevent disease spread, I designed an experiment where queens were prevented from cannibalising their infected larvae. The results of this experiment revealed that if queens

failed to cannibalise infected larvae, then in 100% of cases, all of the infected and uninfected brood would fail, and 80% of the time the queens would also die. This demonstrated that cannibalism behaviour is a vital defence mechanism against the spread of disease and can prevent colony failure.

We investigated whether queen ants would become infected after consuming larvae infected with a fungus. Over five months, I monitored queen survival and egg production, as insects can redirect energy from reproduction to immune defence. Interestingly, there was no difference in survival or egg production between queens that consumed infected larvae and those that did not. We now believe that queens consume larvae when the fungus is non-transmissible, as it only becomes infectious after the host's death. This suggests a critical window





Screenshots from the cannibalism video; the images are taken from underneath.

for safe cannibalism during which the larval immune system is compromised but not yet infectious. Additionally, I observed queens consuming acid from their acidopore, which might prevent spore germination within their digestive systems.

Even more fascinating was the discovery that queens cannibalising infected larvae laid 55% more eggs than those without access to such larvae. This indicates that queens not only prevent further infection through their act of cannibalism but are also able to recycle nutrients from cannibalism into increased egg production.

Curiously, this cannibalistic behaviour has never been observed in developed colonies, which instead employ a different strategy known as destructive disinfection. In this process, ants inject an infected pupa with

venom and then destroy it with their mouth parts, effectively eliminating the fungus and preventing the spread of disease. These two strategies deal with the same problem, and their outcomes are very similar, except that the ants who perform cannibalism also receive a nutritional benefit. This mystery presents an exciting line of future research I hope to investigate.

I recently graduated and am now working in another ant lab in Austria, studying how ants' immune systems vary between night and day. I have a real passion for studying disease transmission. While I might soon shift my focus to human diseases, ants will always be my favourite system to study. Their complex and diverse social interactions enable them to coordinate disease defence strategies that often surpass human capabilities.





# HERTFORD SOCIETY



**Barry Lester,  
Chairman of the  
Society, writes:**

**D**uring the last year, the Society organised two special social events in London. Both were memorable and successful.

The first was a morning talk at the Reform Club in Pall Mall in September 2023 by Philip Mould, the art dealer, gallery owner and co-presenter of the BBC's *Fake or Fortune?* His subject, as one might expect, was his work in investigating mysteries behind paintings – unearthing and attributing lost masterpieces and exposing art frauds.

We were blindsided during Philip Mould's talk by a sudden message that the next speaker, also an art expert, would not be coming because he had contracted Covid. This left a large gap to fill but Philip, hearing of our problem, rose to the occasion: he continued to speak and then conducted an impromptu Q&A session until lunch. In this he was supported by Aviva Burnstock, Professor of Conservation at the Courtauld and member of the *Fake or Fortune?* team, who was attending our event but had not expected to have to come off the bench. We are very grateful to both. After lunch, our own Emma Smith, Tutorial Fellow in English, outlined latest developments at the college.

Our second special social event, in March 2024, was a reunion drinks and canapés party at the Oxford & Cambridge Club in Pall Mall for all those JCR and MCR members who had left the college in the last three years. This was the first time we had ever organised such an event and the number of recent Hertford graduates attending exceeded our most optimistic expectations. Over 100 recent Hertford graduates were there, all radiating confidence in themselves and their



new careers. Many greeted each other with great enthusiasm – so the reunion aspect appeared to be working – and the setting in the Smoking Room of the O&C helped to make a great occasion. We aim to put on more such parties.

The Committee held its end of 2023 meeting in November, at the Oxford & Cambridge Club. The very first item on our Agenda was the recent death of prominent Society member Jeffrey Preston. This was a great loss to the Society. Jeffrey had made an enormous contribution, having served us for decades: as member of the Committee, Secretary, Chairman and finally Vice-President. Jeffrey's funeral had taken place in the College Chapel, where his close friend and former Society Chairman Roger Westbrook CMG gave a moving tribute.

Each year we give some money to both the JCR and MCR to support their respective Freshers' Weeks. At our meeting, the Committee agreed to increase that sum to £1,000 each, starting in October 2024. Our generosity did not extend to Simpkin's stipend, however, which remains at £250 a year.

In addition to its programme of social events, the Society also pays for selected small-scale college projects which, in the ordinary run of things, would probably not be at the forefront of the college's priorities. We also contribute towards larger projects.

Accordingly, in response to a request by the college, we decided to pay £2,000 towards the cost of professional standard recording equipment to take forward the Hertford Voices Project. We are pleased to be associated with





The Principal toasted the Society, then gave a characteristically high octane account of what was going on at the college

this excellent project. Memories of Hertford are close to the heart of what we do as a Society.

At the meeting, our Secretary reminded us of the Society rule that people who had a close connection or interest in Hertford or the Society but were not eligible for ordinary membership of the Society could be invited to become Honorary Members. He proposed that such an invitation be made to Lesley Atkinson, Carole Eady and Susan Gibson, widows of former Chairmen of the Society who had supported their husbands in their work for the Society and had kept a close connection with the Society and College ever since. The Committee immediately agreed to make this invitation and I am pleased to say all three have accepted.

In February 2024 we held our Committee meeting and Annual Committee Dinner at the RAF Club

in Piccadilly, London. Eimaan Fatima (President of the JCR) and Julia Olivares Abril (President of the MCR) attended the dinner as our guests.

Among the topics discussed at the meeting were the number of members of the Society (not enough) and how they subscribe. Clearly, we must work harder to recruit new members, especially younger ones.

Every summer we return to college for a Committee meeting and our AGM. In 2024, at the latter, Lord Pannick KC, our President, was re-elected for a further term of three years. These meetings were followed by drinks on what used to be the grass in the quadrangle and a dinner in Hall. The Principal toasted the Society, then gave a characteristically high octane account of what was going on at the college.

I cannot end without giving great thanks to the Development Office for all their help and work on our behalf throughout the year. I know they realise how much we value our relationship with them and the wider college.

Here is a link to the Society's pages on the college website enabling you to join: £10 a year (for up to three years) for JCR and MCR members and graduates in their first three years after going down, and £25 a year for others who have studied or taught at the college <https://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-societies/the-hertford-society>, or contact our Membership Secretary Chris Mockler at [chris.mockler@talk21.com](mailto:chris.mockler@talk21.com)



# ALUMNI NEWS

**Brittney Olinger (Economics and Management, 2014)** has won a prestigious US industry award, having been announced as the *InvestmentNews* Women to Watch Rising Star of the Year. During her undergraduate years in Oxford, Brittney was President of Hertford's Business and Economics Society. She has built a career in financial services since graduating, starting out at BNP Paribas in London before heading back to her native Florida to join her family's advisory firm, Koss Olinger, where she works with business-owner clients facing microeconomic challenges.

**Athol Williams (MPhil Political Theory, 2015)** has been awarded an honorary fellowship. He has dedicated his life to fighting social and economic injustice, and has founded *Read to Rise*, a charity providing educational opportunities for children. After leaving Hertford, Athol completed a DPhil in Political Theory from Oxford, and beyond his activism, is currently a Lecturer in Management at the Saïd Business School, as well as a Research Associate at Hertford's Porter Centre for Diplomacy.

Two Hertford alumnae took up key positions in the Department of Education following Labour's win in the most recent General Election. **Bridget Phillipson (History and French, 2002)** was appointed Secretary of State for Education, and **Jacqui Smith (PPE, 1981)** took a seat in the House of Lords as an education minister for Skills, Further and Higher Education. Bridget joined the Labour Party at the age of 15, and during her time at Hertford was elected the co-chair of Oxford University Labour Club. She has held her Labour seat in Houghton and Sunderland South since 2010, and served as Shadow Education Secretary since 2021. Jacqui was the UK's first

female Home Secretary (2007-2009). She was also an MP for 13 years and, when she became Home Secretary, was only the third woman to hold one of the Great Offices of State in government. Since leaving parliament she has worked as a broadcaster and, since 2013, has been Chair of University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust. She is also the Chair of the Jo Cox Foundation and the Sandwell Children's Trust.

Professor **Alison Young (DPhil Law, 1994)** was appointed by the Lord Chancellor as the Law Commissioner for Public Law and the Law in Wales for a period of five years as of March 2024. Her work will 'promote the reform of the law to make it clearer, more modern and more accessible' and will cover a range of important topics, such as the social care of disabled children and the future of aviation autonomy. Alison obtained both her BCL and DPhil at Hertford, returning in 2000 to become a fellow in Law before then being elected as an emeritus fellow.

HRH The Princess Royal awarded **Dr Vanessa Collingridge (Geography, 1986)** an honorary fellowship of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS) in January 2024. Vanessa has worked with the RSGS since her early 20s and has seen it 'evolve and lean into the big challenges of the 21st century'. Impressively, Vanessa's life since graduating from Hertford has spanned all seven continents – from her early career in television, to becoming an award-winning broadcaster and best-selling author. She currently directs her own company, Monster Media Productions, which runs impact, presentation and communication skills coaching across the world.

**Dr Wanda Wyporska (MSt and DPhil Modern History, 1997)** was appointed

as the permanent Chief Executive Officer of Safe Passage International in April 2024. The organisation's mission is to reunite child refugees with their loved ones across Europe and beyond, as well as fighting for refugee rights and the need for safe routes. After studying at Hertford, Wanda went on to publish her first book *Witchcraft in Early Modern Poland 1500-1800*, which was shortlisted for the prestigious Katharine Briggs Folklore award. More recently she has worked at The Equality Trust, where she campaigned to reduce inequality of income, wealth and power.

Last summer, **Ciara Garcha (History, 2020)** made the '30 under 30' list of young historians by *History Extra*, the BBC's History Magazine website. Ciara left Hertford to complete a Masters at Balliol and started her DPhil at Cambridge this academic year, where she continues her research on South Asian migration, anticolonialism in the British Empire, postcolonial migrations in the 20th century and the global histories of mixed-race identities and experiences across European colonies. The '30 under 30' list was launched in collaboration with historian and presenter Alice Loxton and aimed to 'shine a light on some of the wonderful young people doing amazing things in the history world'.

# OBITUARIES

We record with regret the deaths of the following Hertfordians, listed in order of matriculation. Use of an asterisk (\*) indicates that an obituary follows; we are most grateful to those who have supplied this material.

## 1945

Peter Mitchell  
Peter Tustin

## 1947

Peter Nicholls

## 1950

John Foster

## 1951

George Jupe

## 1952

John Salusbury \*

## 1953

John Crowhurst  
Michael Lewis  
George Robinson

## 1954

Malcolm Busfield \*  
Thomas Charlesworth  
John Welch  
Geoffrey Steeley  
Clyde Neal

## 1955

Christopher Wilkinson \*  
Maxwell Stewart  
Alan Barker  
Richard Sherwell

## 1956

John Gardner

## 1957

John Henson

## 1958

Robert Fyson  
John Sims

## 1959

Jeffrey Preston \*

## 1961

Clive Williams \*

## 1963

Daniel Dennett

## 1971

David Trehitt

## 1974

Pat Rhodes \*  
Philip MacDonald

## 1976

Nick Lord \*

## 1988

Andy Lavis \*

## 1991

Enese Lieb-Doczy

## 1994

Chand Patel \*

## 2008

Samuel Johns \*

## JOHN SALUSBURY (LAW, 1952)

John Salusbury graduated from Hertford College in Jurisprudence in 1955. He was a member of the college Boat Club and the rugby team, as well as the Oxford Law Society.

He married Jane Salusbury (née Terry), whom he met at Oxford; Jane was studying Zoology at Somerville College and graduated in the same year.

John went on to be a partner in Parker Garrett (now Taylor Wessing), a law firm in the City of London,

specialising in conveyancing. He was also on the boards of both St Pancras Housing Association and Islington and Shoreditch Housing Association, helping to develop social housing in North London.

In retirement he lent his expertise in rescuing some distressed 'country' law firms, was a volunteer at Dunwich Museum, and provided legal advice to the Dunwich Town Trust.

He died at home aged 91 on 24 February 2024.

*With thanks to John's son, Matt.*

## MALCOLM BUSFIELD (MEDICINE, 1954)

Malcolm was born in 1935 in Guildford but grew up in Moreton-in-Marsh during the Second World War. Surviving nearby Luftwaffe bombs, he was made of stern stuff. His father had left the family farm in Horsforth to become an engineer, and Malcolm inherited his love of the countryside and architecture and a

Yorkshire spirit.

After the war, Malcolm's family moved to Headington. He passed the 11+ exam and went to Magdalen College School, which was a direct grant grammar school. He excelled at Chemistry, winning the Daubeney prize. He then studied Medicine at Hertford, where he was taught by Miles Vaughan Williams. In the 1950s there was no running water in New



Quad, and they had to use communal washrooms in the basement. Malcolm rowed for the College 1st VIII with Hugh Scurfield and David Moseley amongst others. In the holidays he would earn money delivering cars from the BMC factory in Cowley to garages across the UK and then hitch-hike back home. He had wonderful memories of his travels across Europe with his contemporaries.

In 1958, Malcolm transferred to St Bart's Hospital, specialising in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. His postgraduate training was undertaken in a variety of hospitals including the Royal Berkshire, the Royal Liverpool and the John Radcliffe – where he trained under Professor John Stallworthy. He also worked in Oldham Royal Infirmary with Patrick Steptoe (who together with Robert Edwards pioneered successful in vitro fertilisation).

Malcolm married Rita, a nurse from Oxford, and they had a daughter, Julia, but sadly the marriage did not last. In Oldham, Malcolm met Marlene, a midwife and health visitor who worked for Steptoe and the SSAFA, helping the British Army in Cyprus. They made their home in Derby, where Malcolm began his consultant post. They had three children, but tragically Marlene died in 1990. Malcolm was an inspiration, bringing up Rachel, Rebecca and Paul whilst holding down a demanding job.

Malcolm developed a special interest in sub-fertility and helped many women to achieve successful pregnancies using ovulation drugs or microsurgery. He also had a successful

private practice, initially operating at St Mary's Convent near Ashbourne, where the nuns were members of a nursing order, before moving to the Nuffield Hospital.

He was President of The Derby Obstetric Group, which drew together consultants, GPs and midwives, and a member of various medical societies, sharing experience with specialists throughout the UK and Europe.

With his encyclopaedic knowledge and wise outlook, Malcolm was the first source of advice in the family from DIY, car maintenance to any medical issue.

Retiring at 67 from a job he loved was a shock, but he loved travelling and was even driving a camper van around New Zealand in his 80s with his companion Ruth. He was an active member of various shooting, aviation, archaeological, architectural, art, investment, drinking and civic groups.

As a sociable individual, Malcolm suffered in the Covid-19 pandemic and apparently found the lockdowns harder than WWII. However, he battled hard against heart and kidney failure and refused 'to go gentle into that good night'.

Malcolm was a good and generous neighbour, friend and colleague, an excellent host, a respected teacher to trainees, a caring and trusted doctor to his patients, and a much-loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is greatly missed.

*With thanks to Malcolm's daughter Rebecca (Geography, 1996) and his colleague Ian Scott.*

## CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON (CHEMISTRY, 1955)

Chris passed away after a short illness on 1 August 2024, aged 87.

Chris came to Hertford from Trent College in 1955 to read chemistry. He graduated with a BA and BSc in 1959. He formed a close friendship with contemporary David Boakes, who sadly died a few years ago.

On leaving Oxford, Chris chose to do National Service. Through the recommendation of a school contemporary, he was commissioned into the Royal Engineers and served most of his time in Germany.

Chris started his career as a trainee manager in the Rolling Mills of the Samuel Fox Steelworks at Stocksbridge, near Sheffield. He worked there until 1969, when he moved to Cumbria to become Manager of the Rolling Mills at Workington Iron & Steel Works, later to be absorbed into British Steel Corporation. Chris, being Chris, saw the writing on the wall as to the demise of the steel industry in this country some time before it happened, and in 1975 opted for a career change.

He went for a year's teacher training course at St Catherine's College in Liverpool, after which he secured a post teaching in a secondary school in Derbyshire, as at that time teaching jobs were not readily available in Cumberland.

He had married Anne at Roby on Merseyside in 1966. After their fourth daughter was born in 1977, Chris moved back to Cockermouth, where he later secured a post in a primary school in the area until he moved to Ewanrigg School in Maryport, where he spent the rest of his working life until 1997.

Chris spent his fairly lengthy retirement enjoying working in his beloved garden, fell walking (another of his great passions), caring for Lizzie the tortoise and spending time with the family.

Chris is sadly missed and remembered dearly by his wife Anne and their daughters Louise, Lora, Helen and Rachel and grandchildren Alexander, Oliver, Eliza, Edward and Max.

*With thanks to Richard Kenyon (Merton, 1956).*

# JEFFREY PRESTON (LAW, 1959)

**T**he college was honoured to host the funeral of Jeffrey Preston, former Secretary, Chairman and Vice-President of the Hertford Society, in the college chapel in November 2023. The following eulogy was delivered by Roger Westbrook (History, 1960).

Jeffrey first raised his funeral with Charles Gibson and me many years ago at the time of his brush with cancer. We both solemnly promised to oversee the arrangements. In the intervening years, Charles and I came to dread the Ceremonial Services of the Order of the Bath – Jeff had become a Companion of the Order in 1989. He would return from each service with new and increasingly elaborate plans for his funeral. Given that the Bath Service is in Westminster Abbey with the organist and choir, the State Trumpeters, a small orchestra in the choir loft and a military band in the nave, you will understand that the possibilities were infinite. I am glad to say that by the time the funeral was next raised with me in his nursing home in Virginia Water, Jeffrey's aspirations were very clear and hugely simpler. That it has been possible to meet them all is entirely due to the generosity of the college in allowing the funeral to take place here in Chapel. On behalf of this congregation and Jeffrey's family and friends, I would like to thank everyone concerned at the college for making this possible.

In 2019, Jeffrey joined Anne and Mike

St John and me on a musical cruise to Bordeaux. The ship sailed from Liverpool, and it was there at dinner on the eve of embarkation that I came to realise just how deep-rooted was Jeff's affection for his native city and his fellow Scousers. It was a subject which we returned to frequently. Jeff would have been entertained to know that the Beatles had just issued a new song, not least because there was a family connection through marriage with Ringo Starr. His father spent his war in France preparing African troops for a European war and his mother was busy with her career. Jeffrey therefore spent many childhood hours with his grandparents. He would describe waiting with his grandmother in long queues for the meagre rations available in those immediately postwar days. And you could detect the glee with which he had enjoyed trips on the Mersey Ferry with his grandfather. He must have been a brave man, for his job on hearing an air raid warning was to drive loaded or partially loaded ammunition trains into the comparative safety of railway tunnels around the city. With the return of his father from the war came the advent of the motor car and the family began to make visits to the Wirral. Jeff became intensely fond of the peninsula, and he continued to have little holidays there as long as his mobility allowed.

Jeff went to Liverpool Collegiate School. It was what today would be regarded as a rather old-fashioned

grammar school. But they taught him Greek and Latin so well that he gained a scholarship to this college.

One of his Greek masters was a P.G. Wodehouse buff, and he found in Jeff an equally devoted fan. He gave Jeff a first edition of one of the Wodehouse books. Jeffrey was a lifelong member of the Wodehouse Society and an inveterate diner with the Drones, a dining club which celebrates the works of the Master and at which comparatively few bread rolls are thrown.

For Jeff, his arrival in Oxford opened many doors. He was, from the very first, a regular attendee at the Union debates. And he belonged to every college society – he began his extensive study of wine under the guidance of Felix Markham, the Senior Member of the Dining Club, and of gastronomy with that outstanding college chef, Gilbert Dyer. He expanded his knowledge of music at concerts throughout the town but especially in the Holywell Music Room just round the corner. He was even a devoted follower of the Boat Club, though the only boats he ever set foot in were punts (he was an expert punter) and the College Barge. This interest in rowing led him to become a steward at the Henley Royal Regatta, which he attended regularly for many years.

Oxford may also claim to have set him off on his extensive travels. I remember Jeffrey, Charles and I going off on a jaunt to Paris for ten days, which cost all of £15. We managed to get locked in the Tuileries Gardens on our first night and it was only after a long discussion that a bad-tempered keeper, who had certainly heard nothing of the Entente Cordiale, let us out. Another member of the college, David Spedding, was in Paris and we had arranged to meet him

in a low dive on the left bank, the Café Selecte Latin. We waited and eventually a figure in a tightly belted double-breasted raincoat, wearing a beret and with a cigarette hanging from his upper lip, appeared. Charles and I hesitated, but Jeff was not for a moment taken in. 'Get that beret off, Spedding,' he cried. Jeff and I often wondered whether the future Head of the Secret Intelligence Service, in his disguise, had any inkling of what the future held for him.

From Oxford, Jeffrey went straight into the Civil Service. His first department was the Ministry of Aviation, where he was charged with writing a report on aircraft noise. With great enthusiasm, he designed and equipped his noise caravan, which was

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duly parked at the end of the runway of each of the British airports to measure the noise levels of aircraft landing and taking off. For months, Jeffrey held dinner parties captivated by tales of his antics in the Noise Caravan.

From the Ministry of Aviation, Jeff moved to the Board of Trade, the Department of Trade and Industry as it was to become. This was to remain his department for the rest of his career. They soon got the measure of their man, for in a matter of weeks he became Private Secretary to the Permanent Secretary. He was to occupy a great variety of posts in the department but, for the middle part of his career, he had three posts outside. First, he was seconded to the Treasury, where he was highly regarded. As the Minister's Private Secretary myself, I got to hear that it was only with great reluctance that they allowed him to return to his home department. The DTI marked his return by appointing him their Director in Yorkshire and Humberside.

Jeff was in his element in Yorkshire. There was not a corner of his territory that he had not visited. He was a member of the Chain Gang, the group constituting the top table at every public dinner the length and breadth of Yorkshire. All of them, except Jeff, were distinguished by chains of office as Lord Mayor, Mayor or County Chairman of some venerable institution. The only drawback Jeff found was that the main course at every one of these functions was roast beef. He decided, therefore, at one of his own dinners to serve roast lamb. The lamb was delicious, pink and tender, and everyone seemed to have enjoyed it. But Jeff had failed to notice that the Yorkshire President of the National Farmers Union was hanging back, determined to be the last to leave. 'Eh, lad,' he said, 'th'as been in

Yorkshire long enough to know that up here we keep sheep to grow wool on.' This comes high on Jeff's list of favourite anecdotes.

Jeffrey's third secondment was to the Welsh Office, which was not without its moments, but not so much fun as Yorkshire, where Jeff had been his own boss. Fortunately for him, his Secretary of State did not like opera. So, one of Jeff's duties was to escort the Minister's wife to every major function of the Welsh National Opera. You can imagine how he enjoyed this, sitting in his dinner jacket in the very centre of the Royal Circle. Jeff had by this time become a real devotee of the opera, both at the London houses and in the country at Glyndebourne, the Grange



**Jeff was in his element in Yorkshire. There was not a corner of his territory that he had not visited. He was a member of the Chain Gang, the group constituting the top table at every public dinner the length and breadth of Yorkshire**

and more recently at Longborough. I remember on a joint visit to Venice, we had asked the concierge to book us into the Fenice, whatever was on. You can imagine our consternation to find ourselves attending a production of Kent Opera!

Jeff returned to the Department of Trade and Industry to become Deputy Director of the Office of Fair Trading. During his time there, he served for quite long periods as Acting Director. It was a testing post for any public servant to balance out the interests of the conflicting parties and to brief the press, and one which Jeffrey filled with his usual discrimination. His last post in the Civil Service was Director-General for Energy in the DTI.

During his career in Victoria Street, Jeff joined the Oxford and Cambridge Club, where he was a regular visitor with an encyclopaedic knowledge of the wine list. He was eventually to become Chairman of the Club, a post which he filled with flair. His only regret was that he had not joined early enough in life to become Father of the Club. But Father or not, he continued to keep a stern paternal eye on all the Club doings. Indeed, his very last outing from his nursing home was to lunch with the Secretary at the Club.

Throughout his busy life in London and elsewhere, Jeffery maintained very close contact with the college, largely through the Hertford Society. He was for many years a member of the committee before becoming successively Secretary and Chairman. He then became one of the Vice-Presidents.

Jeff's interest in wine extended beyond the list at his Club to membership of the Wine Tasters, of which Charles Gibson was a one-time Chairman. Jeffrey's carefully considered and perfectly audible sotto voce remarks on the wines and the speakers presenting them became part of the Wine Tasters mythology, not least during the Zoom tastings of the pandemic.

From all this, you will have gathered that Jeffrey had a love of life. He took much pleasure from it and contributed much in return. He was a public servant of integrity and unalloyed professionalism. He was a host of great generosity and style, a guest of impeccable manners. He loved laughter and rejoiced in the quirky humour of life.

I feel his last words, like those of Gerard Manley Hopkins, might have been, 'I am so happy. I am so happy. I loved my life.'



## CLIVE WILLIAMS (MODERN HISTORY, 1961)

Clive attended King's School, Worcester, a Cathedral school. It was here that he acquired his love of music and singing. Clive won a scholarship to Hertford College to study History. At Oxford during the 1960s, Clive's political views were left-of-centre, and he joined the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) and attended several political debates in the Oxford Union. He was also very attracted to the choral singing and sacred music at Matins or Evensong at Christ Church and at Magdalen College.

After Oxford Clive went into teaching, initially for Seniors, then subsequently for Juniors, both at schools in Hertfordshire.

Later he gave private piano lessons, and he was proud of the many successes his pupils achieved. Clive was also a dedicated Scout leader for over 30 years. He won the scouting Medal of Merit, and later the Silver Acorn Award for distinguished service to his community.

Clive passed away peacefully on 9 October 2023 in Hertfordshire. He remained unmarried, and is survived by his sister-in-law and niece. His funeral service at the local parish church contained music selected by Clive. The full congregation bade farewell to Clive with the words, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.'

*With thanks to Malcolm Duce (PPE, 1961).*

## PAT RHODES, NÉE CRABTREE (EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, 1974)

Pat was a pioneer. She arrived at Hertford in October 1974 as a member of the very

first cohort of women students to be admitted to the previously men-only colleges. She came up to read PPP, but, unhappy with aspects of

the course, switched in her first term to Experimental Psychology, a characteristic piece of bravery that few of her fellow students realised was even an option at the time.

Charming and gregarious, Pat quickly made a wide circle of friends and left a lasting impression on college life. An enthusiastic rower, she was awarded a Blade by the Boat Club for her efforts in establishing women's rowing at the college. She also rowed in the University Boat Club's reserve boat, Osiris, at the Henley Regatta in 1977 (the first time the women's boat race was rowed in the regatta), a memorable day out for her keen band of supporters.

Pat was among the first women to be elected as JCR officials, becoming Food Member for 1975-76. In truth she could do little to improve the notoriously awful standard of college catering at that time, but her guest nights are remembered as successful and convivial events. The post gave her a room in college (a rare privilege for second years at that time) and, with typical generosity, she allowed many of us 'living out' to use it as a base.

Again the pioneer, she was also a key member of the college's successful darts team, deploying skills honed playing for her local, the Pineapple in Stalybridge, in her teens. This was a time when a woman darts player was a rarity and Pat's unerring eye for double 16 took many a male opponent by surprise.

Pat also trod the boards in Cuppers, the OUDS drama competition for Freshers. The play, *Pigeonhole*, was written by Leonie Richards, another of that pioneering first tranche of female

Hertfordians.

In her third year Pat joined the University Officer Training Corps. By her own admission, she wasn't a good officer. Put in charge of aligning the sights of a piece of heavy artillery, she joked that she was consistent in missing the target altogether, but also recalled with great pleasure dining in the officers' mess, which gave her the opportunity to wear a ball gown.

Pat Crabtree was born in Greater Manchester on 14 September 1955, and attended Astley Grammar School before winning her place at Hertford. In the vacations, she continued with her established holiday job on the Blackpool trams, an image which will no doubt raise a smile on the faces of all who knew her. After leaving university she moved to London, where she had various jobs (including as a cleaner for the actor and comedian John Junkin) before returning to the Northwest, where she trained as a journalist before setting up a successful PR agency which members of her family still run. There she met and married her husband, Ian Rhodes. The couple had two children, Bryony and Max.

Pat remained in touch with very many of her Oxford friends and was a keen attender at Gaudies. She died on 26 March 2024 after a short illness. The last time many of us saw her was at the Gaudy in September 2023, where she displayed an undiminished zest for life. We will remember her love for music, her occasionally unflinching honesty, and above all her wit, warmth and unfailing friendship.

*With thanks to Paul Dunn (English, 1974).*

# NICK LORD (MATHEMATICS, 1976)

This obituary was originally published in The Mathematical Gazette.

Nick Lord, who died after a short illness on 1 March 2024, was both a fine mathematician and a first-rate teacher. These qualities are not always combined, but Nick believed that there was no point in doing mathematics if you could not communicate your ideas enthusiastically to other people, and, in particular, to school pupils. His belief was reinforced by an excellent series of Teaching Notes in The Mathematical Gazette, whose objective was to suggest ways to bring depth and enthusiasm into the ordinary mathematics syllabus. He will be particularly remembered for his 20 years in charge of the Problem Corner, during which time he supervised the selection of some 250 tantalising challenges for readers of the journal to tackle. These covered topics from combinatorics, conics and constructions to polynomials, probability and packing. His comments on the solutions were both rigorous and imaginative, and he was always keen to emphasise that a published solution is never the final word – there is always something new and unexpected to develop.

In tribute to his work as the PC Editor, Nick was presented with a plaque. Fortunately, it was possible to do this at his bedside and he clearly appreciated receiving it. He was also

on the Council of the Mathematical Association between 2002 and 2008. Nick was also involved for many years with the UK Mathematics Trust. He was a regular marker for the Intermediate Olympiad, and his experience and ingenuity in problem-solving allowed him to assess unusual scripts and ensure that they were given adequate reward. His help and support for new markers was evident. He was also on the Publications Committee of the UKMT and contributed significantly to the revision of some of the earlier books as well as the assessment of the most recent title, which was a Mathematical Olympiad primer.

Nick was educated at Yateley Comprehensive School, from where he won an open scholarship to read mathematics at Hertford College, Oxford. He was second in the Finals examination, receiving a Junior Mathematics Prize. Nick studied for a DPhil but sadly did not complete, as the results that were to form the bulk of his thesis were discovered to have already been published in an Eastern European journal in Russian. He contemplated some more time on the DPhil, trying to work on other areas, but financial pressures led to him seeking a job in teaching. Tonbridge School was the very fortunate recipient, where he was soon promoted to Head of Department, a role which he fulfilled with great

distinction for fourteen years in two separate spells. He was a beloved tutor in a boarding house for many years and it was a reassuringly familiar sight in the summer to see him standing as umpire on the Lower Fields with his wide-brimmed hat and clipboard. He was also involved in Athena, Chess and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, as well as being a regular supporter of school music and chapel. Nick loved his life at Tonbridge and took enormous pride in the progress and achievements of his pupils, both during their time here and in their lives far beyond the

school. There was a memorial service held at 4pm on Tuesday 7 May in the chapel of Tonbridge School. It was very well attended by pupils, Tonbridge colleagues and by other individuals from the MA and elsewhere. The service included a welcome by James Priory, Headmaster; a family tribute by Nick's brother Stephen; a tribute by Ian Jackson, friend and colleague; as well as other readings. His untimely death has left huge gaps in the organisations he was involved in, and he will be sorely missed by everyone who knew or worked with him.

# ANDY LAVIS (GEOGRAPHY, 1988)

Andy Lavis attended the Blue School in Wells, Somerset, where he was taught geography by the legendary J.D. Hanwell, who inspired in him a lifelong love of the subject. As well as his studies, Andy threw himself into college life – a stalwart of the Hertford rugby team; prime instigator of ridiculous fancy dress parties; a regular down the bar and an absolutely dedicated gossip who wrote irresistible scandal columns and drew hilarious cartoons for *Simpkins*, the college student magazine. Having settled in at Oxford, his family asked him if he had any interest in the Boat Race. He said he had done his bit by lending his bike to someone who enjoyed early mornings

getting cold and wet so they could do the necessary training.

Perhaps his most lasting legacy was the Pan Galactic Gargleblaster – a brutal cocktail of five white spirits, blue curacao and lemonade, served in a pint glass and named after the 'best drink in existence' from one of Andy's most beloved books, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Its main purpose was to allow Andy, a congenital hater of beer, to bond with the rugby boys with a pint of his own. A toned-down version of the Pango, as it became known, is still served down the bar at Hertford College today.

Andy made his career teaching geography and inspired several future generations of students. He died in November 2023 and his friends are

pleased to dedicate a chair in the new library in his memory.

Occasionally in life you might cross paths with individuals who are incredibly intelligent and articulate, ones that are loyal and compassionate, others that are generous and empathetic, or those with a quick and

witty remark that leave a smile on your face. Seldom in life, however, are all of these qualities present within one individual. For all of us, though, Andy clearly was that one special individual.

*With thanks to Chris Harris (Geography, 1988).*

## CHAND PATEL (CHEMISTRY, 1994)

**T**his year we said goodbye to our great friend Chand Patel, who tragically died of a heart attack in London last summer.

Chand came up to Hertford in 1994 after attending Bablake School in Coventry and settled into college life with characteristic ease. Hertford has a special quality that allows incredibly strong friendships to be forged and fused in the crucible of its three small quads. I and many others will count ourselves as lucky to have been in the right place at the right time to build such a friendship with Chand: a man of integrity, kind and generous to a fault, and one of the funniest people you could ever meet.

After Oxford, Chand moved to London, working in the investment banking sector for companies such as Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse. Unsurprisingly, he was a successful and immensely popular figure wherever he went. He was a huge fan of live sport, following Coventry City all over the

country, and was a regular presence at The Oval, where he was a member. He was also the lynchpin of many of our pub quiz teams and our performances have dipped dramatically since he left us, taking with him his encyclopaedic knowledge of sport and music – as long as it was released in the 20th century, of course.

Chand's funeral took place near his home in South London and was attended by a multitude of Hertford College alumni, and those of his contemporaries who couldn't be there in person sent their messages of condolence from all over the world. It was standing room only, reflective of a man who had the rare gift of getting on with absolutely everyone: a great unifying force who was at the centre of college life in those heady years of the late 90s.

Just two months later, many of us would meet up back at Hertford College for the 94-95 Gaudy, and we got a chance to raise a glass to our friend in the very place we had all started our

journey with him. He has left us too early, leaving behind a void impossible to fill. We will endeavour to keep his name alive by continuing to tell his stories as we while away afternoons

watching the cricket at The Oval.

*This obituary was originally meant to be published in the previous edition of the Magazine. With thanks to Dave Hart (Chemistry, 1995).*

## SAMUEL JOHNS (GEOGRAPHY, 2008)

**S**amuel Johns was born on 7 January 1990, in Redhill, Surrey. His life was a testament to living life to the full. 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full' (John 10:10).

Samuel, Sam or Sammy as he was known, was a man of extraordinary talents and passions. A self-described 'Jack of all trades', he was certainly also a master of many. His brilliant mind enabled him to achieve the top first in his year in Geography at Hertford, while simultaneously excelling across a number of different fields, whether sport, music or just having fun!

After winning the AJ Herbertson Prize for best dissertation, and graduating with the top First for his year, Samuel went on to complete a Master's degree in Human Geography and Business from the University of British Columbia in Canada. He then established a portfolio career, starting at Proctor & Gamble before becoming a private tutor with Bespoke Tuition. His fine intellect, gracious personality and neuro-flexibility helped him bring

some of the toughest dysfunctional children back into an educational context.

It was his passion for mountains and mountain people which first led him to Nepal in 2009, where he went on to work with PSD Nepal (Partnership for Sustainable Development). He founded their plastics upcycling programme in 2017, to tackle the recycling of plastic waste left by visitors to the National Park. Through recycling and upcycling of mountain PET plastic waste, he established an economic model for regeneration in the Langtang Valley, North of Kathmandu, a valley devastated by the April 2015 earthquake and avalanche. This work continues, with the model to be rolled out in six other National Parks. Samuel spent four months of the Covid lockdown in Nepal, refining his local language fluency.

In 2018 he signed up with IFES (International Fellowship of Evangelical Students) Graduate Impact, helping to develop their strategy, writing teaching material and leading discussion groups for young professionals across Eastern



Europe. Samuel spent 2023 tutoring in Malta, where he discovered free diving, and was due to tutor in Mexico at the end of 2024.

A core motivator in Samuel's life was his Christian faith, which gave him a deep desire, in the digital 21st century, to understand and pursue human flourishing in the image of God. He joined TechHuman and worked as a consultant advising on the ethics of AI in the commercial world. In parallel, he engaged with local church life, leading youth groups, participating in worship bands and regularly preaching, wherever he was based.



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More recently in 2022, he had started a PhD with the Brussels School of Governance on 'Human personhood in the age of automation: a study of modern identity formation in the Linkster Generation (Gen Z)'. As part of his research he was completing surveys and interviews with hundreds of young people on their interactions with technology.

Samuel's love for the great outdoors was apparent to all who knew him. He was an avid cyclist, skier/snowboarder and mountain trekker, regularly organising group ski trips that brought friends and family closer. Whether he realised it or not, Samuel was a true global citizen with homes away from home, including France (Chamonix and La Drôme) and Nepal. His love of nature and mountaineering may have been birthed in the UK and France but grew into maturity under the snow-capped mountains of the Himalayas and Whistler Mountain.

In both his professional and personal life, Samuel inspired and invigorated the people he met. Across his different walks of life, he has left a lasting impact the world over. He is survived by his parents, Tim and Evelyne, his sister Marina and her husband Luke. Samuel's memory will live on through his family, friends and colleagues whose lives have been enriched by his unwavering love, generosity, kindness, support and joyful energy, so freely given.

# DONOR REPORT

## 2023-24

The 2023-24 academic year was notably more settled, both from a fundraising and alumni relations perspective, and in terms of academic and social activities in college. We ran a full programme of events, including subject reunions for PPE, History and English, and Tom Fletcher made history as the first Principal to host his own Gaudy (as far as we're aware!). With Covid now well behind us, we seized the opportunity to travel further afield to meet alumni, resulting in a successful drinks reception in Manchester, and our first overseas trip since the pandemic, to Hong Kong and Singapore.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Sam Tomlinson for hosting our annual London Drinks reception at PWC, and to Clifford Chance for sponsoring the inaugural Law Network event, as well as the alumni who agreed to speak at our various networking events. A group of hardy alumni, students, fellows, staff, friends and family came together on a chilly November morning for the Kenny Lewis Memorial Football Match, and we honoured another Hertford sporting great, rower Paul Gleeson, at a boat-naming ceremony in March.

On the fundraising side, this was a very strong year, thanks in part to several substantial legacies. Our donor numbers rose to over 1,000, and in February we launched a successful Giving Day. The theme of the campaign, I Make Hertford, focused on the people and places that make Hertford so special. The generosity of nearly 200 supporters helped raise over £150k. In college, the

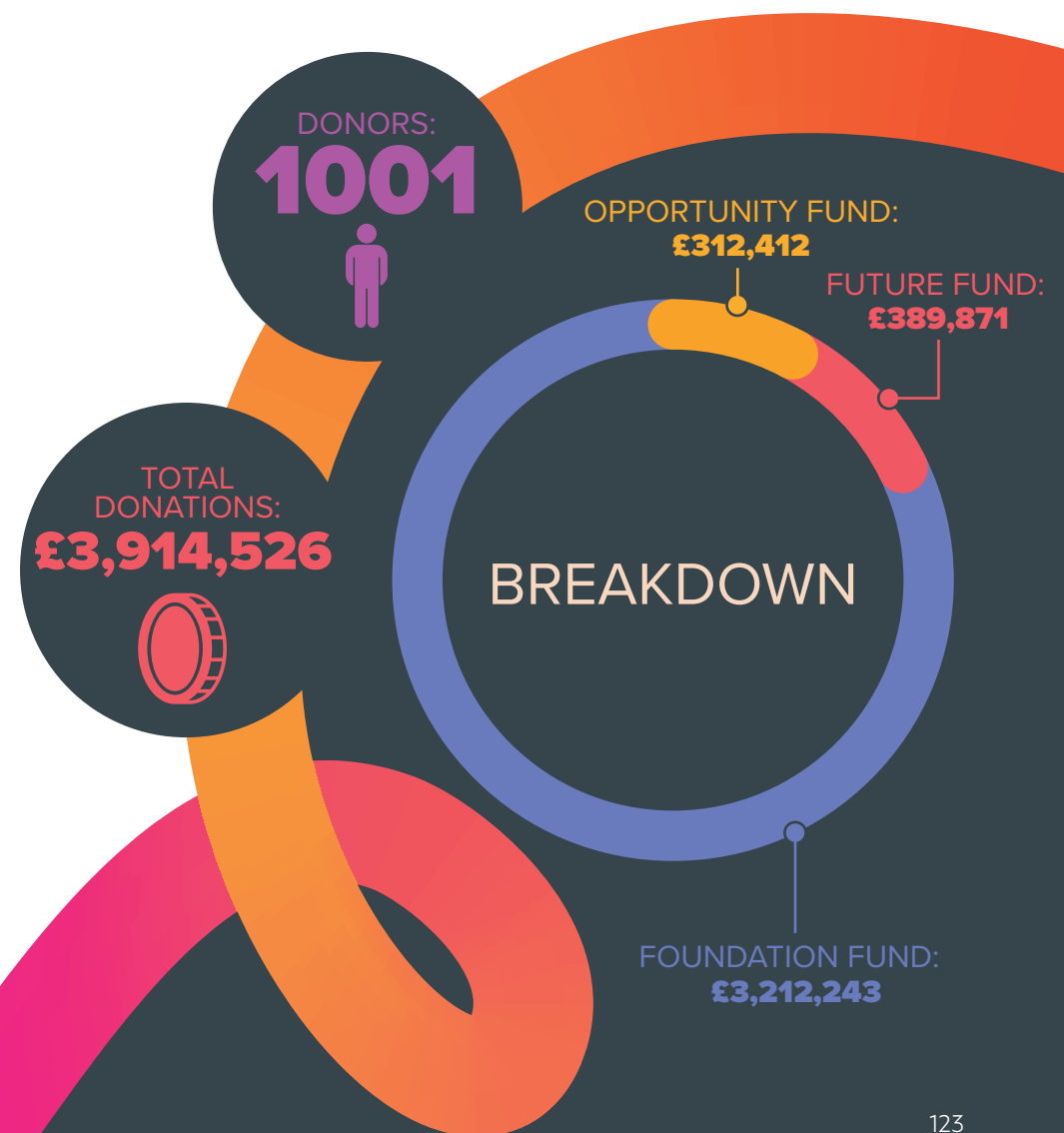
whole community came together for a read-a-thon, bake sale, craft activities, and a pop-up choir. Giving Day provided a wonderful opportunity for Hertfordians past and present to reflect on everything that we value about our college, and ensure future generations of students can do the same. Thank you to everyone who made the day a success!

Our library campaign continues to be the major fundraising priority. The decant of the old library was carried out over the summer, with trial pits and other preparatory work commencing in the months after. The temporary library in Holywell Quad has been turned into a comfortable and welcoming space, thanks to the incredible hard work and dedication of our library team. In March, they were nominated for a Vice-Chancellor's Award in the 'Support for Students' category, for going above and beyond to make the transition into the temporary library space as seamless as possible.

Another priority for the fundraising team is scholarships and bursaries. With the cost-of-living crisis continuing to have a major impact, we are ever more committed in our aim to ensure finance is not a barrier to studying at Hertford. We have increased investment in graduate scholarships in recent years, and our undergraduate bursaries continue to help a significant proportion of our student population. The support of our donors makes an immediate, tangible difference, relieving pressure on our students.

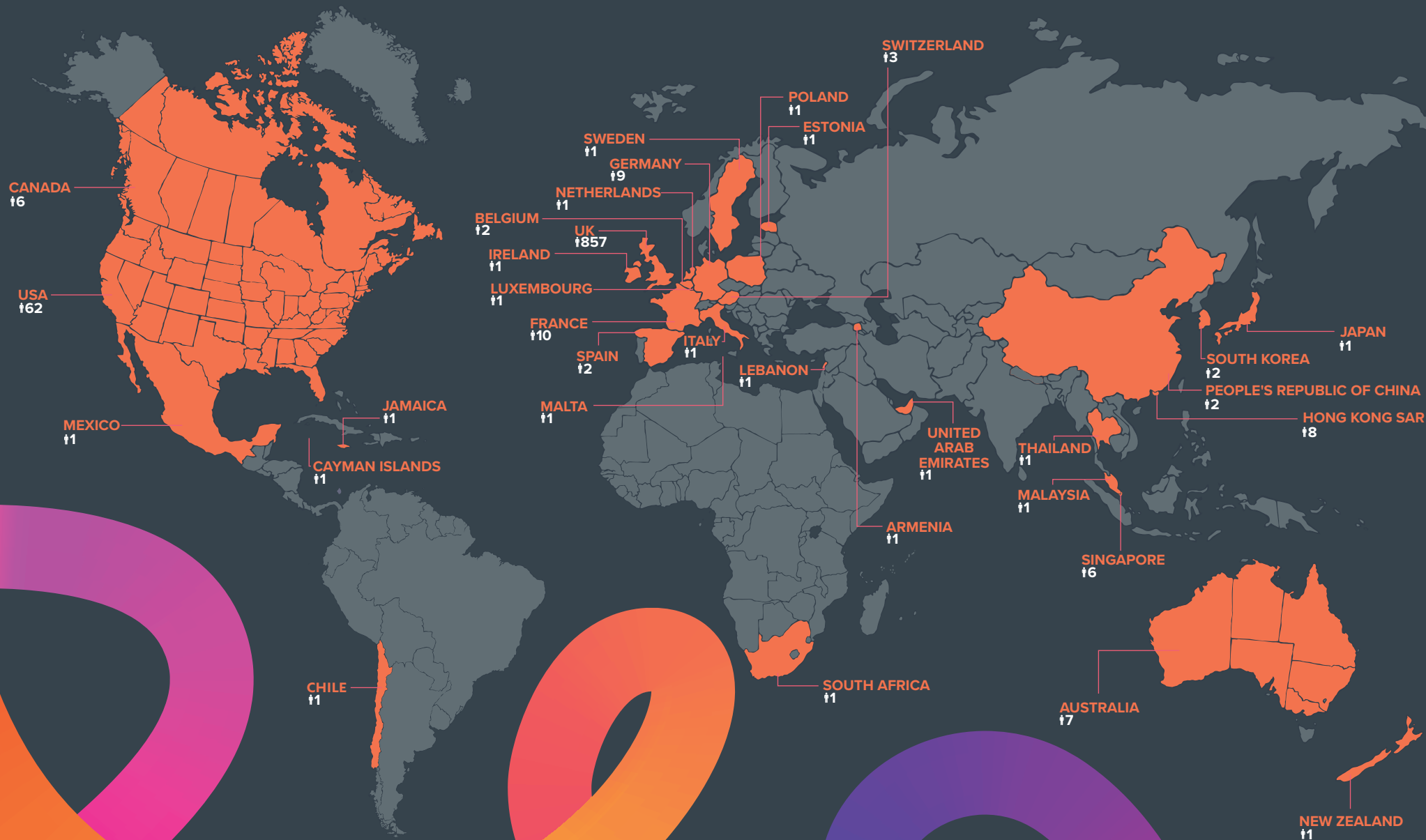
This year also marked big changes for our Development Team. In the autumn, we welcomed Liza Roure to the new role of Head of Development Campaigns. In May, we said goodbye to our Development Director Fran Wheare, who has taken up an exciting position heading up the fundraising team at the Dragon School. We were also sad to

lose Hannah Bironzo (Stewardship and Engagement Manager), Tiffany Luo (Development Coordinator), and Genista Astell (Development Officer) to Campion Hall, Lincoln College, and St Peter's College respectively. We thank them for everything they contributed to the Development Office and Hertford, and wish them all the best in their new roles!



# HERTFORD DONORS

## around the world





# DONORS

## by matriculation year

Everyone at Hertford is extremely grateful for the support of our donors, including those who have chosen to remain anonymous. The following list of names is based on all donations received between 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If any errors have occurred, please accept our apologies and get in touch with the Development Office at [development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk).

### 1944

Richard Lloyd †

### 1945

Tim Eccles †  
Peter Tustin †

### 1947

Peter Nicholls †  
Martin Sykes

### 1950

Peter Coulson  
Robert Graham  
Peter Harkness

### 1951

Dennis Bonney †  
Edward Greenwood  
George Jupe †  
Edwin Pomeroy  
Michael Port

### 1952

Patrick Jeffers  
Denis Price

### 1953

Jasper Bell  
David Bentley †  
Bob Coupe  
John Crowhurst †

### 1954

Thomas Charlesworth †  
Alan Fraser †  
Michael Kirby  
David Loewe †

### 1955

Clive Aldred

### 1956

Robin Carey  
Gordon Davy

### 1957

Simon Frazer  
Ronald Pattinson

### 1958

Merrick Baker-Bates †  
Ian Barnett  
Michael Brignall  
Rodney Chambers  
Richard Copley  
Ian Gunn  
Philip Myerscough

### 1959

David Grant  
Alan Mayhew  
Jeffrey Preston †  
Hugh Sturzaker  
Roger Trafford  
Colin Wright

### 1960

David Baker  
Iain Cheyne  
Rex Goad  
Peter Johansen  
Chris Johns  
Geoff Martin  
Nick McCave  
Pip Poulter  
Mike St John  
Roger Westbrook

### 1961

Anonymous  
Richard Partridge  
Chris Plunkett  
Ray Proctor  
Paul Tompsett  
Julian Whitehead  
Anonymous  
Alan Bowers  
Christopher Craig  
Ian Crichton  
Andrew Davies  
Malcolm Duce  
Martin Friend  
Garry Gauss  
John Guyatt  
Ted Laing  
David Mander  
Eric Martin  
Anthony Quigley  
Keith Sheather  
John Staples

### 1962

Anonymous  
Geoff Bates  
Robert Bearman  
Chris Brooks  
David Cattrall  
Nick Chambers  
John Doble †  
Alan Fearnley  
Michael Gee  
Michael Knee  
Ian Michael  
Richard Scott  
Peter Stokes  
Warwick Wilson

### 1963

Chris Baron  
Christopher Cox  
Christopher Fance  
Steven Hartz  
Leo Horton  
Stephen Maskell

Chris Mockler  
Richard Partridge  
Chris Plunkett  
Ray Proctor  
Paul Tompsett  
Julian Whitehead

### 1964

Mike Brumage  
Tony Champion  
Jim Copper  
Tim Cornish  
Peter Edwards  
Julian Hay  
David Holton  
Graham Jones  
Chris Jupp  
Tony Mitcheson  
Chris Morton  
Adrian Oldknow  
Roger Sherman  
George Spencer  
Andrew Turrall  
William Tyler

### 1965

Anonymous  
Richard Anderson  
Andrew Blake  
David Cornwell  
John Crook  
Jeremy Dawkins  
Kirk Endicott  
Ivor Fienes  
Richard Groom  
Mike Henderson  
Alan Hinchcliffe  
Chris Inge  
Graham Johnson  
Rodney Nelson-Jones

Colin Palmer  
Anthony Swing  
John Waterston  
Graham Winyard

### 1966

Anonymous  
John Cooper  
Andy Dransfield  
Steve Greenwald  
John Guest  
Peter Hollins  
David Levy  
Paul Lusk  
Bob Morrow  
Mick North  
Chris Osland  
Rupert Perry  
Peter Titchener  
Alex Vinter  
David Walker

### 1967

Anonymous  
Robin Bynoe  
Philip Chapman  
David Clark  
Barrie Clarke  
Julian Clarke  
John Garson  
Richard Harington  
Stephen Johnson  
Ian Reid  
Robin Selby  
Mike Wyatt  
George Yoxall

### 1968

Anonymous  
Lindsay Bashford  
Meredith Childerstone  
John Clark  
John Dewar  
Ken France  
Paul Phillips  
David Richards  
Bill Taylor  
Ian Walsh  
Richard Ward  
William Webster  
Paul White

### 1969

Paul Aynsley  
Peter Blakey  
Christopher Bradish  
Jonathan Bynoe  
Gary Green  
Chris Halsall  
Christopher Hooley  
Neil Kinghan  
Ken Patterson  
Eric Pawson  
Tom Robinson  
Andrew Seber

Clive Sherwood  
Michael Slocombe  
David Tester  
Nigel Wilkes  
Tobias Wolff

### 1970

Anonymous  
Mark Andrews  
Colin Bradley  
Simon Carder  
Tony Davies  
Chris Dowell  
Tom Greenshields  
Nigel Henson  
Christopher Humphries  
Jeremy Kenworthy  
Barry Levy  
Henry MacDonald  
Paul Manduca  
Stuart Mole  
James Scrymgeour-Wedderburn  
Neil Swindells  
Kevin Williams

### 1971

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
David Arscott †  
Ephraim Borowski  
Crispian Cartwright  
Jonathan Davies  
Mick Evans  
Malcolm Firth  
Peter Friend  
Christopher Hinton  
Jeffrey John  
Anthony Jones  
Peter Lane  
Neil MacKenzie  
Graeme Marshall  
Philip Masson  
Simon McVeigh  
Roderic Mitchell  
Graham Rogers  
Alan Sandall  
Nigel Saul  
Lesley Sharpe  
Tony Smith  
Mike Waller  
Thomas Watkin

### 1972

Bulent Atalay  
Jerry Barnfield  
Tim Bird  
Peter Dart  
Lindsay Forbes  
Tom Hutton  
Peter Ireland  
Stephen Jukes  
John Landers  
Nicola Prior  
Martin Morgan  
Bernard Murphy

David Newman  
Pete Owen  
Christopher Smale  
Jeremy Stevens

### 1973

Jon Billowes  
Phil Davies  
Mike Frederick  
Stephen Gill  
Bob Grant  
David Hughes  
Steven Jones  
Graham Kings  
Paul Masters  
Peter Newman  
Stephen Pratt  
Brian Smith  
Ian Stephenson  
Mark Teversham  
Barry Lester  
Janet McCourt  
Mary McLaren  
Martin Milnes  
Peter Norman  
Ruth Reavley  
Frances Sanders  
Neil Simister  
Andrew Tait  
Julian Worth

### 1974

Mark Alexander  
Willie Barne  
Rob Barrigan  
Paul Batho  
Rafael Castillo  
Barry Chopping  
Richard Foulkes  
Sandra Gavshon  
Nick Graves  
Eric Harris  
David Harrison  
John Johnson  
Stephen Kinsey  
Antony Longworth  
Anne McGlashan  
David Pannick  
Martin Spencer  
David Spilsbury  
Kate Stross  
Stephen Taylor  
Tim Wheeler

### 1975

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Rosalind Atkins  
Clare Dobie  
Bob Duffield  
Kim Fletcher  
Philippa Jones  
Simon Langdon  
Rob Lusardi  
John Mason  
Dave McCabe  
Stuart McLaren  
Ian McLenaghan  
Adam Mead  
John Needham  
Peter Nowlan  
Nicola Prior  
Michael Ratcliff  
Paul Simpson

Kirk Tellwright  
Sarah Walker  
Richard Watts  
Kevin Wesbroom  
Kenneth White

### 1976

Anonymous  
Robin Arthur  
John Barry  
Jeremy Bentham  
Jane Bird  
David Brennan  
Chris Corrigan  
Nick Fishwick  
Jon Fitton  
Maggie Hill  
Colin Hughes  
John Hughes  
Bill Jamieson  
Barry Lester  
Janet McCourt  
Mary McLaren  
Martin Milnes  
Peter Norman  
Ruth Reavley  
Frances Sanders  
Neil Simister  
Andrew Tait  
Julian Worth

### 1977

Hilary Allison  
Christopher Andrews  
Tim Austin  
Tessa Bamford  
Amanda Benton  
Susan Boruchoff  
Tony Donovan  
Dermot Doughty  
Stephen Ellis  
Henrietta Ewart  
Edward Fisher  
Jenny Hopper  
Robert Mellors  
Sheila Niven  
Richard Quinn  
Ruth Sinclair-Jones  
Robert Taylor  
Arabella Warner

### 1978

Jennifer Batten  
Duncan Brack  
Xanthe Brooke  
Naomi Clarke  
Andy Eustace  
Angela Fane  
Sarah Gooden  
Trevor Hicks  
Rose Jackson  
Adam Johnson  
Ian Jones  
Michael Joynson  
Christine Knights  
Simon Leefe

David Moon  
Dix Roberts  
Fiona Robertson  
Julian Roche  
Bob Smith  
Peter Whatley  
Michael Wheeler

## 1979

Anonymous  
Francesca Barrow  
Kevin Brown  
Bridget Calvert  
David Cooke  
Philip Dutton  
Oliver O'Toole  
Debbie Sarjant  
Sarah Singleton  
Joanne Smith  
Glyn Taylor  
Mary Wood

## 1980

Anonymous  
Steve Bell  
Rachel Blissett  
Alastair Blundell  
Adrian Brettell  
Lucie Carrington  
Emilio Cattaneo  
John Clark  
Roger Edbrooke  
Ed Farquharson  
Christopher Godfrey  
Julie Hazell  
David Hibbs  
Chris Hornby  
Kathryn Hough  
Philip Jones  
David Knight  
Simone Lobo  
Fiona Macaulay  
Garrett Nagle  
Margaret Platt  
Sheila Sharp  
Andrew Tighe

## 1981

Lis Bellamy  
Julia Brookes  
David Eatough  
Ian Gatt  
Mark Glover  
Guy Leaf  
Judy Shaw  
Penny Neu  
John Nixon  
Elizabeth Payling  
Amanda Rumming  
Jacqui Smith  
Tony Surkovic  
Mark Thornber  
Ian Valentine  
Gerry Wait  
Jeremy White  
Lorne Whiteway

## 1982

Michael Adamson  
Frank Ashcroft  
Robin Ashworth  
Paul Baker  
Yolande Chan  
Stephen Clarke  
Colin Cook  
Lewis Findlay  
Fran Gunning  
Andre Gushurst-Moore  
Eleanor Hellier  
Markus Jaigirdler  
Mossy Kennedy  
Andrew Leonard  
Phil Martin  
Anna Morgan  
Matthew Quinn  
Carol Sennett  
Julian Soper  
Salman Ullah  
Mark Wyllie

## 1983

Gilbert Benz  
Peter Berry  
Jon Coombs  
Malcolm Dowden  
Brian Evans  
Nick Foulkes  
Matthew Greenland  
David Horsley  
Bridget Jackson  
Ann LoBue  
Paul Meader  
Theresa Moran  
Vicky Pollitt  
Simon Pride  
Gabrielle Remedios  
Mike Shiels  
Andrew Sinclair  
Martin Talbot  
Stephen Tickell  
Heather Walton  
Ian Whitmore

## 1984

Elizabeth Akka  
Graeme Dell  
Kate Ferguson  
Paul Fiddaman  
Emma Haughton  
Paul Inman  
Mark Lemmon  
Barbara McGowan  
Timothy Monelle  
John Newman  
David Palmer  
Vicky Rietkerk  
Debbie Shears  
Gray Smith  
Julian Stander  
Fiona Yates

## 1985

Anonymous

Julian Asquith  
Chris Barber  
Marian Berkowitz  
Chris Birkle  
Geoffrey Brackett  
Cicely Brown  
John Cowley  
Alistair Howard  
Cindy von Kaufmann  
Martin Lipton  
Alan Livsey  
James Newton-Price  
Huw Peach †  
Clare Wickert  
Joanne Wicks  
Roger Wilkinson  
Jock Wills

## 1986

Sarah Barwood  
Duncan Coneybeare  
Martin Dunsby  
Mark Grant  
Chris Harley-Martin  
Mark Herrmann  
Steven Hubbard  
Kevin Jones  
Helen Murphy  
Adrian Murrell  
Jonathan Park  
Rob Pritchard  
Nick Rollason  
John Schilizzi  
Don Ting  
Peter Wiley  
Simon Witney

## 1987

Anonymous  
Peter Aeberli  
Andrea Ashworth  
Harvey Dobbs  
Andrew Dodd  
Jennifer Doyle  
Mark Greenberg  
Helen Hardman  
Ailsa Holland  
Louise Hutt  
John Jardine  
Philippa Jardine  
Guy Mason  
Joseph Stokoe  
Ian Thompson  
Karen Thompson  
Judith Toms

## 1988

Anonymous  
Paul Belt  
Ruth Boardman  
Sue Bruce  
Sheila Chapman  
Rob Collard  
Roanna Doe  
Chris Harris  
Robert Jones

Robert Keys  
Andy Lavis †  
John Millar  
Jonathan Notley  
Vernee Samuel  
Alison Stevens  
Russell Stone  
Denise Ward

## 1989

Bruce Breckenridge  
Roger Bull  
Gareth Dunn  
Iain Lownes  
Emily Muffett  
Todd Pierce  
Ryan Tring  
Mark Warren  
Ian Whittaker

## 1990

Anonymous  
Matthew Bailey  
Christoph Bettin  
Colin Black  
Richard Butterwick-  
Pawlikowski  
Charlotte Elston  
Duncan Farnsworth  
Joanna Forbes  
L'Estrange  
Clare Forsyth  
Rachel Gauke  
Tim Jones  
Chi Man  
Robert McCord  
Jenny Milligan  
David Shelton  
Russell Stopford  
Dareham Neale  
Alex New  
Catherine O'Hare  
Emma Plunkett  
Rahul Rao  
Guy Reid  
Gillian Roll  
Christopher Sheldrick  
Sam Tomlinson  
David Vince  
Luke Williams

## 1991

Anonymous  
David Atkinson  
Jeremy Goodwin  
Roland Harris  
Philipa Hudson  
Isabelle Mast  
Richard Millns  
Charlotte Morgan  
Heather Newton  
Tim Polli  
Lydia Rainford  
Stephen Reid  
Katherine Rouendaal  
Shirley Stacey  
Gareth Williams  
Jayne Woodside  
Alice Yew

## 1992

Anonymous  
Mohammed Apabhaj

Mike Barnard  
Paula Clarke  
Andrew Farrant  
Eric Hayman  
Michael Hunter  
James Hylins  
Andrew Longmore  
Edward Marsden  
Clare Matson  
Sarah Ryan

## 1993

Hilary Edey  
David Head  
Sarah Hughes  
Andrew Hull  
Edward Mann  
Phil Morris  
Aaron Punwani  
Emily Rayfield  
Hugh Roberts  
Pauline Robson  
Natasha Standen  
Pip Wilson  
Gretchen Zenner

## 1994

Natasha Ashdown  
Amanda Berlan  
Eleanor Blair  
Bonnie Chan Woo  
Simeon Gabriel  
Sarah Hemsley  
Jo Hewitt  
Richard Hogwood  
Andy Huddleston  
Patrick Huggard  
Nick Jefferson  
Edmund Jolliffe  
Graham Neale  
Alex New  
Catherine O'Hare  
Emma Plunkett  
Rahul Rao  
Guy Reid  
Gillian Roll  
Christopher Sheldrick  
Sam Tomlinson  
David Vince  
Luke Williams

## 1995

Anonymous  
Matthew Briers  
Calvin Cheng  
Emma Cremin  
Paul Davidson  
Harry Dunlop  
Jenni Emery  
Christina Haberditzl  
Paul Jessop  
Benjamin Jones  
Emma Jones  
David Klemm  
Matthew Middleweek  
David Parish

John Smith  
Barney Stueck  
Alex Underwood  
Victoria Walton  
Natalie Watts  
Jacob West

## 1996

Paul Armitt  
Lisa Bate  
Oliver Bullough  
Hugo Burchell  
Rebecca Busfield  
Alistair Feeney  
Adam Gross  
David Ingham  
Mateusz Lasik  
Colin Leckey  
Catherine Martin  
Leonardo Mautino  
Ian Melling  
Matthew Mellor  
Aisla Nicholls  
James Redfern

## 1997

Anonymous  
Alistair Allen  
Karen Brennan-Ireland  
Charlotte Buxton  
Duncan Chisholm  
David Daker  
Matthew D'Aubyn  
Neil Dissanayake  
Paul Emery  
Aidan Liddle  
Anna Morris  
Chantal Taylor  
Rachel Williamson  
George Woods  
Sienho Yee

## 1998

Charlie Apps  
Tom Bashford  
Melissa Ellis  
Tom Elliston  
Rory Galloway  
Marina Hamilton-Baillie  
Kitty Hung  
Ann Lingas  
Chris Meier  
Louise Peckett  
Alex Preston  
Amy Reyniers  
James Grigg  
David Hooson  
Christopher Jones  
Jan Lasik  
Huw Lloyd  
Will Lynn  
Robert Pace  
Simon Pritchard  
Philip Smelt  
Richard Wassall  
Christopher Whalen

## 1999

Petya Blumbach  
Tim Boswell  
Jude Bunting  
Jon Butler

Nick Collins  
Sharat Dua  
Rebecca Greenhalgh  
Glyn Kennington  
Alexandra Lamb  
Sarah Montgomery  
Robin Norton-Hale  
Malcolm Parks  
Bao Pham  
Ashan Ramakrishnan  
Simon Ramsden  
Sam Roake  
Ben Steele  
Ruth Tarrant  
Teresa Wu

## 2000

Anonymous  
Sara Bielecki  
Stephan Bocklet  
Susannah Cooke  
Kelly Hagedorn  
Kieran Hamill  
Victoria Laurie  
Claire McGowan  
Michael Newbold  
Laura Rowe

## 2001

Anonymous  
Alison Benson  
Fiona Coady  
James Fisher  
James Grigg  
David Hooson  
Christopher Jones  
Jan Lasik  
Huw Lloyd  
Will Lynn  
Robert Pace  
Simon Pritchard  
Philip Smelt  
Richard Wassall  
Christopher Whalen

## 2002

Callum Bailey  
Katie Dunne  
James Gilbert  
Chris Godwin  
Mark Grimmer  
Scott Johnston  
Mike Loydon  
Samuel Peacock  
Jennifer Reynolds  
Tobi Rufus  
Catherine Salkeld  
Amy Savage  
Rachel Sharples  
Tristan Walker

## 2003

Nabeel Alsindi  
Helen Board  
Joanne Bugg  
Judith Cohen  
Joern Grotjahn  
Rhianon Guibert  
Jenny Hsieh  
Joseph Jones  
Alex Le  
Jason Millar  
Caroline-Lucy Moran  
Morag Taylor  
Jessica Tooby  
John Whitworth

## 2004

Bethany Ehlmann  
Timothy Killen  
Edward Lamb  
John Marnham  
Viral Mehta  
Peter Orr  
Daren Tedeschi  
Andrew Voysey

**2005**

Eleanor Bull  
Matthew Collins  
Stephen Forrest  
Emma Gerald  
Alexander Gilkes  
Emma Jones  
Thomas Lowe  
Igor Moreno  
Thomas Nunn  
Tom Roberts  
Philip Robinson-Moore  
Adam Samoon  
Poppy Street  
Kelsey Traher  
Katharine Tuohy  
Robert Van Kleeck

**2006**

Anonymous  
Tosin Awoyinka  
Andrew Bergbaum  
Sarah Campbell-Hill  
Dan Cariad  
Dewan Chowdhury  
Jesse Freedman  
Lisa Lodwick †  
Swapandeep Mann  
Lauren Murrell  
Alexander Woodham

**2007**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Abigail Barnard  
Matthew Barrett  
Jonathan Beckett  
Fiona Butterfield  
Simon Coppack  
Ella Davis  
Philip Foster  
Jonathan Galaviz  
Sarah Harvey  
Rohan Kandasamy  
Sungmin Kim  
Luke MacLeod  
Lucia Patel  
Michelle Sahai  
Emily Verstraeten  
Courtenay Watson  
Alex Woolgar

**2008**

Anonymous  
Nicholas Buchanan  
Martin Gadsden  
Simon Gage  
Rubén Gomez  
Castellanos  
Yousook Hong  
Ling Lu  
Jemma-Louise Reynolds  
Nicholas Smith  
Alice Thornton

**2009**

Anonymous  
Lauren Eyland  
Joe Hitchen  
Christopher James  
Dan Parker  
Adam Rheinberg  
Dana Segev  
Laila Slaney-Dowse  
Rachelle Tilly  
Milly Walker  
Joe Whittle  
Richard Winslett

**2010**

Yiyang Bao  
Miranda Essex  
Carol Holley  
James Holley  
Lloyd (Meadhbh)  
Houston  
Katy Kiernan  
Henry Lee  
Sam Parsons  
Hari Reeks Jackson  
Tajinder Sandhu

**2011**

Kiran Barhey  
Tabatha Bergin  
George Cochran  
Josh Ingham  
Anbu Kandaswamy  
Srinivasan  
Finn Keane  
James Llewelyn-  
Chawner  
Robert Miller  
Louise Murgatroyd  
Nicholas Ng  
Helen Spooner

**2012**

Kamille Adair Morgan  
Joy Aston  
Brian Balchin  
Max Brodermann  
Freddie Harris  
Justin Hubbard  
Rachel Hunter  
Francesca McDowell  
James McNally-Field  
Katie McNally-Field  
Brian McKnight  
Chris Nicholls  
Adam Stones  
Alexander Stronell  
Alice Vacani  
Ksenija Yeeles

**2013**

Reuben Ackerman  
Alex Benn  
Eric Clement  
Kathryn Deegan  
Archie Jones

Florence Kettle  
Marcus Meer  
Jessica Rush  
Katherine Sheridan  
Harriet Smith  
Richard Tanburn  
Daniel Valentine

**2014**

Alex Allison  
Lucy Allison  
Siobhan Cavanagh  
Khay Yen Chew  
Francis Chmiel  
Stephanie Richards  
James Ross  
Jacob Vivian

**2015**

Liisa Parts  
Charles Wang  
Athol Williams

**2016**

Oliver Barlow

**2017**

Louise Bracken  
Colleen Carroll  
Alex Chiu Smit  
Frances Christodoulou  
James Howard  
James Stringer  
Mitchell Tate

**2018**

Sarah Bannister  
Weidong Chen  
Eve Davies  
Honor Poulton  
Jack Scantlebury  
Abigail Sheppard

**2019**

Augustine Agyeman-  
Duah  
Matthias Hächler  
George Hobart  
Thibault Jouen-Tachoire  
Megan Lee  
Kirsten Smith  
Baoli Zhao

**2020**

Sam Arrowsmith  
Jody Bragger  
Michael Cerny  
Thomas Coyle  
Juliet Dyrud  
Alex Fish  
Alli Lyons  
Kirill Nezhentsev  
Adam Parr  
Simon Sällström  
Reemon Spector

**2021**

Brad Duncan  
Ryan Radia

**2022**

Felix Kuntz  
Pablo Mendoza Gayon  
Simon Richoux  
Taiki Uesugi  
Max de Werd

**2023**

Nathaniel Elder

**2024**

Angie Ho

**Friends of Hertford**

Anonymous  
Abbott Laboratories Ltd  
Albert Ananyan  
Americans for Oxford  
Dana Arch  
Judi Banks  
Timothy Bellman  
Walter Bodmer  
Alan Bogg  
Chris Bracebridge  
British Airways Plc  
Robert Brown  
Andreas Busch  
Clifford Chance LLP –  
London  
Tommy Donahue  
The Drapers' Company  
Robert Ellmann  
John Finley  
Thomas Fritz  
Angelina Gibson  
Peter Gleeson  
Goldman Sachs  
Matched Giving Program  
Google Inc – London  
Marcus Green  
Heather Howard for  
Peter Howard  
Keasby Memorial  
Foundation  
Andrew Lockyer  
Macquarie Bank UK Ltd  
Fouad and May  
Makhzoumi  
Julie McKeown  
James Miller  
Sarah Rohan  
S&P Global (London  
Office)  
Tim Sahr  
Emma Smith  
Scott Szegowski  
Wellington Management  
UK Foundation  
Frances Wheare

# WARNOCK SOCIETY MEMBERS

## by matriculation year

**1951**

Michael Port

**1952**

Philip Hobson  
Patrick Jeffers  
Francis Scott

**1953**

Alan Broome  
David Clay  
Bob Coupe †  
Quintin Knight

**1954**

Malcolm Busfield †  
Jim Catty  
Michael Kirby

**1955**

Clive Aldred  
David Cutler  
David Moseley

**1956**

David Cressey

**1957**

Anonymous  
Peter Loveday  
Gerald Paterson  
Ronald Pattinson

**1958**

Rodney Chambers  
Anonymous

**1959**

David Grant  
Jeffrey Preston †  
Hugh Sturzaker

**1960**

Rex Goad  
James Hemsley  
Mike St John  
Roger Westbrook  
Marc Wigan

**1961**

Christopher Craig  
Malcolm Duce  
David Elkington  
Colin Harris  
David Mander  
Eric Martin  
Hugh Nicklin  
Ken Waters

**1962**

Chris Brooks  
Michael Gee

**1963**

Bob Eastwood  
Christopher Fance  
John Mollon  
Paul Tompsett

**1964**

Tony Champion  
Tim Cornish  
David Hackett  
Graham Jones  
Adrian Oldknow

**1965**

John Crook  
Mike Henderson  
Stephen Potel

**1966**

Peter Hollins

**1967**

Philip Chapman  
Brian Fortnum  
Edwin Gale  
Victor Rayward-Smith  
Ian Reid  
Phillip Runchman  
Robin Selby  
Ian Sharp  
Mike Wyatt

**1968**

Meredith Childerstone  
John Clark  
John Dewar  
Adrian Ogley

**1969**

Peter Blakey  
Alex Bristow  
Gary Green  
Eric Pawson  
Simon Webb

**1970**

Andrew Binks  
Neil Swindells



## 1971

Alan Barlow  
Crispian Cartwright  
Jeffrey John  
Graeme Marshall  
Roderic Mitchell  
Lesley Sharpe  
Christopher Wright

## 1972

Peter Dart  
Lindsay Forbes  
John Landers  
Tom Hutton  
Philip Watson

## 1973

Mellor Hennessy  
George Patton  
John Salmon

## 1974

Kate Stross  
Stephen Taylor  
Boris Tyduk

## 1975

John Asquith  
Robert Lusardi

## 1976

David Brennan  
Nick Cam  
Bill Jamieson  
Stephen Massey  
Paul Rose

## 1977

Henrietta Ewart  
Edward Fisher  
Nicholas Haag  
Adrian Hough  
Amanda Ingram  
Keith Lyall

## 1978

David Budd  
Paul Chaston  
Trevor Hicks  
Rose Jackson  
Adam Johnson  
Peter Manning  
Malcolm Wood

## 1979

Peter Beckford  
Gary Collins  
Elizabeth McManus  
Anonymous

## 1980

Kathryn Hough  
Jonathan Searle  
Sheila Sharp

## 1981

Geoffrey Dobson  
Ian Gatt  
Sukhvinder Kaur-Stubbs  
Tony Surkovic  
Lorne Whiteway

## 1982

Isobel Collyer  
Jacquie Glomski  
Markus Jaigirder  
Stewart Kennedy

## 1983

Gilbert Benz  
Ian Whitmore

## 1984

Gray Smith  
Julian Stander

## 1985

DB Lenck

## 1986

Martin Dunsby  
Chris Harley-Martin  
Sally Harley-Martin

## 1987

Peter Aeberli  
Anonymous  
Jonathan Sharp

## 1988

Phil Smith

## 1989

Peter Houston  
Ian Whittaker

## 1991

Gill Meller

## 1992

James Bruce  
Nancy O'Brien Stuart

## 1994

Tom Fletcher

## 1995

Matthew Briers

## 1996

Jo Briers

## 1997

Hermione Ruck-Keene

## 2001

Christopher Whalen

## 2003

Jessica Tooby

## 2004

Andrew Voysey

## 2007

Alex Woolgar

## Friends of Hertford

Walter Bodmer  
Barbara Davies  
Angelina Gibson  
Will Hutton  
Ann McAfee  
Philip Pentney  
Barry Ryan  
Lothar Waas  
Stephanie West

