GREENLAND ROCKS
A voyage to Wager’s Peak

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

JIM RAY
The man behind the music room

FOLLOWING OSIRIS
Egyptian concepts of the afterlife

LIFE IN THE THIRD SECTOR
From historian to humanitarian
## Contents

### College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From the Master</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir Ivor Crewe discusses two new reports about Oxford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellows’ news</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New appointments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s online</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New website, portraits in College and the Crown Jewels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College news</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News from the High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development news</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A new look for the Annual Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My view from Univ</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle Pickett (2014, Biochemistry)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event news</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s been, and what’s to come</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**From the Editor**

Welcome to the summer 2018 issue of *The Martlet*, the magazine for members and friends of University College Oxford.

I would like to thank all those who contributed to this issue, in particular Dr Robin Darwall-Smith (1982, Classics) for his invaluable help compiling the *In memoriam* section of the magazine and Justin Bowyer for his copy-editing assistance.

In the following pages you will find the remarkable story of Captain James “Jim” Floyd Ray (1959, PPE), a former Rhodes Scholar who was one of the first to be deployed in Vietnam, and, tragically, one of the first casualties of that war.

James Matthews (2000, History) discusses his work as Communications Manager for the Red Cross in Iraq, Professor Mark Smith explores the enigmatic god of the dead, Osiris, Dr Robin Darwall-Smith highlights Univ’s new Admissions Register, and Dr Sam Weatherley (2005, Earth Sciences) reports on his expedition to Greenland.

You can also find out about the research of Junior Research Fellow, Dr Roxana Willis, tackling issues surrounding youth mental health. Judo and boxing champion DPhil scholar Rachel Wheatley (2016, Plant Sciences), talks about finding the balance between studies and sport and Dr Lars Hansen examines the ground beneath our feet. We report on the recent exploits of our sports teams and societies, and share news from our Old Member community.

Sara Dewsbery
Communications Officer

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The plays created by the students have been powerful and diverse.”
“University College Boat Club was founded in 1827. But when did a Univ Eight first go Head of the River?”

Features

The Egyptians’ conception of Osiris, rather like their conception of the afterlife itself, was far from static.”

Jim Ray
Dr Geri Della Rocca de Candal (2006, History) learns about the man behind the music room

Greenland rocks
Dr Sam Weatherley (2005, Earth Sciences) on a voyage to East Greenland and Wager’s Peak

Following Osiris
Professor Mark Smith explores the cult of the Egyptian god of the dead

A new chapter in Univ’s history
Univ’s new Admissions Register and the art of 21st century book-binding

Tools of my trade
Dr Robin Darwall-Smith, Archivist

Leading questions
Dr Errol Norwitz (1988, Medicine)

Honourable mentions
Professor Katharine Ellis (1982, Music) and Professor Hyun Song Shin, former Tutorial Fellow in Economics

Boxing clever
Rachel Wheatley (2016, Plant Sciences)

Clubs and societies

Announcements

Univ in the Arts

In memoriam

A walk around the quad
Dr Andrew Grant, Finance Bursar

Logic Lane
I am penning these thoughts at the end of a week that saw the publication of two reports on Oxford. The University launched its comprehensive first Annual Admissions Statistics Report, in the spirit of full transparency. It tells a story of a gradually more diverse undergraduate body, steady progress towards ambitious targets agreed with the Office for Students, and the progressive and by now close demographic alignment between those who applied and those made offers and admitted. Steps taken ten years ago are starting to show results, notably the UNIQ summer schools. Our Opportunity Scheme has already had an impact on a smaller scale on Univ’s figures, and this will grow as additional cohorts are admitted.

Examine the data and it is a struggle to find any evidence of significant selection bias. Yet influential sections of the press and social media insist that Oxford entrenches privilege and is institutionally biased against UK-domiciled black students. Fact check: the proportion of students achieving AAA or better at A level in all UK universities who are UK-domiciled black students is 1.8%. The proportion at Oxford is 1.9%. (Some Asian ethnic minorities are under-represented, although no more so than in other Russell group universities.) The University’s problem is political, not institutional; it has yet to find a way of convincing sceptics that its admissions process is fair and that its capacity to transcend the country’s structural inequalities are limited. It faces political siren calls to trim standards of excellence and merit to compensate for weaknesses in the school system.

*How Different is Oxbridge?* reports the results of a survey of almost 90,000 students, including over 1,600 at Oxford and Cambridge. This was a rare good-news story, which perhaps inevitably received little media coverage. It turns out that, compared with other students, including those in Russell Group universities, Oxbridge undergraduates are appreciably more likely to be satisfied with their courses and to believe that they receive good value for money. They have a markedly heavier workload (across the range of disciplines), spend longer hours studying outside class, receive more and faster feedback and believe that they are learning more. Despite (or because of) working harder they are happier, have higher life satisfaction and are more likely to feel that their lives are worthwhile; anxiety levels are no greater despite the pressure of Finals. The Oxbridge undergraduate teaching model of tutorials and supervisions, so dependent on the largesse of alumni down the generations, continues to show its worth.

The University risks being too defensive about admissions, but too complacent about its teaching and curriculum. Despite their general contentment Oxbridge students were less likely to think they were receiving original or creative teaching than students at the majority of UK universities. Tutorials must be preserved. But the anachronistic distribution of places across subjects, the inadequate 3-year duration of PPE, a degree classification system unfit for purpose, hand-written examinations and one-hour live lectures in the digital age are all ripe for review.

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Sir Ivor Crewe
Was Brexit really such a surprise? A response.

May I commend Keith Richardson for his insightful comments about the Brexit referendum result (The Martlet Issue 7). As a Member of the European Parliament for 10 years from 1999-2009 may I offer three small additional pieces of evidence in support of his argument.

On arrival in Brussels I was intrigued to find that MEPs from most other countries included former national politicians (including ex-ministers, Prime Ministers and Presidents) who saw the European Parliament as an opportunity to contribute at a higher level. For many British MEPs it was a stepping stone for Westminster exiles or wannabes to tread water until they could return to national politics.

All EU countries support an office building in their national capitals, shared between the European Parliament and the Commission, ideally within a short distance from their national Parliaments, to act as a focal meeting point and information source. In 26 out of the 27 countries while I was MEP, if for any reason such an office had to be moved there was a flurry of interest from property developers keen to get their hands on such a prestige customer who would automatically drive up rents in the vicinity. However there was one country, when the current listed building had to be closed for extensive refurbishment, where developers were keen that one of their rivals would be successful with the replacement as they feared that rents would only go down! I was told that the selected landlord would only proceed if the EU flag was not prominently displayed, and the ground floor windows had non-see-through glass. No prizes for guessing which country.

Finally David Cameron – despite his many talents – was conned by a colleague to commit to leave the Group of the European Peoples’ Party and European Democrats, as allegedly a “risk-free” option in Europe which would appease the rampant Eurosceptic wing back home. To compound the decision he sought to leave during a five-year mandate despite a binding undertaking by his predecessor (as well as the individual MEPs) that the Conservatives would stay for at least a full term. I was briefly Leader of the Conservative MEPs during this period, and whereas the decision was regarded by other national political leaders as counterproductive for the UK his declared intention regarding timing was also seen as a clear breach of personal trust. When Cameron would later come to them cap in hand for help ahead of the UK referendum their response would be no surprise.

Philip Bushill-Matthews
(1962, English Language and Literature)

Univ’s Opportunity Programme

I was interested to read about Univ’s Opportunity Programme in the Autumn 2017 edition of The Martlet. This has particular significance to me as a secondary school chemistry teacher in Middlesbrough.

In 1991 I began studying chemistry at Univ. In 1995, I completed my DPhil at Univ. After a period in the chemical industry, I returned to Univ for a third time to complete a PGCE and begin what has been a hugely rewarding career as a teacher.

Any schemes that widen access to Oxford have been of significance to me and my students.

Although a number of my students have successfully obtained places at Oxford in the past, until now none had gone to Univ or to study chemistry. So, I was delighted when one of my A level chemistry students from last year became my first ever student to study chemistry at Oxford. On top of that, he chose Univ in part due to the Opportunity Programme.

I hope that that he gets as much from his time at Univ as I did and that the Opportunity Programme is successful for many others like him.

Dr Brian Casson
(1991, Chemistry and Education)

Top tweet of the year - over 120,000 impressions:

Don’t miss The Infinite Monkey Cage on Monday 12 Feb at 4.30pm BBC Radio 4 - Brian Cox and Robin Ince are joined by Univ’s Tamsin Mather to look at the latest technology used to predict the next big volcanic eruption. #Univ_Inspire
Fellows’ news
New appointments and an admission.

**College appointments**

We welcomed Dr Joe Moshenska as our new Beaverbrook and Bouverie Tutorial Fellow in English in April. He joins us from Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was a Fellow and Director of Studies in English. He holds a PhD from Princeton, where he spent a year as a Visiting Fellow.


He is currently working on a book that begins with holy things being given to children as playthings during the Reformation.

**Supernumerary Fellows**

Under new College statutes, the title “Special Supernumerary Fellow” is now defunct. Fellows previously in this category will use the title “Supernumerary Fellow” in future.

**Admission of the Assessor**

On 14 March 2018 Dr William Allan, McConnell Laing Tutorial Fellow in Greek and Latin Languages and Literature, and Associate Professor of Classics, was admitted to the office of University Assessor.

Every year, three colleges of the University take their turn each to elect a member of Congregation as a senior officer and trustee of the University with a role to contribute to the institution’s business at the highest level. Two colleges each elect a Proctor, the third the Assessor; together, their roles focus on scrutiny of governance and decision-making.

Fellows of Univ have regularly taken their turn at holding these important posts. The last time this happened was in 2004, when Dr John Wheater (Rayne Fellow in Theoretical Physics) was Senior Proctor. Emeritus Fellow Martin Matthews was Junior Proctor in 1992. Our last Assessor was Professor Michael Collins, Emeritus Fellow, who held the post back in 1980. In fact, Professor Collins is the only Univ Assessor before Dr Allen, because the Assessorship was created as recently as 1960. On the other hand, the post of Proctor goes right back to the earliest days of the university, and the earliest known holder of the post from Univ was Roger de Aswardby in 1350.

You can read more Fellows’ news in the University College Record.
Fragile earth

Dr Lars Hansen explains how the ground beneath our feet is not as strong as we thought.

Discovering the strength of the earth’s crust has been a focus of research for decades. Although scientists agree that in order for plate tectonics to work, the rocks that form them must be brittle enough to break down to create new boundaries, they have believed them to be much stronger than they appeared to be in the natural world, leading to ambiguity in their research.

However, new research by Dr Lars Hansen and colleagues, has shown plate tectonics to be much weaker than previously thought. The research, which was published in the journal Science Advances, uses a technique known as nanoindentation.

“Unfortunately, the estimates of rock strength have been significantly greater than the apparent strength of plates as observed on Earth” explained Dr Hansen. “Thus, there is a fundamental lack of understanding of how plates can actually break to form new boundaries. Furthermore, the estimates of rock strength from laboratory experiments exhibit considerable variability, reducing confidence in using experiments to estimate rock properties.”

Dr Hansen said: “We have demonstrated that this variability among previous estimates of strength is a result of a special length-scale within the rocks – that is, the strength depends on the volume of material being tested. To determine this we used nanoindentation experiments in which a microscopic diamond stylus is pressed into the surface of an olivine crystal. These experiments reveal that the strength of the crystal depends on the size of the indentation.

“This concept translates to large rock samples, for which the measured strength increases as the size of the constituent crystals decreases. Because most previous experiments have used synthetic rocks with crystal sizes much smaller than typically found in nature, they have drastically overestimated the strength of tectonic plates. Our results therefore both explain the wide range of previous estimates of rock strength and provide confirmation that the strength of the rocks that make up tectonic plates is low enough to form new plate boundaries.”

The study was an international collaboration involving scientists from Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, Oxford University and the University of Delaware.

Dr Hansen added: “This result has implications beyond forming tectonic plate boundaries. Better predictions of the strength of rocks under these conditions will help inform us on many dynamic processes in plates. For instance, we now know that the evolution of stresses on earthquake-generating faults likely depends on the size of the individual crystals that make up the rocks involved.

“We now know that the evolution of stresses on earthquake-generating faults likely depends on the size of the individual crystals that make up the rocks involved.”

Dr Lars Hansen is Sulas Fellow and Acting Dean at Univ, and Associate Professor of Rock and Mineral Physics.
I was delighted to join University College this academic year as a Junior Research Fellow in Law. My research – supported by University College and the British Academy – aims to understand the effect of socioeconomic background on youth mental health, and how this bears on issues of responsibility and criminalisation. As an exploratory part of the project, I have sought to involve young people in the research process by developing forum theatre into a participatory research method.

Forum theatre is an interactive style of drama developed by Augusto Boal, which encourages community engagement through a range of games, still image work, discussion, and theatre. I first learnt about forum theatre from La Liberté – an exceptional acting group I was fortunate to work with in Cameroon. I was then trained by Radha Ramaswamy, of the Centre for Community Dialogue and Change, during two international drama projects we ran in India and the UK. Impressed with the method, I decided to incorporate it into my research with children in England.

Since commencing the research in October, I have run a series of drama workshops with young persons aged 12 and 13 in different schools. In these sessions, students have the opportunity to discuss their mental health concerns and develop their very own plays on any issue they wish to address. Unlike traditional forms of theatre, a forum theatre play is performed at least twice: first, the play ends with a problem or conflict, and then members of the audience (in this case, other children in the classroom) are invited to take part in the play to try and alter outcomes.

So far, the plays created by the students have been powerful and diverse. Some of the plays have addressed the difficulties that young carers experience when looking after disabled or terminally ill parents. Other plays have explored problems of bullying, with racism and ableism raised as common situations that young people face. An especially poignant play explored feelings of anger and frustration that accompany growing up when poor.

Feedback from the children who have taken part in the research has been encouraging. One of the students emailed to say the following: “I found it very relaxing, enjoyable, fun and educational [. . .] I looked forward to the lesson every week, if I was feeling upset on a particular day, I would always know that I had a lovely environment and a lovely lesson to be in the following week or so. Therefore, I would just like to thank you for this amazing opportunity”. Indeed, many of the children suggested that there should be more opportunities for them to talk about mental health in school.

As well as a valuable way to collaborate with children, forum theatre is a promising research method. My data mainly consists of observational field notes, documented by a research assistant and myself during and immediately after the forum theatre workshops. By partnering with a range of schools, I hope to compare students’ experiences. I am particularly interested to discover which issues affect children regardless of their backgrounds, and which issues appear to be related to socioeconomic circumstances. Ultimately, this participant-led phase of the research will shape how the postdoctoral project develops during my fellowship at the College.

Dr Roxana Willis is a Junior Research Fellow in Law and British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow.
What’s online
A new website, portraits in College and the Crown Jewels.

8,587
The number of times our Christmas video has been watched. Watch it again at bit.ly/univ0178

New website
Back in January it was a case of new year, new website for Univ. Working in collaboration with London-based designers Firefly Digital the new site was rebuilt from the ground up to be faster, cleaner and clearer to better showcase the breadth and depth of all that College offers.

Prospective applicants can explore what it means to live and learn at Univ, whilst redesigned pages on Outreach and Open Days make it easier to take that next important step towards becoming a Univite.

Greatly expanded general information on Univ, its history and buildings includes a brand-new College Buildings “hub” from which to explore everything from the Chapel to portraits in Hall.

Our News and Features pages now cover a wide range of in-depth topics from Charity, Garden and Alumni news to Travel Reports and monthly Univ “Treasures”. The latter delves into our archives to uncover gems great and small – from a pamphlet written by Christian Cole (OM 1877), the first Black African to take a degree at Oxford, to maps, bookplates, photographic collections and more.

We warmly encourage submissions for News, Features and Events. Email communications@univ.ox.ac.uk.

You can keep up to date with all things Univ on our social media channels. Between Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram we cover the sublime to the (sometimes) ridiculous – yes, we did celebrate Star Wars Day on May the 4th…

Justin Bowyer, Digital Communications Manager

Portraits in College
Our Archivist, Dr Robin Darwall-Smith (1982, Classics) has helped greatly in the production of our new Portraits in College page. The page is a counterpart to our existing Portraits in Hall page and details a further 16 of our most important and noteworthy portraits, including those of Robin Butler, Robert Dudley, Sir Michael Sadler, Harry Melville (pictured) and Stephen Hawking.
Find out more at bit.ly/univ0166

Univ treasures
It seems fitting, in light of the Royal nuptials this year, to include the following recent Univ Treasure.

The Crown Jewels
Univ has received a wonderful two-volume set of The Crown Jewels (1998) as a donation from Old Member (and co-author) Dr Roger Harding (1959, Earth Sciences). Only 650 sets were produced and only four UK universities besides Oxford own copies. Volume I details every Coronation ceremony held in Great Britain from Anglo-Saxon times to the reign of Elizabeth II. Volume II is a full catalogue of the Tower of London Jewel House Collection.
Learn more at bit.ly/univ0147
“The view as the sun rises over my seat in the New Library. It perfectly encapsulates Oxford, juxtaposing the often frantic pace of life with an idyllic sense of peace and tranquility.”

Isabelle Pickett (2014, Biochemistry)
College news

An award for diversity, a logical move and community connections.

Diversity award

Univ’s Opportunity Programme won the award for “Innovation in promoting diversity in the student body” at the first ever Vice-Chancellor’s Diversity Awards, held at the University of Oxford on 8 May.

The awards, which will be held every two years, aim to promote equality and diversity within the University by celebrating inspiring people and projects. The ceremony was held at Worcester College and hosted by June Sarpong MBE.

Launched in 2016, Univ’s Opportunity Programme aims to expand the number of UK students from disadvantaged backgrounds at the College.

Learn more at bit.ly/univ0181 and bit.ly/univ0182

A logical move

After nearly 130 years occupying the same space above the SCR in Univ’s Main Quad, the Junior Common Room has found a new home in Logic Lane.

One of the motivations for the move was the question of accessibility; an issue first raised by former JCR President Josh Richards (2013, History and Politics) and driven forward by current President Maninder Sachdeva (2016, Computer Science and Philosophy).

Addressing the Fellows, staff and students at the opening celebrations, Maninder observed: “This step ensures that Univ lives up to the highest standards when it comes to accessibility. It is our duty as a world class institution to remove any barriers to success, whatever they may be.”

Adding: “I would like to thank everybody who worked behind the scenes to help us reach this point, the Fellows of the College, Angela Unsworth, Teresa Strike, the entire Domestic Bursary and the Univ JCR members.”

Sir Ivor Crewe added his thanks to Montgomery Associates, the architects, Richard Ward, the building contractor, Teresa Strike and her team, and Maninder Sachdeva. He concluded: “In the best Univ tradition JCR meetings will be elevated by high moral purpose, eloquent debate, fiery rhetoric and very bad jokes and also in the best Univ tradition it will continue to be a warm, intimate and welcoming place for all Univ undergraduates, now and for generations to come.”

The new JCR is named in honour of Bob Morris, who worked at Univ from 1949 to 2007, in recognition of his long service and the affection in which he was held during his time here. Although Bob nominally retired in 1999 and received an MBE for services to College, he continued to preside over JCR teas for many years.

Univ in numbers

6,200+

The number of followers Univ has on Twitter @UnivOxford (the highest of any Oxford college)
Univ in the community

University College has a long and proud tradition of charitable activity.

We donate to a wide range of charities catering for severely disadvantaged groups and neighbourhoods in the Oxford community. In addition, we work with a number of partner charities whose activities have a direct impact on the College. One of those partner charities is Aspire, an award winning social enterprise which runs its own social businesses offering professional facilities management services to local councils, blue-chip corporates, academic institutions and private customers. Aspire’s businesses create work placements and employment opportunities for local people who face barriers to securing meaningful employment. The College has employed individuals both temporarily and permanently through Aspire.

Teresa Strike, Assoc CIIPD, Head of Hospitality & Accommodation at Univ, gave a presentation on the College’s commitment to supporting Aspire and being a responsible employer, at the conference The Power of Inclusive Recruitment in May.

Aspire has benefited significantly from a positive and proactive relationship with University College, to help develop our homeless prevention activity in Oxford.”

Paul Roberts, COO (Employment & Partnerships) Aspire Oxford

Read about Univ in the Community at bit.ly/univ0179
Event news
Bonhomie, banter and blades.

1970-1974 Gaudy
All those who matriculated between 1970 and 1974 were invited to attend a Gaudy on 17 and 18 March. Over a hundred Old Members attended. The programme included a talk by Elizabeth Adams, College Librarian, on Univ’s Oscar Wilde collection. A special mention to Sir Michael Soole QC (1972, PPE), who delivered an outstanding toast at dinner.
View photographs at bit.ly/univ0167

Univ in the Arts
On 22 March the College launched a new series of specialised events for alumni with an interest in the Arts and Humanities. The opening event took place in London on 22 March at The Music Room, 46 Grosvenor Street, and featured a fascinating conversation between distinguished historians Simon Winder (1981, History) and Alex von Tunzelmann (1996, History). Amanda Brookfield (1979, English) gave the introduction and Jonathan Earl (1977, English) facilitated the discussion.
Hear the talk and view photographs at bit.ly/univ0168
Find out more about Univ in the Arts on page 45.

Summer Eights
Old Members, students, Fellows, staff and their families joined us on 26 May at the Univ Boat House for this year’s Summer Eights and the Master’s Reception.
View photographs at bit.ly/univ0165

Dates for your diary
Saturday 15 September
Univ Alumni Day

Saturday 22 September
1975-1979 Gaudy

Saturday 22 - Sunday 23 September
1968 Golden Anniversary

Friday 28 - Saturday 29 September
Class of 1963 College Reunion

Thursday 22 November
14th Univ Annual Seminar

Saturday 1 December
Advent Carol Services

Thursday 7 February 2019
Univ London Dinner

For more details on events visit bit.ly/univ0169

£1 million+
The amount raised by our Golden Anniversary reunions for Bursaries and Student Support since 2003.
Development news

A new look for the Annual Fund and support for graduate scholars.

Rhodes Scholarship
In 2017-18 the College formed a new partnership with the Rhodes Trust formally establishing a new permanent Rhodes Scholarship exclusively tenable at Univ. Since the 1904 inception of the Rhodes Trust, the College has been a popular destination for Rhodes Scholars and overall there have been 441 Rhodes Scholars who have attended College. Through the generosity of several Univ Rhodes Scholars the new permanent ‘Univ’ Rhodes Scholarship hopes to ensure a continual flow of Scholars to the College with funding available for up to three a year. The College wishes to thank the generous leadership of former Univ Rhodes Scholars:

Bill Bardel (1961, History)
Rita and Peter Carfagna (1975, Law)
Richard Cooper (1964, PPE)
William J Clinton (1968, Politics)
David Frederick (1983, Politics)
Bruns Grayson (1974, PPE)
Philip Chung-Ming Ma (1986, Economics)
Tom McMillen (1974, PPE)

whose generosity and care for the College and for the Trust helped to establish this new permanent scholarship tenable at Univ and cement a new collaboration between the Trust and the College. Currently 15 Rhodes Scholars representing eight different nations are members of the College.

The Oxford-Anderson Humanities Scholarship
The College kindly received a generous benefaction from James Anderson (1977, History) for the advance of postgraduate funding in the Humanities. His commitment to the College secured additional matched funding from the University and has created a substantial, permanent endowment capable of supporting annually up to two postgraduates in the Humanities at Univ. The Oxford-Anderson Humanities Scholarship will only be tenable at the College and will be available to eligible postgraduates pursuing any Humanities course which the College offers.

If you would like to discuss making a potential gift towards postgraduate scholarships and support, please contact Christopher.Major@univ.ox.ac.uk. Thank you.

The Annual Fund is getting a brand new look

For ten years the Annual Fund has enabled Univ to meet the day to day challenges of providing world leading education and research. In doing so it has developed, allowing the College to focus on areas of improvement and provide much needed support for our students, our access work, and our ability to provide an excellent education with state-of-the-art facilities. The Fund has grown from a £600,000 general top-up fund, to a programme of targeted funding amounting to over £1,000,000 for each of the last four years. This has all been possible through the remarkable level of support from our alumni, who enable the College to flourish and thrive in uncertain times.

The steady growth of the Annual Fund not only supports the College today, but enables us to look forward, securing and advancing the College for decades to come.

From this year the presentation of the Univ Annual Fund will change. We aim to make the Annual Fund easier to understand, and to illustrate more clearly how each and every one of our donors makes a difference. This will also help facilitate changes in our working practices owing to new data protection legislation.

We will publish a new Univ Annual Fund Brochure which will outline areas within the College which can be supported, along with our specific aims for the future in each of these areas. This will enable Old Members to see where their support goes and the difference it makes, and to be informed of emerging objects of financial support over the coming years.

We hope that this brochure will inspire Old Members to make their mark on the College in the areas which matter to them, enabling Univ to prosper for decades to come.

Lucas Bunnett, Annual Fund Manager
THE MAN BEHIND THE MUSIC ROOM:

JIM RAY

Dr Geri Della Rocca de Candal (2006, History DPhil and MSt) learns the inspiring story of the man who believed in giving life its very best.

As a student at Univ, I would often walk past the Jim Ray Music Room, and, on occasion, I would stop and listen. I remember reading Jim's name on the brass plaque on the door, but I never paid too much attention to it at the time. It was only many years later, when the Master asked me to interview one of Jim's closest friends at College, Vanni Treves, that I began to learn his story.

Captain James “Jim” Floyd Ray was born in Georgia, US, on 17 August, 1937. He had graduated second out of 505 from the 1959 class at West Point – the US Military Academy – and came up to Univ as a Rhodes Scholar. After Oxford he went back to the US and was one of the first to be deployed in Vietnam, and, tragically, one of the first casualties: he died on 9 January 1965 when he was only 27 years old.

The more I learned about Jim Ray, the more interested in him I became: I read articles and interviews, memorials and essays; I sifted through the archives of Rhodes House and Univ. But I soon realised that if I wanted to find out more about the man, not just the student or the officer, I would need to talk to those who had been closest to him. I started by tracing Jim’s younger sister, Joanne Hutton, who agreed to speak with me.
Can you tell me about Jim's upbringing, his family, and why he went to West Point?

Jim was born into small town life in the quintessentially southern culture of Milledgeville, GA. Our mother taught at Georgia State College for Women (one of her pupils was the writer Flannery O’Connor), and was the epitome of charm. Our father grew up on a former plantation in South Carolina, and he didn’t tolerate much foolishness: I’m told he pushed Jim hard, and apparently had second thoughts about doing so. WWII summoned him, as a reservist, to a teaching post at West Point from 1942-47. Jim was a young elementary student throughout the war, and his time at that beautiful campus undoubtedly drove his desire to return as a cadet. Our brother Robert Newton Ray was born there when Jim was seven, while from 1950-53 our family lived in Austria, which is where I was born. Jim attended an American boarding school in Germany where he cultivated that language as well as a love of music and art – and travel. Later on, his appointment to West Point came from Senator Carl Vinson of Georgia. Because of the fifteen years’ difference in our ages, unfortunately my knowledge of Jim is mostly second-hand. Among my last memories of him, however, is Jim studying Vietnamese flash cards he’d made for himself. A small detail, maybe, but indicative, I think, of what it looks like to always give life your very best.

“America does not produce many men like Jim Ray.”

Can you tell us what happened the night of 9 January, 1965? The circumstances of Jim’s death remain murky.

The most likely explanation I was given, via his widow Charlotte, is that his Vietnamese counterpart and partner in the Advisory Program at Nha Be was in fact Vietcong, and set up an ambush intended simply to knock Jim out of action because he was being overly effective; instead it killed him. But this is surmise based on a fellow West Point classmate’s assessment and intuitions, not established fact. Jim was out on patrol at night and apparently was coming to the aid of another soldier under fire when he was shot. The various and sundry posthumous medals received embroidered this story.

What happened next?

I remember hearing a radio broadcast news of another fatality in Vietnam shortly before receiving the phone call informing us it was Jim. Charlotte turned to me for companionship when visiting my grieving parents, sometimes in the company of one Powell Hutton, a fellow Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, who would later become my husband. Jim’s death was a huge shock to his community of friends, and at least a dozen West Pointers and Oxonians travelled to San Antonio for his funeral. Letters were received by my parents from General Westmoreland and from so many others who grieved this great loss.
Why is the Music Room dedicated to him?

Jim had never studied voice in a serious way to the best of my knowledge, although he sang with West Point’s choir for four years. So one mark of his abilities and accomplishments was taking on the lead role in Simon Boccanegra while at Oxford. I love to know that the Music Room continues Jim’s legacy and love of music at University College. Friends travelling to Oxford occasionally give us a very general sense of its condition, and during her lifetime, Charlotte would occasionally invest in an oriental rug or other furnishings to make it more comfortable.

I then approached Vanni Treves, Jim’s closest friend at College, once more, to ask him about Jim Ray’s years at Univ.

Do you remember the first time you met?

When I first met Jim I was still a woefully immature 18 year old, while Jim was a Lieutenant in the United States Army and a Rhodes Scholar who had already proved himself to be much cleverer than I. Yet underneath his moral and intellectual rigour and forcefulness of character, there was a foundation of kindness that had shown itself throughout his time at West Point. And, for whatever reason, he was kind to me and amused by my cockiness and curiosity. In 1959, England was not long out of austerity and rationing; and Jim, on an officer’s pay, was relatively rich. Highlights of his generosity were his invitations to the elegant US Officers Club in the Bayswater Road, where white jacketed, white gloved soldier servants served their uniformed superiors with food and wine that was very different indeed from that available in Hall or the Beer Cellar. Jim knew and fostered my evolving interest in American life and history. He would have been paramount at anything he tried, and he would only have tried the best.” I stand by what I wrote then and, 55 years on, I would not write it of any other man I’ve known.

How did Jim feel about his time at Oxford?

Jim’s widow Charlotte – she and Jim were married at the end of Jim’s second year, when he was well on his way to a First in PPE – wrote on his death to the Warden of Rhodes House that Oxford was the most profound experience of Jim’s life. I am still proud to have been a tiny part of that.

What have you learned from him?

In Jim’s case, the saying “give life your very best” is especially resonant. What I think I learned from him, at an impressionable and disorganised age, is the importance of order, discipline and tenacity; and that those qualities are not inconsistent with kindness and concern for others.

Why would you say that Jim Ray was such a remarkable individual?

Sir Maurice Shock, Jim’s distinguished and demanding Politics Tutor, wrote in the Univ Record: “In every decade there is a small number of undergraduates who are clearly cut out to play a leading part in great affairs. Jim was such an undergraduate.” I’m reminded that soon after Jim died, I wrote this to Tom Hill, a mutual Univ friend: “I cannot imagine that his force of personality and intellect, straightforwardness of purpose, character, humour and loyalty, can ever be matched for his friends, or by them. He would have been paramount at anything he tried, and he would only have tried the best.” I stand by what I wrote then and, 55 years on, I would not write it of any other man I’ve known.

How do you think Jim’s memory would be best celebrated?

A long eulogy in The Washington Post, written a year after Jim died, ended with the words: “America does not produce many men like Jim Ray.” Nor, indeed does any country. Jim loved music – it softened his astringent character – and it is fitting that Univ’s Music Room is named after him. But perhaps an annual concert, in Hall or in Chapel, to which amongst others American Rhodes Scholars could be invited, might be an enduring way of remembering a remarkable Univ man.

Is there anything you would like to say to him, if he could be here with us for one last moment?

“Stay safe, dear friend. You have the gifts to make a fundamental, unforgettable, contribution to all you set your mind to.”

One thing that struck me is how both Joanne and Vanni had used the expression “give life its very best.” The moment I noticed this detail, it almost felt as if, after so much searching, I had finally found Jim Ray. Giving life its very best appears to be Jim’s deepest and most cherished legacy to his family and friends: one which the student, the officer and the man should be glad to leave behind. And one which every Univite, and indeed every one of us, should always be glad to pursue.

Our sincere thanks to Jim Ray’s family and friends, in particular Jim’s sister, Joanne Hutton, Jim’s niece and nephew, Kelly and Dane Ray, and Jim’s great friend Vanni Treves CBE (1958, Law) for their contributions to this article.

If you have an interesting recollection of Jim Ray that you would like to share with Jim’s family, do drop us a line at: communications@univ.ox.ac.uk.
LIFE IN THE THIRD SECTOR

The third sector is becoming an attractive career choice for many of our talented young alumni who want to make a meaningful contribution to the world. *The Martlet* caught up with one of them, James Matthews, who has chosen to work in one of the most challenging parts of the world.
Dr James Matthews (2000, History – BA, MPhil and DPhil) is based in Baghdad as Communication Manager for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Iraq delegation. He was previously Communication Delegate for the ICRC in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and a Field Delegate in Colombia. Prior to that he worked as a researcher in the field of Spanish Civil War history at University College Dublin and at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton.

What does your current role involve?
I currently manage a team of 20 communication professionals throughout Iraq contributing to the ICRC’s mission to protect and assist people affected by conflict. This includes operational communication – speaking to arms bearers and civilian communities to improve safety and access for our teams – as well as public communication, which involves producing our own content and managing relationships with the press. The team is also responsible for all in-country publications, including for example leaflets on avoiding unexploded ordnance.

What are the challenges facing people in Iraq today, and how is the ICRC helping Iraqis to address them?
The combat operations may have ended but the humanitarian needs remain huge. Massive destruction will require years of investment in reconstruction and reconciliation. Displacement, the separation of families, and economic hardship are day-to-day realities for many Iraqis, who also face destroyed houses and infrastructure, contamination by explosive hazards and other security concerns.

Can you share some of your most rewarding moments?
An unforgettable moment during my posting in Colombia was bringing a woman news of her daughter who had joined the FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia – The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) as a minor and had not been able to re-establish contact for three years. The mother’s joy on discovering her missing child was alive was exhilarating. I have also seen beautiful areas of Colombia, Congo and Iraq that few people outside this sector would be able to travel to and worked with inspiring colleagues from all three countries.

What advice would you give to a current Univ student considering a career in the Third Sector?
Languages – especially French, Arabic, Russian or Spanish – are vital, as is some field experience, often initially in a volunteer capacity. It is also helpful to be able to work in a highly multicultural environment. It is a rewarding, but challenging, path and one that I didn’t even consider as an option as an undergraduate at Univ.

What attracted you to this profession?
I wanted a job with a practical and meaningful component, and an element of adventure. And reading about fellow Univite Roz Savage’s *Obituary Exercise* also helped: essentially you imagine yourself dead and sketch out a version of the life you would have liked to lead and compare it to the route you are taking. This process led me to leave academic history and work as a humanitarian.

What is your fondest memory of your time at Univ?
I was lucky enough to spend seven years at Univ, as both an undergraduate and a doctoral student. Nothing can bring back Oxford like the sound of the church bells that ring out every quarter of an hour in a quiet library and the smell of old books while walking past the Radcliffe Camera.

Univ in three words:
Inspiring, inclusive and challenging.

Preparations to travel by motorbike and on foot into territory occupied by opposition armed groups to assess civilian needs and discuss International Humanitarian Law. South Kivu province, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
GREENLAND ROCKS

Dr Sam Weatherley (2005) recounts his voyage to the Skaergaard intrusion in East Greenland, accompanied by fellow Univ alumni Victoria Honour (2010) and Dr Brendan Dyck (2012).
On the wild east coast of Greenland there is a mountain peak with a connection to Univ. The peak, named after former Univ Fellow Professor Lawrence Wager (1950-55), sits atop the Skaergaard intrusion, a classic locality for geologists, especially those interested in understanding how rocks crystallise from liquid magma.

Last summer I followed some of Wager’s footsteps and led a team to Skaergaard comprising fellow Univ alumni Dr Brendan Dyck and Victoria Honour, and partners from the Universities of Cambridge and Exeter. Our mission was to test some of the latest hypotheses in petrology, our chosen branch of earth sciences, and advance a set of ideas that stem from Wager’s ground-breaking work on the intrusion.

Our collective interest in the intrusion lies in the processes that operate when magma bodies crystallise. From Wager’s work, we know that magma chambers like Skaergaard existed once as vats of liquid rock beneath the Earth’s surface. They behave like chemical reactors: as the intrusion cools over time, the chemical compositions of the liquid magma evolves, and an assortment of coupled chemical and physical processes shift liquids and solid crystals around the interior of the intrusion. Although nearly 80 years has elapsed since Wager first discovered Skaergaard, fundamental questions remain about how magmas evolve and how magma chambers crystallise. By targeting these questions, our follow up will yield new insights into the architecture of magmatic systems beneath volcanoes, as well as the formation of the ore deposits that these systems host.

At more than 400 km away from the nearest settlement, getting to Skaergaard is no easy thing. For us it was a voyage of three days. Our small boat wound its way along the jagged coast, a continual zig-zag of mountains and never-ending patchwork of ice jostling about in the sea. On Skaergaard itself, our camp was a self-sufficient haven, six tents strong. Kraemer island, to the west of camp across the sound, protected us from the hurricane-strength Piteraqs that raced down the adjacent fjord. After five weeks, the fieldwork successfully concluded, our boat returned, just in time for the first snow of the coming winter.

Wager and his teams overwintered twice in Greenland. The times he didn’t, he was preparing for expeditions to Everest, where he also made significant contributions to geology and mountaineering. We spent last winter more modestly, preparing laboratory work to follow up on his legacy.

It was a privilege to work in this classic locality, under the gaze of Wager’s peak with a team of dedicated and affable colleagues. We wish to acknowledge support from the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS), Geocenter Denmark, and the Universities of Cambridge and Exeter who made this exciting collaboration possible.

Our small boat wound its way along the jagged coast, a continual zig-zag of mountains and never-ending patchwork of ice jostling about in the sea.”
How does belief in a deity arise? As societies grow and develop, do their deities do so along with them? What sort of developments lead people to abandon belief in a deity whom they have venerated for centuries? All these are questions of profound interest to historians of religion. Ancient Egypt, with its millennia-long traditions of religious continuity, offers a perfect setting in which to investigate them. But such an investigation invariably generates new questions as well. Is what we call religious continuity actually a process of gradual and subtle change? If so, how can we trace such change, especially in those periods for which we have no written sources?

As an Egyptologist with a particular interest in ancient Egyptian conceptions of the afterlife, I have long been fascinated by the Egyptian god of the dead, Osiris. Much of my scholarly career has been devoted to uncovering and elucidating previously unknown Egyptian ritual texts connected with the cult of this enigmatic god, whose nature the ancient Egyptians themselves described as “more mysterious than those of the rest of the gods combined”. Such texts are preserved on the walls of temples and tombs, and on coffins, papyri, and other smaller objects that were deposited in them. But I have long been fascinated by the larger questions which this divinity evokes as well. What is the origin of belief in Osiris? Was this belief static or dynamic? Why did his devotees finally stop believing in him?

Belief in a god of the dead presupposes belief in an afterlife, the idea that the deceased survive, in some form or other. A society’s conception of such a god will inevitably be determined by its view of the nature of this posthumous existence. The earliest evidence for belief in an afterlife in Egypt predates that for belief in Osiris by several centuries. Well before he appeared on the scene there were already other deities associated with posthumous existence. These were thought to provide burial for the deceased, help them reach the land of the dead and interact with its inhabitants, and supply their material needs there, chiefly food and drink. The earliest reference to Osiris in any securely dated Egyptian text occurs in a tomb inscription from the reign of an ephemeral king called Reneferef (c. 2448–2445 BC). In this and other slightly later texts, he is said to perform the same sorts of services for the dead as other deities were already providing, sometimes even in conjunction with them. In a sense, then, he entered a crowded field. But it is Osiris who ultimately triumphs as ruler of the realm of the dead. The other deities are either subsumed into him, or demoted to lesser roles.

What made Osiris stand out, what gave him an edge, so to speak, over these other deities? What did he offer that they did not? A clue may be found in a spell inscribed inside the pyramid of another Egyptian king, Pepi I (c. 2321–2287 BC), which affirms that whoever truly worships Osiris will live for ever. Unlike other deities, that god could bestow not merely food and drink upon his followers in the next world, but eternal life as well. Egyptian tradition explains why he was uniquely empowered to do this. The Egyptians regarded Osiris as one of a series of divine rulers of Egypt.
Osiris… came to be regarded as judge as well as ruler of the realm of the dead.

He was murdered by his brother Seth, who cut his body into pieces and scattered them far and wide. Isis, the wife and sister of Osiris, reconstituted his corpse and, with the aid of spells and incantations, revived and aroused him and conceived her son Horus by him. On reaching adulthood, Horus avenged the crime committed against his father. Seth was brought to justice, found guilty, and punished for his deed, while Horus was acclaimed as king and rightful successor to the throne of Egypt. Now vindicated against his enemy, Osiris himself was installed as ruler of the realm of the dead. Each year, the Egyptians celebrated the mysteries of Osiris in honour of these events.

The murder of Osiris not only severed the links between the constituent parts of his body, it separated him from his family, friends and other former associates. Thus his death was a form of dismemberment, both corporeal and social. To reverse the effects of this, he had to undergo a twofold process of resurrection. Just as his corpse was reconstituted and reanimated through the spells and incantations of Isis, so too justification against Seth and the events that followed it restored his social position and reintegrated him within the hierarchy of the gods. In the same way that Osiris was restored to life and declared free of wrongdoing, so all who died hoped to be revived and justified. With the help of the spells recited during the rites of mummification, they could join his following and enjoy the same twofold resurrection as him.

The Egyptians’ conception of Osiris, like their conception of the afterlife itself, was far from static. Rather, it was organic and continuously evolving. Over the centuries, Osiris acquired new characteristics and attributes, and the dead were thought to interact with him in new ways and in new venues. To cite just one example, in some early tomb inscriptions, the tomb owner threatens anyone who might defile the sepulchre with litigation. (A few threaten more drastic action, for example, wringing the violator’s neck as if he were a goose.) So there were courts in the afterlife, although these only investigated specific allegations of wrongdoing. Initially there was no assessment of the defendant’s conduct as a whole. Not until some centuries after the first appearance of Osiris in the historical record did the concept of a general judgement of the dead evolve. Each person, at death, had to go before a tribunal where his or her conduct was weighed in a balance against the standard of righteousness and was punished or rewarded according to the result. Osiris presided over this process. Thus, with the passage of time, he came to be regarded as judge as well as ruler of the realm of the dead.

When, how, and why did people stop believing in Osiris and the Osirian afterlife? Broadly speaking, there are two models for the end of traditional Egyptian religion. One is what might be called the conflict and triumph model. The other can be designated the gradual disappearance model. The first assumes that traditional Egyptian religion continued to flourish up until the time when Christianity spread throughout the country and that there was a violent clash between the two belief systems which Christianity won. As a result, temples and other venues for traditional cultic activity were destroyed or converted into churches. The second model presupposes that traditional Egyptian religion was already in decline well before the rise of Christianity. Temples fell out of use gradually over a period of time. Some may have been abandoned or stood...
The evidence at our disposal, both textual and archaeological, supports the second model rather than the first. With rare exceptions, there is little reliable evidence for clashes between Christians and adherents of the traditional Egyptian deities like Osiris. Rather, belief in the old gods disappeared gradually, and at different times in different parts of Egypt. Why it disappeared is more difficult to explain. Research has revealed a number of reasons why people abandoned their religion in antiquity, ranging from desire to avoid persecution or improve one’s social or economic position to conflict with other members of one’s original religious group. (According to one account, the philosopher Porphyry, a strident anti-Christian polemicist, was originally a member of that faith himself, but renounced it after having been beaten up by one of his co-religionists.) Unfortunately, however, no devotee who abandoned traditional Egyptian religion has left a record of what motivated him or her to do so.

Some traditional Egyptian deities continued to be worshipped longer than others. The cult of Osiris was one of the last to disappear. On the remote island of Philae at Egypt’s southern border, a tiny handful of priests, most of them members of the same family, were still conducting the god’s mysteries in one of the temples there as late as the middle of the fifth century AD, nearly three thousand years after the earliest texts that mention Osiris were written. Even today, one can visit the small chamber on the temple roof where they gathered to perform these rites. Reading the graffiti which the god’s last few worshippers inscribed on its walls as testimony of their continued devotion, a visitor can almost hear the words of the traditional cultic lament over the murder of Osiris: “A shadow has fallen over the land today. Heaven has been cast down to the ground.”

Professor Mark Smith is Lady Wallis Budge Fellow in Egyptology at Univ and Professor of Egyptology in the Faculty of Oriental Studies at Oxford, soon to be an Emeritus Fellow of the College.

Egyptology at Univ

In addition to Mark Smith, Univ has two other post holders in Egyptology: Dr Ann-Katrin Gill, our Lady Wallis Budge Junior Research Fellow (from September 2018), and Dr Luigi Prada, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow and Supernumerary Fellow of the College. Ann’s JRF project is a study of the Osiris mysteries celebrated at Karnak in the first millennium BC. Her first book, an edition of two ancient Egyptian ritual papyri in the British Museum, is now in press. Luigi’s BA postdoctoral project is a study of Egyptian-language education during the Graeco-Roman Period. He is an authority on dream interpretation in ancient Egypt and has a monograph on that subject in press. He is also active in fieldwork, which takes him to El Kab in southern Egypt to study demotic graffiti in the temples and tombs there, and to the rock-cut temple of Tuthmosis III at Jebel Dosha and the Dal Cataract in the Sudan. Both Ann and Luigi are former doctoral students of Mark Smith. Univ is also home to a lively Egyptological student community. The College invites applications to study the subject at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Did you study Egyptology at Univ? If so, we would be delighted to hear from you, email: communications@univ.ox.ac.uk.
One of Univ’s more unusual traditions is that every new member of the College, be they a Fellow or a student, has to enter their name into an Admissions Register, giving details of their age, family, and place of education. What makes this tradition very special is that we have been doing this ever since 1674. The only substantial change during this time is that, in the 1950s, we switched from writing our entries in the Register from Latin into English.

The series of Admissions Registers in our archives is therefore among our most precious records, because we have in them a sample of the handwriting of everyone who has ever been to Univ in the last three and a half centuries, from the greatest to the least. If you go to the page of Famous Univites on the College website, and look at the names of members who have come up since the 1670s, they have all signed their names in our Admissions Register. We think that no other Oxford College has so a rich and continuous a tradition of recording their members’ names.

Signing the Register is still an important part of a new member’s ‘induction’ into the College: nowadays the signing is combined with a visit to the Master’s Lodgings to meet the Master and Lady Crewe.

Until last year, we had filled up five volumes of Admissions Registers, with the current volume begun in the late 1980s. However, when the names of our 2016 Freshers and new Fellows had been entered in, there was no room left in this fifth volume for any more year groups, and therefore a sixth Admissions Register had to be created.

This is more easily said than done: Admissions Registers have to be large volumes, which can be used over many years, and be capable of tolerating regular and heavy handling. In times past when such large volumes were regularly created, as, say, business ledgers, it was not so hard to find bookbinders who could make a new register for the College. However, in the early 21st century, there is far less demand for such books, and the number of specialist bookbinders capable of making them is getting ever fewer.

Fortunately for Univ, we were able to find just such a bookbinder without too much trouble. Arthur Green, the husband of Emily Green, our Assistant Librarian, is a professional bookbinder with extensive experience in both repairing old bindings and creating new ones. We therefore commissioned Arthur to make a new Admissions Register.

This proved an interesting exercise for us all: it was agreed that we should try to create a fine book which could show later generations what 21st century bookbinding could achieve, and so Arthur was encouraged to create something special. The book is leather bound, in our College colours with dark blue leather and gold lettering. He worked closely with the Master and the Archivist to reach a final design, which was all ready for our new members to use this autumn.

We think that we have created something rather special for the College. No doubt later archivists and their users will be combing its pages in many years’ time to seek out the entries of the famous men and women who will have come up to Univ during the book’s working life; but we hope too that they will enjoy the new Register as an excellent example of the bookbinder’s art.

Dr Robin Darwall-Smith (1982, Classics), Archivist
Tools of my trade

Univ Archivist, Dr Robin Darwall-Smith (1982, Classics), shares some of the more unusual objects in the Archives.

1: The largest item in the archives is this map of Checkendon, Oxfordshire, which when unrolled is 10 feet long.
2: This model of the Goodhart Building, made in the late 1950s, shows the Building as it looked before its recent refurbishment.
3: We have many sports photographs in the archives, of which this image of the 1952 Univ Coxwainless Four Winners is typical.
4: The model of our Main Quad from the 1630s is the oldest architectural model in the country. But it is very fragile. So I had this facsimile made, which can be more easily shown at exhibitions and the like.
5: These four volumes of indexes of university exam results are a great resource for confirming the academic careers of alumni from the far past.
6: To prevent the archives receiving unwanted visitors, we install these pest traps which are regularly examined by our conservators (not, fortunately, by me!).
7: The old Oxford University Calendars have much useful information – even such trivia as when university terms started and ended (people do ask me about this).
8: I find myself regularly consulting my history of Univ, not least for all the things I’ve forgotten since I wrote it.
9: This bucket of emergency kit stands ready in case disaster strikes the archives.
10: This 1952 First VIII Blade is one of the few “three-dimensional” items in our archives.
11: We continuously monitor the temperature and relative humidity in the archives with two of these little loggers.
12: The 11 volumes of transcripts and notes on the archives made by William Smith 300 years ago remain an invaluable guide to understanding the College’s older archives, not least where the original is now damaged or missing.
13: The College Statutes of 1280/1 record a crucial moment in our history, when William of Durham’s legacy properly came into being.
14: We store most of our archives in these acid free boxes and envelopes, to keep them safe.
15: This device controls our humidity by turning a heater on when levels get too high.
Leading questions

Dr Errol Norwitz (1988, Medicine DPhil) is Chief Scientific Officer and Chairman of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Tufts Medical Centre and Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. His research includes the genetics of adverse pregnancy outcome and the molecular regulation of parturition. He lives in Massachusetts with his wife Dr Ann Hess and their three children, Nicholas (22), Gabriella (20), and Sam (17).

What brought you to Univ, who inspired you during your time at the College and what are your most treasured memories?

After completing my medical school training at the University of Cape Town (South Africa), I was fortunate enough to be awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford. Before I had even decided on my course of study, I received a phone call at my home in Cape Town from Mr George Cawkwell. George had heard that I played rugby and wanted to know if I would come to Univ so that “we can once again beat Teddy Hall at Cuppers”. I was hooked. He was so sincere, persuasive, and charming that I agreed immediately. George – along with Bill Sykes and other members of the Univ faculty – turned out to be wonderful mentors and sources of support throughout my tenure at Univ. I still remember George striding up and down the field with his dog at his side the day we played Teddy Hall in the pouring rain in the Cupper’s Finals, shouting instructions, and pointing with his walking stick. I remember how disappointed he was when we lost, but how he quickly regained his composure, turned to the team and declared: “Never mind, men, we will get them next year!”

What were the highlights of your season as Vice-Captain of the Oxford Rugby Team?

My first experience of Oxford, even before I matriculated in October 1988, was meeting the Oxford “Blues” Rugby Team in Japan for a three week tour of east Asia. I was the smallest, least talented member of the team and, I think, the only person who wasn’t a full rugby international.

I would not be in the position I am today were it not for my time at Oxford and at Univ.”

David Kirk was scrumhalf, having just led the New Zealand All-Blacks to victory in the inaugural Rugby World Cup in 1987. I was completely out of my depth, and I loved every minute of it. I played for the team for three years, traveled all over the globe, made some close friends, and have memories that will last me forever (the photos, on the other hand, remain in the vault!). We won two of the three “Blues” games against Cambridge during my time at Oxford, including a memorable 15-9 win in December 1990 when I was Vice-Captain, playing against a much superior Cambridge team.

What advice would you give to Univ students or alumni pursuing a career in Medicine?

Medicine remains a noble profession, with a focus not on your own self-interest but on the welfare of those under your care. Trust your instinct. If it feels like the right fit for you, then go for it.

Are you still in touch with people from Univ?

Univ is never far away. I met my wife while at Univ. Ann was a US Marshall Scholar reading for her DPhil in History. In 1992, she returned to the US to complete her medical training at Harvard and I followed in her wake, kicking and screaming all the way across the pond. We return often to Oxford with our family. Our eldest son, Nicholas, will be starting his DPhil at Oxford this year and then returning to complete his medical training at Harvard. The experience has come full circle. Thank you, Univ.

What made you want to become a Univ donor?

I had an incredible experience at Oxford. By signing on as a Univ donor, I hope in some small way to “pay it forward”.

What is your advice to anyone thinking of donating to Univ?

Univ opened doors to me that I never knew existed. In business terms, my return on investment (ROI) was 100%. I would not be in the position I am today were it not for my time at Oxford and at Univ. My advice is to sign on as a donor. Help support someone else’s dream.

Univ in three words:

Honourable mentions

We are delighted to announce that Univ alumna Professor Katharine Ellis, FBA (1982, Music) and former Tutorial Fellow in Economics, Professor Hyun Song Shin, have accepted Honorary Fellowships from Univ.

Katharine Ellis is a cultural historian of music in nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century France. Her research straddles musicology, history and French studies, and covers musical repertoires ranging from medieval plainchant to 20th century modernism. She has written widely on music criticism, the history of music and education, women’s musical careers, opera and its institutions, and musical fiction. Two co-edited collections present new research on Berlioz and on music/text relations. Her monographs explore the historical press (Music Criticism in Nineteenth-Century France, 1995), the French early music revival (Interpreting the Musical Past, 2005), and the tangled web of Benedictine musical politics and Church/State relations c.1900 (The Politics of Plainchant in fin-de-siècle France, 2013). She is currently writing a book on French regional music from the 1830s to Vichy.

Professor Ellis was a Gray Instrumental Scholar at Univ (1982-1985), and pursued postgraduate violin study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama before returning to Univ to pursue a DPhil on music criticism in nineteenth-century Paris. She won a Kathleen Bourne Junior Research Fellowship in French Studies at St Anne’s College in 1989, became a Lecturer in Music at the Open University in 1991, and moved to Royal Holloway, University of London in 1994, gaining a personal chair in 2006. From 2006 to 2009 she was inaugural director of the Institute of Musical Research and Deputy Dean at the School of Advanced Study, University of London. She became the Stanley Hugh Badock Chair of Music at Bristol in 2013, and moved in 2017 to Cambridge to become the first woman appointed as 1684 Professor of Music in the 333 years of the chair’s existence. She was elected to the Academia Europaea in 2010, the British Academy in 2013, and the American Philosophical Society in 2017.

Professor Ellis is awarded the Honorary Fellowship in recognition of her distinguished contribution to musicology, as well as her support of the College.

Hyun Song Shin is a South Korean economic theorist and financial economist who focuses on global games. He has been the Economic Adviser and Head of Research in the Monetary and Economic Department of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) since 1 May 2014. He is a member of the Bank’s Executive Committee. Professor Shin was a Tutorial Fellow in Economics at Univ from 1990 to 1994.

Before joining the BIS, he was the Hughes-Rogers Professor of Economics at Princeton University. In 2010, on leave from Princeton, he served as Senior Adviser to the Korean president, taking a leading role in formulating financial stability policy in Korea and developing the agenda for the G20 during Korea’s presidency.

From 2000 to 2005, he was Professor of Finance at the London School of Economics and served as an advisor to the Bank of England. He was a member of the Financial Advisory Roundtable at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (2007-2012) and a panel member of the US Monetary Policy Forum since 2007. He has been a Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research since 1998 and was Chairman of the Editorial Board of The Review of Economic Studies from 1999 to 2003.

Professor Shin was elected a Fellow of the Econometric Society and of the European Economic Association in 2004, and a Fellow of the British Academy in 2005. He was awarded the R. K. Cho Economics Prize in 2009.

He holds a DPhil and MPhil in Economics from Oxford (Nuffield College) and a BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Magdalen College). Professor Shin is author of numerous publications in the fields of monetary policy, banking, finance and issues related to financial stability.

Professor Shin is awarded the Honorary Fellowship in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the study of international economics and to its application in public policy settings.
Rachel Wheatley is a DPhil Plant Sciences scholar. In 2017 she was named Sportswoman of the Year at the University Sports Awards in recognition of her achievements in judo and boxing.

Rachel was ranked 5th in Great Britain for judo in 2016, and was selected to represent Great Britain at both the European Universities Championships and the European Universities Games. She has also been awarded British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) judo championship medals for Oxford every year she has competed, and won more than 30 fights in 2016.

She is currently the women's captain of the Oxford University Judo Club (OUJC), the Oxford University Amateur Boxing Club Welfare Officer and also makes time to help out at College as a Junior Dean. When she isn't fighting or supporting students and teammates, she is researching the mechanism of root attachment and colonisation of rhizobia and legume as part of her DPhil.

Originally from Devon, Rachel grew up on a farm with a gaggle of pet geese. She joined the local judo club – which her father helps to run – at the age of five, but came to boxing later, in the second year of her DPhil, thanks to a recommendation by a course friend (and now training partner) Claudia Havranek.

Rachel cites her training partners Becky Capel and Claudia as her biggest day-to-day inspirations: “They are an example of how it’s possible to excel in both your field of study and your sport, and are great motivators for me. They are both extremely talented and determined sportswomen, who are also engaged in biological research and teaching within the university. They both inspire me through their work-ethic, determination and drive… whilst also being good fun to train with!”

Balancing studies and extracurricular activities can sometimes be tough, but Rachel approaches both with a positive attitude. “DPhil research is great because it can be quite flexible,” she explains, “That being said, working with live cells can have its downsides with overnight stop-overs in the lab and requiring experiments to be done at specific times. I usually have 15 training sessions a week, with judo, boxing, and extra strength and endurance sessions I do by myself.”

In 2017 she published her first paper, on The Role of O2 in the Growth of Rhizobium leguminosarum bv. viciae 3841 on Glucose and Succinate [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27795326 – something that she considers one of the highlights of her year. Another was the opportunity to give a talk at the annual Congress on Plant Sciences, where she was awarded the “Best Seminar Speaker” prize.

In the same year, she won a Bronze medal at the British Senior National Judo Championships, was selected to represent Great Britain at the 2017 European University Championships in Portugal and she was invited on to the 2018 GB National Senior Squad.

“It was also a big year for me for boxing. I had my first boxing fight at the start of the year, won a Silver medal at the 2017 British Universities Boxing Championships and I was awarded a full blue for representing Oxford in the 110th Boxing Varsity match against Cambridge. It was wonderful to finish the year being named Oxford University Sportswoman of the Year, and I am very grateful to the wonderful coaches at Oxford Judo and Boxing for all their support and training.”

Her advice to anyone coming to Univ is to not be afraid to try something new: “My experiences at Univ have been enriched by sports and other activities. Work can be difficult and can require you to put in the ‘desk hours’, but always leave time for yourself, and doing something you enjoy.”

In terms of future plans, it might be difficult to look past finishing her DPhil, but Rachel hopes to stay in research. With her confident, hard-working attitude, she’s definitely in with a fighting chance.
UCBC Vice President, Mark Brookes (2015, Medicine)

UCBC has enjoyed another strong year of rowing. The men’s side saw new coaching as of Michaelmas, and both the men’s and women’s first crews have made use of bodies of water away from the beloved Isis to lay down some miles of training on longer, quieter stretches. Training at Godstow before Christmas aimed to establish a strong footing for the year, which proved successful when both crews posted good times at Wallingford Head Race, Henley 4’s and 8s, HoRR (Head of the River Race) and WeHoRR (Women’s Eights Head of the River Race).

Five crews began training for Torpids as Hilary began; three on the men’s side and two on the women’s. M1 began training at Abingdon and W1 remained on the Isis. M2 were hungry to continue their rise up the river in division, whereas W2 and M3 would both have to qualify to compete through rowing on. Both crews were as close to the cut-off as possible, though unfortunately it was only M3 who were to qualify – for the first time in 12 years! W2 bowed out early but we are hungry to make up for it in division III in Summer Eights.

The M3 crew, an eclectic mix of ex-M1 seniors and fresh-faced novices, would form a neat unit in training and move up two places on Wednesday of Torpids. For M2 it was a different matter; an unfortunate meeting with the bank while evading a charge from Hertford left them top of division V.

This was the end of Torpids for the lower boats, as the “Beast from the East” brought weather (quite rightly) deemed as unsafe for bumps racing. Having bumped Mansfield on Wednesday, M1 would again need to escape Keble on Saturday. After a crab from Keble, the more composed Univ crew pulled away comfortably and finished fourth in division II.

A W1 crew containing several strong novices and experienced first boat rowers would have less success but raced admirably regardless. Unfortunately, W1 fell three places in division I after bumps by Wolfson, Magdalen and New College.

This year, an Easter training camp was organised by the UCBC committee. 35 rowers and coxes took part in training sessions run at Eton Dorney and Abingdon, interspersed with crew meals, archery and other social events. We are hoping to repeat this success next year.

Our congratulations go to Alex Rowe-Jones who once again gained a place in the OULRC (Oxford University Lightweight Rowing Club) Blue Boat, Holly Metcalf who coxed the OULRC Reserve Boat, and Linda van Bijsterveldt for making the OUWBC (Oxford University Women’s Boat Club) squad.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter (@Univbc for all) for the latest updates.
Will Heard (2016, Engineering MEng), Captain of UCRFC
Like a phoenix, Univ rugby has risen from the ashes this year. After finishing bottom of the now defunct Division 5 last year the rest of the new committee (Ruairi – Vice-Captain, Dan – Social Secretary, and Conrad - kit man) and I knew we had a big task on our hands when we took over in June.

Michaelmas term started with a narrow win over Merton-Mansfield, with several players making their debuts, a promising sign for the year ahead. Regular training proved valuable as we won the next three games comfortably, against St Hilda’s, Exeter and Oriel, securing promotion to Division 3 and setting up a title decider against Brasenose. A brutal encounter ensued, with the spoils ultimately being shared in a 17-17 draw, meaning Univ won the title on points difference.

We had an immediate chance to settle things with Brasenose, as they were our first opponents in Division 3. In another very close game we came out winners 19-14. Moving into Hilary term we continued to go from strength to strength, beating Balliol, Pembroke and LMH/Hughes to confirm another promotion to Division 2 with one league game remaining. Unfortunately, scheduling problems meant we were unable to play the final game and it was abandoned as a draw. Univ were therefore Division 3 champions and we finished the league season unbeaten.

Focus then turned to Cuppers. We started well, beating Pembroke convincingly in the first round, before coming up second best to Division 1 champions St Catz in the second round. This put us into the plate competition, where we first beat Christ Church in a nail biter, with fresher James Crompton scoring a heroic last play try to win the game. Next up was the semi-final, at Iffley Road where we proved too strong for a good Wadham-Trinity side containing several rugby league Blues, winning 36-24. At the time of writing the final is this Saturday, where we hope for the perfect end to the season in front of a (fairly) big crowd.

Special thanks go to Will Wilson who will play his final game for Univ on Saturday, bringing an end to a four-year college rugby career in which he has contributed a huge amount to the club.

Record:
Div 4
McMs 15 – 20 Univ
Univ 51 – 0 Hildas
Exeter 12 – 38 Univ
Oriel 15 – 44 Univ
Brasenose 17 – 17 Univ

Women’s Rugby:
Will Heard (2016, Engineering MEng), Captain of UCRFC
This year Univ became one of the first Colleges to have its own women’s team. With a very inexperienced side made up mostly of complete beginners they did brilliantly, getting to the semi-final of Cuppers before being narrowly beaten by a Brasenose-Wadham side containing several Blues players. First year Emma Lepinay has been the driving force behind this success and has done a great job of getting people involved and organising training, while Blues hooker Anna Bidgood has led by example on the pitch. As the side is mostly comprised of Freshers, the future looks very bright for Univ WRFC.
Kitty Hatchley (2016, PPE), Captain

Netball at University College continues to be a great way to get all the years together and to have an excuse to break out of the tute-library-lecture routine into the sunshine! Taking over as captain at the end of last Trinity I was full of plans to enthuse the first years upon arrival, to make up for the considerable talent we were losing to graduation and ensure we were a force to be reckoned with this year. Thankfully the first years were more than keen to get involved – even fielding a full team themselves one week. We held firm our position in Div 4 over the course of the year, managing to get a full team for almost every match and even securing a couple of convincing wins! Trinity term is a quiet one for netball but we are hoping to excel ourselves in the now-annual charity netball tournament which has been held every Hilary for the last three years. There was fierce competition between all five teams that played but victory was easily secured by a team that – despite my best efforts to mix abilities – contained the current Rugby captain, last year’s Football captain and last year’s Netball captain. Happily, the event raised £100 for the JCR’s charity reps to donate to their projects for the year.

Michael Jones (2016, Mod Lang), Captain of UCFC

This year’s football season was a particularly competitive one. It was a season of two halves with the first half being rather below par, but the second half enjoying an inspiring finale. Georgia Allen, captain of the Women’s team, Rasched Haidari, captain of the JCR Men’s second team, and myself faced several strong outfits in the 3rd divisions of our respective leagues.

A slow start to the season from Univ meant that our results in the opening weeks of the Michaelmas term were disappointing, with a notable loss to a formidable Brasenose side from a slightly under-staffed Univ JCR Men’s first team, featuring a number of fresh-faced debutants. The latter goal fest was showcased in the following week’s edition of Cherwell, which prompted a strong reaction from the team all round and some excellent performances against Trinity in two back-to-back cup games. It seemed the press attention inspired a resurgence! Unfortunately, the cup run was short-lived, but both the Univ first and second teams carried a new energy into the remaining games of the Hilary term. A noteworthy highlight of the season was the annual match against the Men’s and Women’s teams from the London-based Devas charity, with which Univ shares close ties. As is often the case, the Devas teams proved to be full of talented individuals but lacked an element of team cohesion. On the other hand, the JCR had all the spirit but much less finesse. Univ provided a strong defence and shipped a series of well-worked individual goals in the dying embers of the game. After the matches, both teams enjoyed each other’s company and a good spread provided by the Univ bar, and the day turned out to be a resounding success.

Happily, the end of the season culminated in a striking 4-0 win for Univ against Oriel, as well as a thoroughly enjoyable Old Members day with two tournaments-worth of teams, and generous hospitality from Univ’s groundsman Robbie Eason. It was also the first instance of an Old Members Women’s team playing on the day, which is hopefully something the College will see much more of in the future. The crowning achievement of the JCR Men’s first team was winning the Bill Sykes Veterans Challenge Cup in a close match against a robust MCR side. The victory was a fitting end to the College football careers of some of the established undergraduate vanguard of Univ football, to whom we say a fond farewell.
Benjamin Shennan
(2015, Chemistry – MChem)

Squash has really taken off this year. With the new courts beneath the Goodhart building fully operational, a huge proportion of the college have got involved and we have seen many new faces and beginners in the squash club.

After a successful previous season we faced the challenge of consolidating our position in the first division. The team saw good wins against Keble and GTC but unfortunately came up against a technically very proficient St Peters’ team and a more experienced Wolfson side and narrowly failed to maintain our position. Our cuppers run was a little more successful and we advanced two rounds before facing a very strong Worcester side.

In more hopeful news however we spent much of the year having fortnightly training sessions and many members of the club saw marked improvements. Alongside this the club ran a ladder for Michaelmas and Hilary terms: with 22 players signed up, lots of games played and an intense fight for the top-table between Grant Dalton, Luke Naylor and Mark Brookes, Mark came out on top and was crowned champion of Univ squash.”

Emelye Moulton
(2016, Music)

This year, Univ Players opened its doors to some new recruits in first year. Two phenomenal cuppers productions were produced, with the performance of No Exit reaching the finals of the competition, something Univ hasn’t achieved since 2015. At Christmas, the players also got involved in creating a Mary Christmas video that was released over the winter vacation to spread some Christmas cheer amongst the members of the college. Second year Mati Warner starred as Mary and had great fun being filmed cycling down main quad on her bike, which had been transformed into Rudolph, complete with a flashing red nose. Other members of the college got involved in some acting, including third year Francis Kerrigan who provided us with a wonderful voice-over for the film. Porter Bob and Senior Tutor Andrew Bell also took their turn in front of the camera and after their stellar performances, we hope that they will soon become regular members of the company.

At the time of writing, rehearsals are underway for the annual garden play, which this year is Nell Gwynn by Jessica Swale, a relatively new Olivier-winning comedy about one of Britain’s most beloved historical female figures. The production is run by Univ students and stars several pupils from the College as well. It’s looking to be a spectacular show featuring live music written for the show and a wonderful array of period costumes and set. Overall, it’s been a great year for Univ Players.
Thanks to everyone who shared their news. If you have news you would like to share in the next issue of The Martlet, please email communications@univ.ox.ac.uk by 30 November 2018.

1950s

**Nick Schlee** (1952, English) exhibited his abstract paintings and preliminary sketches at Christ Church Picture Gallery from January to April 2018. Dead or Alive by **Keith Hindell** (1954, History) was staged at Theatro Technis, London, in May.

1980s

**Professor Katharine Ellis** (1982, Music) accepted an Honorary Fellowship from Univ. Read more on page 35. **Professor Carole Haswell** (1982, Physics) wrote an article for Womanthology about how she become Head of Astronomy at the Open University.

**Armando Iannucci** (1982, English) spoke to The Guardian in October about his latest film The Death of Stalin.

**David Fu** (1984, Engineering) has been elected President of the Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries.

**Jim Tomlinson** (1986, PPE) and his wife, Stacey Kent, released their latest album in October which includes a composition from Kazuo Ishiguro.

1990s

**Jake Murray** (1990, English) directed the northern premiere of Jesus Hopped The ‘A’ Train by acclaimed American playwright Stephen Adly Guirgis at HOME, Manchester.

Organist **William Whitehead** (1990, Music) took to the stage in April at London's Southbank Centre to “complete” Bach's Orgelbüchlein.

Honorary Fellow **Christina Lamb OBE** (1993, PPE), chief foreign correspondent of The Sunday Times, shared her favourite tunes on Desert Island Discs in January.

Commotio, one of Oxford’s foremost chamber choirs, founded and conducted by **Matthew Berry** (1995, Music), released its latest CD, All Good Things.

A portrait of human rights advocate and constitutional lawyer **Dr Menaka Guruswamy** (1998, Law) was unveiled at Rhodes House in celebration of 40 years of Rhodes women.

**Joseph Kotrie** (1999, Mod Lang) discussed the reform of disclosure of evidence rules in criminal legal cases, on Radio 4’s PM.

2000s

**Dr George Van Mellaert** (2000, Law) released a double CD of J.S. Bach’s Six Partitas for Harpsichord, gave the inaugural concert of the restored Kuhn pipe organ at Chamoson and was interviewed by 1Dex magazine.

**Adam Curphey** (2003, Law) was appointed Head of Innovation Technology at BPP Law School, where he is part of the team putting together new courses in anticipation of the new solicitors’ qualification exam.

**Lucy Fisher** (2007, Classics) reviewed the papers on The Andrew Marr Show. She covered a number of topics including the (then) upcoming budget from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Rt Hon Philip Hammond (1974, PPE).

In August, **Josh Barley** (2008, Classics) spoke with Mariella Frostrup on Radio 4’s Open Book, about translating contemporary Greek literature.

A report authored by senior economist **Carys Roberts** (2008, PPE) sparked interest in the national press for proposing that all 25 year olds should be given £10,000 as a “universal minimum inheritance”.

The Jungle, the play **Joe Robertson** (2008, English) wrote with Joe Murphy about their experiences in the infamous French refugee camp, recently transferred to the Playhouse Theatre, London, following a sold-out run at the Young Vic.

Research by **Dr Nicholas Hardy** (2009, English), a Fellow at the University of Birmingham, has found that French scholar Isaac Casaubon helped translate the Bible into English.

In January, **Jessica Lazar** (2009, English) directed the first new production of EAST by Steven Berkoff at its original 1975 London venue.

2010s

**Crispin Smith** (2010, Classics) and **Vartan Shadarevian** (2010, PPE) completed a public report on behalf of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

**Dr Jack Matthews** (2011, Geology) a Research Associate at Univ, spoke at the 2017 Conservative Party conference on the subject of science and technology.

**Simon Mee** (2012, History) has been awarded the Prize of the German Historical Institute London for his thesis, Monetary Mythology. The West German Central Bank and Historical Narratives, 1948-78.
New Year’s Honours List

Emma Shevvan Knights, née Haygarth (1982, Biochemistry) was appointed OBE for services to Education. Mrs Knights is the Chief Executive of the National Governance Association and was Univ’s first female JCR President in 1983.

Deborah Lamb (1982, English) was appointed OBE for services to Heritage. Miss Lamb is Deputy Director of Historic England.

Professor Bernard Silverman, a former Junior Research Fellow at Univ, became Sir Bernard this year. The Emeritus Professor of Statistics at Oxford, former Master of St Peter's College, and lately Chief Scientific Adviser to the Home Office, is knighted for public service and services to Statistics.

Nigel Tully (1961, Physics) was appointed MBE for his services to Music. The award was made in recognition of the impact he has made on the UK music scene with The Dark Blues, for leading the transformation of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra and for his contributions to the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Professor Ngaire Woods, Senior Research Fellow at Univ, founding Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government, and Professor of Global Economic Governance was appointed CBE for services to Higher Education and Public Policy.

Birthday Honours List

Anne-Marie Canning, Univ’s former and first Schools Liaison Officer, was appointed MBE for services to Higher Education. Ms Canning is Director of Social Mobility and Student Success at King’s College London.

Supernumery Fellow-Elect Professor Sarah Harper was appointed CBE for services to the Science of Demography. Professor Harper is Professor of Gerontology at the University of Oxford and Co-Director of the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, which she founded in 1997.

Books

Professor Owen Fiss’ (1959, Philosophy) latest book, Pillars of Justice, explores the purpose and possibilities of life in the law through moving accounts of thirteen lawyers who shaped the legal world during the past half century.

Brian Allgar (1962, English) has just had his first book published shortly before his 75th birthday, which he believes makes him a geriatric prodigy. It is called The Ayterzedd, and is described as “A Bestiary of (mostly) Alien Beings”.

John Godwin (1973, Classics) published Juvenal Satires IV. The book consists of three poems which use humour and wit to puncture the pretensions of the foolish and the wicked, urging a more positive attitude towards life and death.

Michael Dart (1981, History) published his new book, Retail’s Seismic Shift, which explores what the retail experience will look like in the future, and explains how companies should be preparing.
Univ in the Arts: meet the committee

In March 2018 the College launched a new series of events to showcase and harness Univ’s talent in the Arts. This new initiative aims to highlight and stimulate our community of over 2,700 Old Members who studied the Humanities, as well as those pursuing careers in creative industries. We are grateful to the ‘Univ in the Arts’ Committee for their time and support in organising the inaugural event in London and other ventures to come. The Martlet caught up with the committee after the event.

“My ambition for Univ in the Arts is huge! I want it to be not just a series of enriching and original events, but a forum that encourages and fosters Old Member endeavours across every inch of the Humanities.”
Amanda Brookfield (1979, English)
Chair of Univ in the Arts Committee

“We were really pleased with our inaugural meeting. We were fortunate in having two superb speakers in Alex von Tunzelmann (1996, History) and Simon Winder (1981, History), and the Music Room in Grosvenor Street was an ideal venue for the launch of our new initiative. Above all, though, we were delighted to see so many Old Members supporting the event, from recent graduates to longstanding alumni. This bodes extremely well, we feel, for the future health of Univ in the Arts.”
Jonathan Earl (1977, English)

“My involvement came out of a friendship with Amanda Brookfield. I’d first heard her speak at an event at Univ when I was an undergraduate which celebrated thirty years of women in the college. Ever since then I followed her career as a writer. When a mutual connection introduced us we drank some wine together and bang, I’d signed on the dotted line and agreed to join the committee. It felt like good timing; I’m currently studying on a Prose Fiction MA and I was full of ideas as to how creatively minded people could gather together to share ideas and nourish their individual projects.”
Philly Malicka (2007, English)

“Univ in the Arts is a wonderful opportunity to bring people together to cherish the arts, and in particular the art of writing. In our digitised and connected world there is nothing more important than to pause for a moment and to reflect on why we all want to be creative.”
Chris Birkett (1979, PPE)

“The next Univ in the Arts event will be the inaugural Univ Salon, at the Groucho Club in Soho on 27 September. The Salon complements the larger Univ in the Arts events and provides a more intimate opportunity for speakers and guests to engage with a particular subject. On this occasion, it’s ‘Inspiration and the Blank Page’, with opening presentations from three Univ in the Arts Committee members, covering fiction, screenwriting and creative education.”
Jonathan Hourigan (1979, PPE)
Professor Stephen Hawking

Professor Stephen William Hawking (1959, Physics), Honorary Fellow of Univ, died on 14 March 2018 aged 76.

Stephen Hawking’s father Frank came up to Univ in 1923, and his daughter Lucy in 1989. He was elected an Honorary Fellow in 1977.

Univ members will have read many tributes to Professor Hawking, which discuss his remarkable scientific achievements. Here at Univ, rather than attempt once more to sum up his work, we wish to remember the Stephen Hawking whom his Univ contemporaries knew. We are therefore very grateful to another Physicist of 1959, Gordon Berry, Professor Emeritus at the University of Notre Dame, for writing this tribute:

I first met Stephen Hawking during the experimental part of the entrance exam to Oxford in March 1959. The experiment involved dropping ball bearings of different diameters down a long glass tube filled with oil, timing them as a function of the distance as they fell to test Stokes’ law.

Many “Professors” came around inundating two of us with questions: myself and also a fellow at the next lab table. I later discovered that he was Stephen Hawking.

We met again in College at the introductory beer-bash for freshmen – just two of the four physics students entering Univ. We became tutorial partners, meeting weekly with Dr Berman and later Dr Patrick Sandars for physics, and a mathematics tutor in New College. We were both coxes on the river almost every weekday afternoon, for the University College crews; we assembled together most evenings to play bridge or poker (shillings changed hands, bottles of port were consumed), or visited the High Street Inn for darts and drinks.

Robert Berman, was a thermodynamics specialist, and Steve and I had to cover every detail of Zemansky’s book Thermodynamics. This knowledge certainly helped Steve later develop his thermodynamic interpretation of black holes and his discovery of Hawking Radiation.

My memory from the math tutorials was beginning work on general relativity; Steve and the tutor completely left me struggling in the dust. He took to it like a fish (not just like a duck!) to water... and that topic became his life’s work.

A first visit of Steve and myself to Cambridge was as members of the Oxford coxwains’ annual challenge with their Cambridge equivalents; too bad that Cambridge won. He and I infrequently would row on the Isis in a “coxless pair” (we never wanted to be following orders from another cox!).

We both took the theory option for the Oxford examination finals in June 1962 and thus had just one term of laboratory physics to complete, which we took together as partners. Since we were coxing every afternoon, we rushed through each experiment in one three hour morning, and wrote it up later. Admittedly, we did everything rapidly, but worked hard estimating the measurement errors. The graders asked us lots of tricky questions not quite believing that we had actually made the measurements shown. We passed!

The story of Steve falling downstairs one late evening hitting his head and losing his memory has been described many times. The final diagnosis of ALS took place about 12 months later.

It is important to note that Steve was fairly lonely and bored in the first undergraduate year. However, we all recognised that he was the most intelligent person we had ever met. Especially after the first year, he joined in many College activities. He was two years younger than most of us, and we did not have his strongly intellectual family background, which perhaps restrained him initially in all the non-physics adventuring of typical undergraduates.

Regarding the final exam from Oxford, we knew as soon as we found his name on the “viva” list for a first class honours degree, that he would get his First and go on to his first choice for graduate work, Cambridge, then the mecca for cosmology.

As physicists we will be always grateful for his efforts in developing detailed theories of our universe, driving our understanding of the cosmos forward; but also for his writings that excited the imaginations of the general population making them value the sense that humans can better understand the immensity of the universe, and the place of humans there. He was THE human “supernova of our time”.

Stephen Hawking was born 300 years after Galileo’s death day, 8 February, and died 139 years after Einstein’s birthday, 14 March, an example of temporal antisymmetry.
Lord Steyn
Johan van Zyl Steyn, Lord Steyn of Swafield (1955, Law), Honorary Fellow of Univ, died on 28 November 2017 aged 85.

Lord Steyn was born in Stellenbosch in 1932. His father was a leading Afrikaner legal academic and a founding member of the faculty of law at Stellenbosch University, but died when Johan was an infant; his grandfather had fought against the British in the Boer War and although captured and held a prisoner, he had made a resourceful escape.

In due course Johan read law at Stellenbosch University and then as a Rhodes Scholar at University College, Oxford. On his return to South Africa, he was called to the bar and developed a highly successful legal practice in Cape Town – he was much in demand with a very varied practice; on occasions he was instructed to act for the government.

In 1970 he was appointed a Senior Counsel – a very young appointment in South Africa and symbolic of his meteoric legal career.

He decided to emigrate to the UK – he found the regime of apartheid repugnant – a fact that without doubt strongly influenced his outlook when he became a judge. He was called to the bar by Lincoln’s Inn in 1973 and had to do pupillage; his reference for pupillage was from the then Chief Justice of South Africa; it was the best reference that a pupil has ever had. It simply said that if he had remained in South Africa he would have become Chief Justice.

He did his pupillage at 4 Essex Court and developed a commercial practice in shipping insurance and arbitration from a tiny room overlooking a lightwell in rooms in New Court. That practice grew at a considerable pace and he was soon leading others, even before he took silk in 1979 – just six years after his call at Lincoln’s Inn.

Being led by him first when he was technically a junior and then as a silk gave all his real juniors a chance to see why he was such a great advocate and would become a very great judge.

In 1985, he was asked to join the High Court. His substantial achievement as a commercial lawyer is sometimes overlooked. By way of example, in two cases, his reappraisal of the law relating to uberrima fidei was based on a close analysis of Lord Mansfield’s great decision and not the introduction of Roman Dutch law into England.

In 1992 after seven years of the High Court he was appointed to the Court of Appeal. He had the opportunity of building on his criminal experience in one very well-known case – the quashing of a conviction of a woman wrongly accused of the M62 coach bombing. The judgement is meticulous in the detailed analysis of the evidence that led to her conviction and powerful in its condemnation of the failure of the police and experts for the way in which the prosecution had been conducted.

In 1995, he was appointed Lord of Appeal in Ordinary and for the next ten years sat in the House of Lords until his retirement in 2005. It is quite impossible in this short tribute to do justice to the immense contribution he made, particularly in the field of public law which is so well known. Evident throughout was the power of the language he deployed, his penetrating analysis of fact and law, his clear concept of the duty of the state through its three branches, his abhorrence of arbitrary power and his belief in the rule of law.

He was courageous in his application of his principles, perhaps no more so than in the 27th FA Mann lecture delivered in Lincoln’s Inn in November 2003 on Guantanamo Bay. In rereading that lecture its power, its courage, the clarity of the analysis and the statements of principle are as prescient today in our era of populism as they were when he delivered the lecture.

In his retirement he contributed to the work of the House of Lords in its legislative capacity. His last years were marred by illness, but Susan and his wide family of whose achievements he was so proud provided huge joy and sustenance.

He was a man of absolutely clear principles, a great friend, and a great teacher.”
Lecturers

Geoffrey Raisman
(Lecturer in Anatomy from 1966-75) died on 20 January 2017.

1930s

Harry Blamires
(1935, English) died on 21 November 2017 aged 101.

Peter Lade Oldfield
(1936, History) died on 18 May 2017 aged 99.

Krishen Behari Lall
(1937, ICS Probationer) died in January 2004 aged 88.

1940s

Arthur William
“Barry” Barnes
(1941, Chemistry) died on 18 September 2017 just before his 94th birthday.

Richard Quintin
Hanson Jaggar
(1941, Law) died on 29 October 2017 aged 93.

David Stuart Holmes-Smith
(1942, PPE) died on 24 April 2017 shortly before his 93rd birthday.

Riley Anthony “Tony” Winton Rudd
(1942, PPE) died on 29 May 2017 aged 93.

John Hamilton
Pauffley
(1944, Medicine) died on 11 January 2011 aged 84.

Edward Peter Wright
(1944, History) died on 23 February 2018 aged 91.

1950s

Keith Gordon Anderson Fraser
(1946, History) died on 23 March 2017 shortly before his 92nd birthday.

Ian Edward Abbey
(1947, English) died on 23 May 2017 aged 96.

Philip Wilfred Broke Denny
(1947, Modern Languages) died on 27 February 2018 aged 93.

Clive Berrange van Ryneveld
(1947, Law) died on 29 January 2018 aged 89.

Terence William Anderson
(1948, Medicine) died on 16 March 2018 aged 90.

George David Byam Shaw
(Classics, 1948) died on 18 November 2017 aged 87.

John Verrier Jones
(1948, Medicine) died on 31 August 2017 aged 86.

Peter Geoffrey Hemsley Longrigg
(1948, English) died on 10 May 2015 aged 87.

Gordon Elliot Myers CMG
(1948, History) died on 8 November 2017 aged 88.

David Esme Bernstein
(1949, English) died on 25 August 2017 aged 89.

Roger Grove Smith
(1949, History) died in 2017 aged 90.

Sir Rodney Gordon Touche, Bt.
(1949, English) died on 13 May 2017 aged 88.

1960s

Jeremy Arthur Akers
(1952, PPE) died on 27 November 2017 aged 86.

John Adolf Arenhold
(1952, Law) died on 30 September 2017 aged 86.

James Andrew Threlfall Beard
(1954, Chemistry) died in July 2017 aged 84.

David Leslie Morgan
(1954, PPE) died in August 2017 aged 83.

Malcolm Rex Winsbury
(1955, Classics) died on 8 July 2015 aged 80.

Saki Scheck
(1956, Diploma in Social Anthropology) died on 8 September 2001 aged 74.

Neil Shanassy
(1957, Geography) died on 3 September 2017 aged 80.

Christopher John Thomson
(1958, English) died on 3 October 2017 aged 79.

1970s

Eric Davis Earle
(1960, Physics) died on 24 December aged 79.

David Shenton Filkin
(1961, PPE) died on 12 May 2018 aged 75.

David Caroll Musselewhite
(1961, PPE) died on 5 December 2015 aged 78.

James Alexander “Sandy” Smith
(1961, Classics) died on 24 April 2017 aged 74.

Sir Clive Christopher Hugh Elliott
(1964, Zoology) died on 18 April 2018 aged 72.

Donald Harland Ian McDonald
(1965, PPE) is reported as having died before 1979.

Malcolm Nigel Mirrielees
(1965, Chemistry) died on 14 September 2017 aged 70.

Nicholas John Gordon Lack
(1967, History) died on 2 February 2018 aged 69.

Anthony Edward Stern
(1967, Engineering) died on October 2015 aged 67.

Nicholas Betts-Green
(1969, History), died on 19 April 2018 aged 83.

Keon George Martin
(1969, English) died on 22 March 2018 aged 66.

1980s

David John Archer

David Stock
(1984, Biology) died on 22 February 2018 aged 51.

Gareth Rice
(1986, Mathematics) died on 9 November 2017 aged 49.

1990s

Bunny Marie Wong
(1995, English) died on 22 October 2009 aged 33.

2000s

Mark Robert Jenkins
(2001, English) died on 20 May 2017 aged 34.

Jonathan Milward
(2003, Chemistry) died on 23 March 2018 aged 23.

Univ community

Maureen Berman, the widow of Robert Berman, our Physics Fellow from 1955-83, died on 5 November 2017.

Bert Forrest, former College Accountant, died on 9 January 2018 aged 92.

You can read the full obituaries in the University College Record.
A walk around the quad

Univ Old Member Dr Andrew Grant (1977, Chemistry), is the College’s new Finance Bursar.

What does your role involve?
I’m the person accountable for the financial health of the College; I manage its estates and endowed properties, and ensure that the funding of its operations – food, accommodation and events, and, crucially, the academic purposes of the College – are properly fulfilled.

I am also a Fellow of the College’s Governing Body. Along with some 52 other Fellows, we are the trustees of the charity with a duty not only to today’s students and current members, but also those that will come in the future.

What do you most enjoy about your job?
Univ celebrated its 750 year anniversary a short while ago. It is a huge privilege to be helping build the College as we embark on the next 750 years. I love being back in Oxford exactly 40 years since I matriculated at Univ and being in a capacity to “give something back to the College” in return for the generous inspiration and tutelage that it gave me all those years ago.

What is your biggest challenge?
I think simply that Univ remains ambitious.

What is your fondest memory of Univ?
So many: building friendships for life; summers of cricket; working and partying in equal measure; learning through theory and through experiment, and the thankfully rare, occasional failure.

What does Univ mean to you, and what brought you back?
As I reflect back I realise that Univ was the first time that I had a home of my own; I had attended seven different schools by the time I was 14. The seven years I stayed in Oxford (I remained in Oxford to complete a DPhil in Chemistry) essentially made this home. I love the city and Univ was very much the original embodiment of it for me.

What did you do after Univ?
After having been introduced to Oxford through the lens of the college with the oldest endowment, I went to Wolfson College as one of the newest. I was fortunate to meet my future wife through Wolfson’s social scene.

In 1984, with my doctoral thesis still being typed up in the evenings, I started work as a scientist for what was then British Petroleum Co. Ltd. This was the start of what was to be a 32 year career with BP, with 16 different jobs through that period. I worked in places as diverse as Alaska, Algeria, Angola and Azerbaijan, with six years in Aberdeen, and they are just the As.

Every day was a learning experience. And then, with my two daughters making their own way in life, and my wife having retired from her career, I took retirement myself, leaving BP at the end of 2015.

My wife and I revelled in reconnecting with friendships that hadn’t been as well attended as they should have been and we travelled a lot. And then I was sent the Finance Bursar job advert…

What is your favourite part of College?
I find myself returning again and again to the chapel in private, spiritual connection and repeated wonder at the glory of the van Linge windows. I appreciate the main hall, the fabulous diversity of the photos of alumni that perhaps bridge to the portraits above.

Tell us something about yourself that not many people know.
I have a passion for wine and food, and the pairing of wine to complement food. I have a personal cellar of some 1,600 bottles and can offer some 80 different Champagnes.

“
I love being in a capacity to give something back to the College in return for the generous inspiration and tutelage that it gave me all those years ago.”
Univ Quiz

Set by Univ Archivist, Robin Darwall-Smith.

1. Elsewhere in this issue of The Martlet we commemorate the passing of Stephen Hawking, our great scientist. Stephen came up to Univ in 1959 to read Physics under the tutorship of Robert Berman. When did Univ elect its first Physics Fellow?
   A: 1862  B: 1910  C: 1945  D: 1955

2. Which of these scenes from the Old Testament is not depicted on one of Abraham van Linge’s windows in Chapel?
   A: Jacob’s dream of the ladder to heaven
   B: Abraham prevented by an angel from sacrificing Isaac
   C: Lot’s wife turned into a pillar of salt
   D: Elijah being carried up to heaven in a fiery chariot

3. Richard Maude, the architect of our Main Quad, worked at two other Colleges in Oxford, where you can find examples of gables very similar to our own. Which two were they?
   A: Brasenose  B: Jesus
   C: Merton  D: St John’s

4. In 1786, Nathan Wetherell, our then Master, suffered a very unfortunate reverse in his private affairs. What was it?
   A: One of his daughters eloped with a College servant
   B: He lost most of his money when the value of his shares in the Oxford canal plummeted
   C: One of his sons lost a great deal of money through gambling debts
   D: The west front of Hereford Cathedral, where he was Dean (and so in overall charge of the cathedral fabric) suddenly fell down

5. University College Boat Club was founded in 1827. But when did a Univ Eight first go Head of the River?
   A: 1828  B: 1841  C: 1870  D: 1895

6. In the Winter Common Room hangs a fine portrait of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, favourite of Elizabeth I, and Chancellor of Oxford, who died in 1588. But what is his link with Univ?
   A: None at all
   B: He was an undergraduate here
   C: He gave us land to endow two new scholarships
   D: He oversaw a revision of our statutes

7. In 1447 Alice de Bellasis gave Univ several houses in Newcastle-upon-Tyne to increase our endowment. But there was a hitch with her benefaction. What was it?
   A: The College agreed to pay Alice an annuity for her gift, only to find that she lived for almost 30 years
   B: Just a few years later, most of her houses were destroyed by fire
   C: On her death, Alice’s daughter took the College court to find that she still owned the houses
   D: Alice had no right to sell the houses to us

Perplexing Problem

The Perplexing Problem set by Professor Tom Povey in the last issue was:

If N people enter a room one at a time, how many of them on average can legitimately claim on entering “It appears that I am the most intelligent person in this room”? Assume that each has a unique intelligence value according to some agreed scale, and that this is public knowledge.

Answer

The first person to enter the room is – by definition – the most intelligent person in the room at the point they enter. Thus, they increase the average number of people that can make this claim by unity. The second person to enter is, on average, more intelligent than the first person with a probability of 1/2. The third Fellow is, on average, more intelligent than both the first and second person with a probability of 1/3. And so on. If the average number of people that can make the claim to be the most intelligent person in the room is \( X_N \), we can write

\[
X_N = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \ldots + \frac{1}{N}
\]

For large \( N \), this is well approximated by \( \ln N \).

Dr Anthony Owen (1964, Physics) receives a copy of Tom’s book Professor Povey’s Perplexing Problems for providing the closest answer.

New Puzzle

Four billiard balls of equal mass are arranged so that each touches the other three, forming a tetrahedron resting base down on a horizontal plane. If the system is frictionless, at the moment of being released from rest, what is the acceleration of the uppermost ball?

Please send your answers along with your name and year of matriculation to Sara Dewsbery, Communications Officer, University College, Oxford, OX1 4BH communications@univ.ox.ac.uk. The first correct entry drawn on Friday 30 November will receive a copy of Remembering Univ: A Concise History and Tour of University College Oxford by Dr Robin Darwall-Smith.

Here are the correct answers to the quiz in the last issue of The Martlet. Thanks again to our Archivist, Dr Robin Darwall-Smith for setting the questions.

Q1: B, Q2: B, Q3: C, Q4: B, Q5: A, Q6: B, Q7: A

We are pleased to announce the winner of the Univ Quiz in the previous issue is Simon Leach (1980, Physics) who answered the most questions correctly. He receives a copy of A History of University College, by Dr Robin Darwall-Smith.
“Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious. And however difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at. It matters that you don’t just give up.”

Professor Stephen Hawking, Honorary Fellow and Univ Old Member (1959, Physics)