

# Review





# On sufferance!

A word from the acting editor:



I shouldn't be here. But since your regular editor, who does such an excellent job every year, can't do it this time, I

agreed to edit the Clare Hall Review - just this once. Though I can't say I've "enjoyed" the job, I can say that I've learnt a lot from it – especially, what a really great place Clare Hall is, with its dedicated officers (at all levels) who give generously of their time and expertise; its enthused and enthusing students who come from so many different parts of the world, have so many talents, and get on well together; its committed staff who selflessly keep squirting oil in the wheels so that things run smoothly; its brainy Fellows who cover a staggering range of subject-areas and keep getting one prize or other for their work; its wide spectrum of distinguished Visiting Fellows (often with accompanying spouses/families who add to the rich mix); and its other classes of Members who are always willing to contribute to College activities.

I was awed by the kaleidoscope of people and activities that make up the life of the College. But don't take my word for it. Check it out for yourself. In the pages that follow, I haven't grouped the articles into themed categories. In that case, it's so easy to skip over some headings and miss out on the whole picture. So I've mixed up the articles to provide a collage of readings. This should give you a fuller — and more interesting — picture of what Clare Hall is, and does.

With thanks to all who contributed in so many ways to the making of this Review,

**Julius Lipner** 

# A Porter's Job is not an easy one...

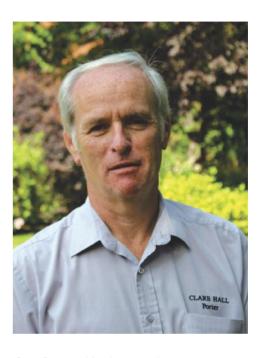
Our Head Porter, Andy Taylor, provides a gateway to this edition of the Review:

Life as a Clare Hall Porter is constantly changing from the exciting, mysterious – sometimes mad! – to (most of the time) the calm and collected. Would you expect it to be any other?

The normal order of the day is the usual mix of sorting keys, electronic access-cards, parcels, couriers, and post. All who enter must pass one of the team, each of whom brings his or her own skills and talents to the job. We have Jim, Jan, Barrie and Brent: all even-tempered, helpful, willing to go that extra mile to help. Each of us must be able to listen and, above all, have all the answers. And — don't we always!?

Suddenly, a fire alarm goes off, and the duty Porter jumps into action and shows their athletic prowess, identifying the source of the alarm and moving swiftly to the flat or apartment only to find a bemused Fellow in a smoke-filled room claiming, "But I was only cooking sausages...".

Guests arrive and leave. They are always greeted by a friendly face. The busy housekeeping team have made the room ready and that friendly face meets and greets, and hands the room key from the safety of the key press to the guest. Then the guest makes the usual request for the Wi-Fi code which seems to be more important than running water... And again, we know the answers...



Or, a flustered-looking gentleman arrives at Reception. He explains he is "late for the Conference". "What Conference is that?" asks the Porter. The gentleman pulls out his mobile phone and scrolls through to find the relevant email. He finds what he is looking for. The Porter reads it and smiles. "Yes, indeed", says the Porter. "There is a Conference. However, it is at Clare College". After receiving instructions, he dashes off to Clare. Don't we know all the answers!

Exciting, mysterious – sometimes mad! – but most of the time, calm and collected. (A bit like this Review. Now, read on... Ed)

# A Letter from the President, Professor David

A Letter from the President, Professor David Ibbetson (Regius Professor of Civil Law — the boss. We don't do "Master" and "Mistress" at Clare Hall. Ed.).

Reaching fifty-one (Not him — the College! Ed.) is somehow less romantic than reaching fifty, but we can look back on our anniversary celebrations with pride and pleasure. Its centre-piece, and high point, was the anniversary week in August 2016, with a series of events beginning with a reception in the garden at West Court — a perfect place on a warm summer evening — and ending with a dinner in a marquee erected outside Elmside, just about large enough to accommodate all those who wanted to attend.

# President's **Letter**

In-between: a punt trip to Grantchester, and a trip to the grand house at Audley End; a memorable tour of churches in Suffolk organised and led by Fellow-Commoner Edward Coales; visits to libraries and museums in Cambridge, including an exhibition of materials from the Cairo Genizah overseen by Research Fellow Gabriele Ferrario: a concert and the opening of an exhibition of art from the College's collection; and lectures by our own Hasok Chang, John Barrow and Gillian Beer, the latter foreshadowing the publication of her new book on Alice in Wonderland, which we launched in College at the end of January, and which later received the prestigious Truman Capote Award for literary criticism.

"we can look back on our anniversary celebrations with pride and pleasure."

As well, there were events all round the world hosted by myself, the Development Director or other Fellows. The Development Director of another college sighed jealously when I outlined where we were holding receptions, another reflection of Clare Hall's position in Cambridge. Numerous Life Members attended College events in the course of the year, a reflection of the work put in by Marie Janson, Catherine Wise and Erica Emond in the Development Office. Heartfelt personal thanks from me to them, and

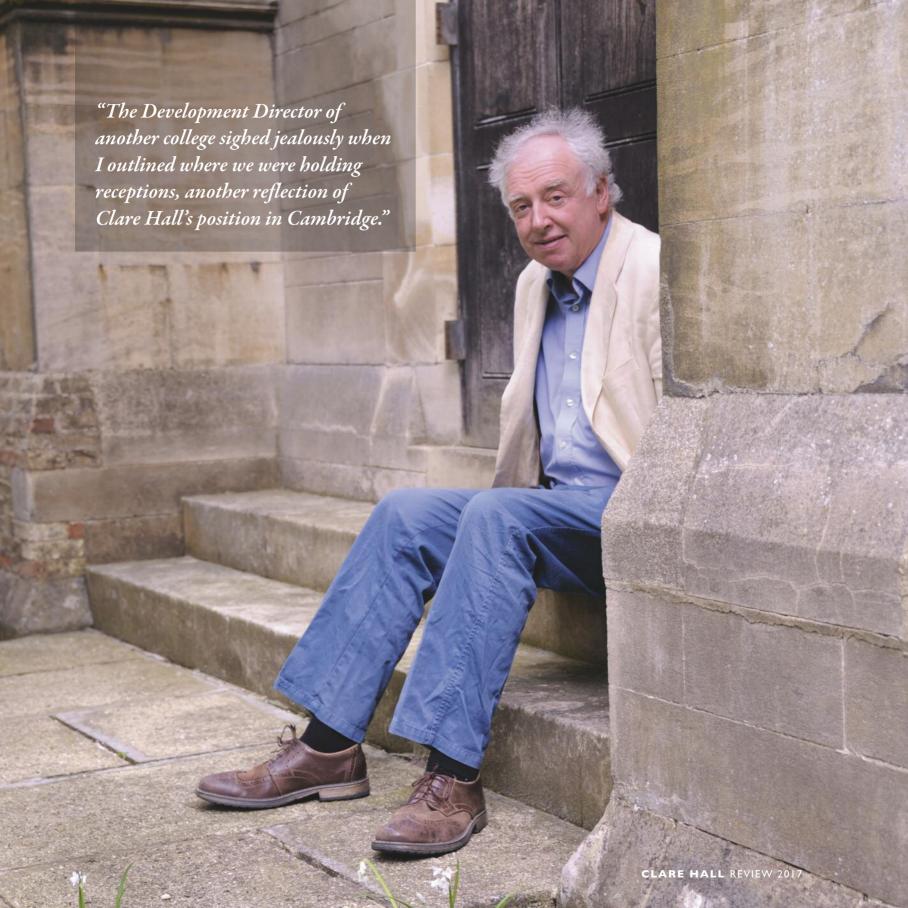
also to Robert Anderson, who oversaw all of the anniversary celebrations, and to Liz Ramsden, who kept us all in order with her usual calm efficiency.

Sadly, in the course of the year, we saw Liz's retirement. Nobody is indispensable, but Liz was less dispensable than most. Having been at the centre of the College for half of its lifetime, she had got to know a huge number of its members who counted her as a good personal friend. In a College with a fairly rapid turnover of Presidents and Fellows, it was Liz who provided much of the year-to-year continuity. We wish her a very long and happy retirement, and hope that she will keep very closely in touch with the College and all her friends.

Other large-size shoes that have needed filling in the course of the year were Irene Hills', who had been Tutorial Administrator for more than a decade, and Amanda Walker, the Bursar. Irene had come to bring a calm efficiency to all aspects of the relationship between students and the College, from admission to graduation, and ensured that things did not go wrong. Amanda brought her formidable experience of financial management to the College as well as an instinct for good administration. We welcome their successors, Magda Bergman and Ian Strachan as they have begun to bring their own styles to the efficient running of the College.

# **David Ibbetson**

President



"An amazing number of our Life Members attended various events organised at Clare Hall, as well as in the UK, Austria, Italy, Spain, USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, and Macau."

# News from our **Development Director**

The 50th Anniversary celebrations certainly have dominated our work here in the Development Office, so let me start by thanking all of you who attended, contributed to, or in other ways supported our 50th Anniversary celebrations. An amazing number of our Life Members attended various events organised at Clare Hall, as well as in the UK, Austria, Italy, Spain, USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, and Macau. Special thanks goto Dr. Robert Anderson for chairing the Anniversary Committee and for creating the vision, and to Catherine Wise in our Development Office for organising everything so efficiently and seamlessly, especially our very busy Anniversary week in August 2016.

Not only have so many of you joined in the celebratory activities, but you have also put your support for the College into real action, and donated to our Anniversary Campaign, which aims to raise £3 million towards much needed student support and facilities, and to shore up our small endowment. Part of this was our Telephone Campaign in December, with callers from across our community: students, Research Fellows and Visiting Fellows. They were bowled over by the positive response they received from our Life Members around the world and the many friendly and interesting conversations they had.

Over £2 million have been raised so far, which means that we now have an annual programme of generous bursaries for our students. After 50 years of relative obscurity, Clare Hall also has an invigorated

presence on Grange Road, with a simple but effective slate plaque signposting the College, and a striking sculpture by John Sydney Carter, called 'Triangulum', in front of it. On the facilities front, we have updated and modernised the interior of Elmside, to provide fresh student accommodation. All this, thanks to the generosity of our Life Members.

"Over £2 million have been raised so far..."

On the eve of her retirement, money was also raised for the Liz Ramsden Fund, in recognition of the fantastic relationship Liz has developed with so many Visiting Fellows and Life Members over the years at Clare Hall. The purpose of the fund is to enable Liz to stay in touch with our Life Members, but also to help to improve the Common Room, to make it more welcoming and conducive to social interaction.

The last two years have been a lot about looking back to the origins of the College, celebrating its values as well as its buildings and people. But our Anniversary year has also confirmed, in so many ways, how relevant Clare Hall still is – its ethos and values of non-hierarchical interactions and international outlook, its family-friendly buildings and fascinating people – all enabling us to look confidently towards an even brighter future for the College.

# Marie Janson Development Director



# 2016 Anniversary **Telephone Campaign**

In December 2016, as part of the 50th Anniversary Campaign we held a Telephone Campaign which provided an invaluable opportunity to keep in touch with our Life Members, as well as raise money for the Anniversary Campaign. The Telephone Campaign was held during the Michaelmas term to allow graduates and Visiting Fellows to participate by contacting fellow 'Clare Hallers' to find out how they had found their experience at Clare Hall, and for them to hear about current graduate activities.

Our nine wonderful callers spoke to some 300 Life Members and friends located world-wide over the course of the twoweek campaign just before Christmas, and we were delighted that around half of all the people we spoke to chose to make a gift, raising over £25,000 for Clare Hall, including many new legacy pledges and gifts of regular support. Our callers certainly enjoyed the opportunity to hear what our Life

Members are doing, as well as ensuring that we have the correct contact details to enable us to keep in touch and involve them in the Clare Hall community in the future.

The team of callers were an excellent representation of the life and breadth of the community at Clare Hall, and represented a wide range of academic disciplines including Architecture, African Studies, Computer Sciences. Law and Material Studies. Their enthusiasm, friendliness and professionalism were a credit to the College.

The Development Team would also like to thank everyone who participated and made a positive impact on the Anniversary Campaign – you really do make a difference!

# Thank you!

Development Office

# Leaving a Gift in Your Will

Thank you to all of you who have expressed an interest in including a gift to Clare Hall in your will. Gifts left in wills have made a tremendous difference to Clare Hall, from enabling us to support bursaries to the running of the College. As we look in the long term future for the College we know that legacies will help us make our visions come real; whether it is improving student accommodation allowing more of our students to be housed in the College, improving access to study spaces or upgrading the facilities.

There are so many ways you can help, and the best place to start is to look at our website for information on how to give. We will also be launching the 1966 Society to give recognition to those who have pledged a gift to Clare Hall.

# Donors 2016-17

We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and organisations for their generosity during the 2016-17 financial year.

We are also grateful to those donors who wish to remain anonymous, have given gifts in kind, or made a bequest to the College.



### **Organisations**

Anglo-Swedish Society **BP** International China UK Development Ltd Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund Kresge Foundation Skanska Spalding Trust Tanner Foundation W. M. Keck Foundation

### Individuals

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# Donors 2016-17



Shirley Echlin, Professor David Ibbetson and Ann Goldstein at the unveiling of the bench outside Elmside in honour of Patrick Echlin.

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**Legacy Gifts Received** 

Brien Key

<sup>\*</sup>Recently Deceased



# A Vision for the Future?

"it is becoming increasingly desirable to be able to provide housing for students rather than sending them out into the market to seek it for themselves..."

(To be read in conjunction with the next article. Ed.)

A generous donation to the Anniversary Campaign from a Life Member has enabled the College to commission a firm of architects, Stanton Williams, to look at our site and neighbouring properties which might come onto the market in the foreseeable future, and to make suggestions as to the way in which we might look forward into the future.

The brief was based on two assumptions: first, that we should not plan for any major change in the size of the College. The Governing Body might, of course, choose otherwise at some stage, but for the

moment the College's policy is one of steady state. Second, that we are committed to retaining both the original College site and West Court (more or less necessarily so if we are not to have a major reduction in numbers). They had discussions with a number of College members over the summer to tease out possibilities, and their report was presented to the Governing Body and given a full discussion. The Graduate Student Body was involved at all stages, in recognition of the fact that they constitute the major portion of College members in residence at any one time.

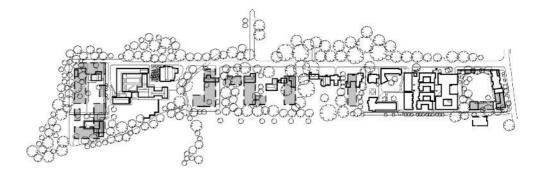
With their discussions in mind, they identified the core of the main College site, around the Dining Hall and Elmside,

as places for social interaction and administration. The radical conclusion of this was that Elmside should cease to be residential, returning the ground floor to reception rooms and having the upper floor either as College administration or more likely – as guest rooms for visitors, freeing up rooms elsewhere on the site. Almost as radical, it was suggested that a new entrance to the College be constructed, with a new Porters' Lodge, just along Herschel Road towards Grange Road. There would be no grand gatehouse, naturally, but a College entrance rather less anonymous than the current flight of steps not obviously leading anywhere.

"The administrative offices might be moved, either to the upper floor of Elmside or partly into a new block..."

Small changes might be made to the Common Room, with slightly different furniture and decor to encourage interaction. The bar area could be enhanced to be serving tea and coffee, together with snacks during the day, and it might have more regular openings in the evening so as to bring College members together more informally.

The administrative offices might be moved, either to the upper floor of Elmside or partly into a new block connecting the square to the Anthony Low Building. That would free up rooms which could be used for study spaces, something badly lacking at the moment. Proximity to the Common Room would make it easier for those at work to take breaks in communal space and engage in those conversations which are the hallmark of the College at its best. One Fellow, perhaps with a gleam in his eye, suggested that we might even



contemplate demolishing the offices close to the Common Room, thereby opening the vista to the pond.

Turning to West Court, it should retain its function as primarily residential, though the Doshisha Room and Richard Eden Suite would continue to be available for meetings and receptions. A small amount of refurbishment of Gillian Beer House would make it an attractive venue for day conferences, with the potential to bring in much-needed income without interfering unduly with the College's whole raison d'être.

"it was suggested that a new entrance to the College be constructed, with a new Porter's Lodge, just along Herschel Road towards Grange Road."

Were we to consider building more accommodation, they identified the only real possibility for expansion being the area at the west end of West Court at present occupied by the bungalow and garden. If this were to come onto the market, and we were able to buy it, it would provide a site for a substantial new building which would enable us to offer accommodation to all of our students who wanted it.

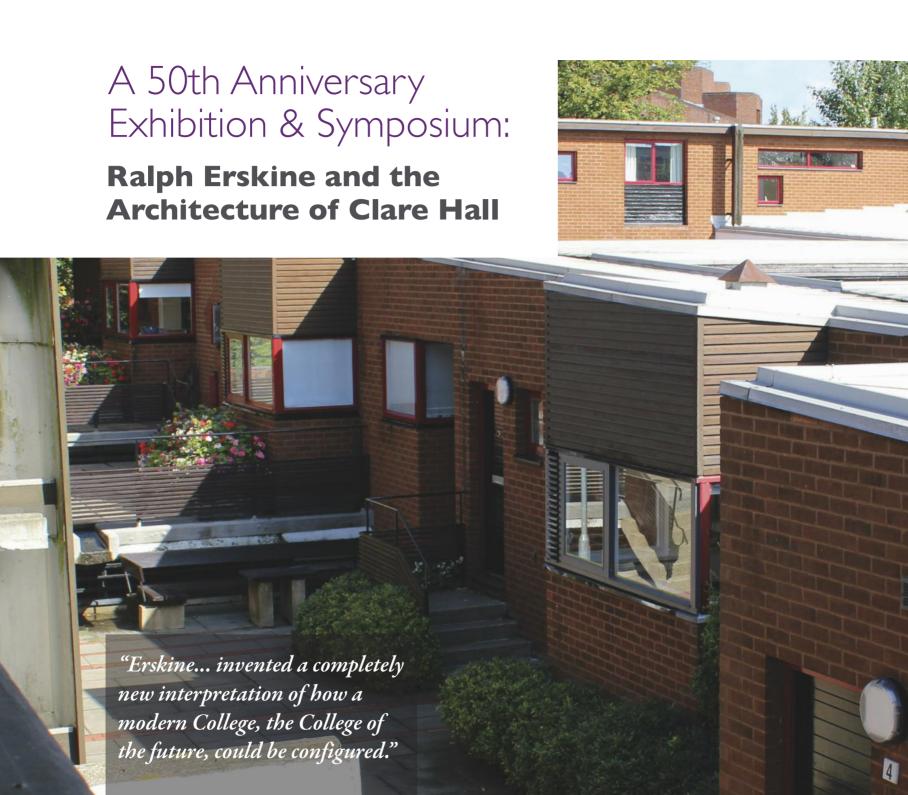
With the rapid development of Cambridge we are experiencing at the moment, it is

becoming increasingly desirable to be able to provide housing for students rather than sending them out into the market to seek it for themselves, and the Governing Body recognized that this should be a major aspiration. It would also open up the possibility of constructing an auditorium, something that many College members feel would be a worthwhile addition to what Clare Hall can offer.

A more distant possibility would be to purchase the houses on Herschel Road between the original site and West Court, enabling us to join up the two parts of the College. But it was recognised that current planning constraints might make it very difficult to develop these sites. If money were available, we should contemplate bringing these houses into College possession, though there might be no immediate chance of developing them. (Stop Press! The College has recently acquired the property at 4 Herschel Rd! Ed.)

Some of the proposals could be achieved with relatively minimal expense, others would require major donations. But a strategy for the development of our site gives us a clear way forward.

### **David Ibbetson**



Now compare the last article with the thinking about Clare Hall's architectural creation in the mid-sixties (from an Exhibition mounted in Clare Hall in late 2016. Ed.)

Members of Clare Hall have known from the beginning that their College buildings are special and that their Anglo-Swedish architect, Ralph Erskine, was one of the great exponents of an alternative, less brutal, humane modernism. The Minutes of the first Clare Hall Committee meeting of 11 April 1964 record an agreed shortlist of five distinguished architects from which Erskine emerged as the inspired and imaginative first choice. Through 1964 and early 1965 he invented a completely new interpretation of how a modern College, the College of the future, could be configured. He inverted the traditional College form. Clare Hall filled the quad instead of lining it, and in that dense collection of spaces for living, working, eating, talking and reading, he conjured up the setting for a complete community, released from the traditional hierarchical structure.

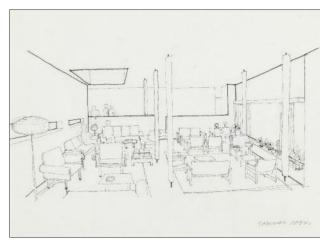
With the help and support of the Arkitektur-och designcentrum in Stockholm, who hold the Erskine collection, the immaculately conserved Clare Hall archive and tremendously evocative inputs from former colleagues of Erskine (some who helped to draw Clare Hall), a working group made up of Professor Alan Short (Fellow), Dr. Robert Anderson (Emeritus Fellow), Elain Harwood (Historic England), Dr Lucia Tantardini and Dr Gabriel Byng

(Research Fellows), Professor Antonello Alici (Visiting Fellow), Dr. Marie Janson (Development Director) and Catherine Wise (Development Office), assembled an exhibition documenting the design process and leading to the final design: Ralph Erskine and the Invention of Clare Hall. It was not a wholly straightforward process. Clearly the intended flat roofs, a leitmotiv of modernism in architecture, were deemed to be unacceptable rather late in the day.

A fascinating sketch is included of a sequence of attempts to devise a pitched roof surface flexible enough to be draped over the nearly complete plan. There is even the fantastical if doomed idea to garden all or most of the roof surfaces. A model of the fascinating but unrealised penultimate scheme was commissioned especially for the Exhibition. The Swedish Cultural Attaché, Ellen Wettmark, opened the exhibition which was on display in the King Room. A very full Exhibition catalogue edited by Dr. Tantardini records the exhibits and is available for purchase in the Porters' Lodge. On 15 October, 2016, Clare Hall was also host to a day-symposium on Erskine, featuring speakers from the UK, Sweden, the Netherlands and Italy who were able to set Clare Hall in the context of post-war architecture as a particularly significant example of what has come to be known as the Alternative Tradition, the alternative to Brutalism, that is,

### **Alan Short**

Professorial Fellow: Architecture







(In the light of both articles, what do you think about the new suggestions for the College? Let the College know. Ed.)

# "I have taken enormous pride over the years in being

able to invite colleagues from

outside Cambridge into our

welcoming community."

# An Irreverent Glance at Clare Hall

I came to Clare Hall more than fifteen years ago, through the good offices of my friend and colleague Julius Lipner (who has asked me for these brief reflections). Since then I have become part of the College furniture, perhaps the swiftest of the post-lunch competitors for *The Guardian*, and a reliable ally for those who want to fulminate against any possible change in the way the College is run. I have taken enormous pride over the years in being able to invite colleagues from outside Cambridge into our welcoming community.

Clare Hall has done a great deal for me, and one may legitimately ask what I have done for Clare Hall. My appalling administrative abilities were tested beyond destruction early on in my fellowship, when I was made Steward two weeks after joining the College. The Green Vegetable Debate was reaching its hysterical climax as I took over as ex-officio Chair of the Kitchen Committee. Other duties as Steward included drawing up the seating plan for feasts, and I can honestly say that it had never occurred to me how much white-hot anxiety is invested in the outcome of a seating plan. Ultimately, the Bursar despaired and brought my Stewardship to an end. She nudged me gently towards other duties, and I have drifted down through less and less demanding tasks until settling into my present contribution to the College as yes-man on the Garden Committee. (Tony is being modest here: he's also on the College Council, Ed.)

"All in all, I cannot say how happy I am to have ended up in Clare Hall among its constantly refreshed community of likeminded scholars, disburdened of undergraduates."

Clare Hall has aspects which, depending on your point of view, verge on the comic. As a one-time resident of Cairo, I admire creative parking, and few car parks can have more to offer in this respect than the one beneath the main building at lunch-time. Further, as the average age of the Fellowship creeps past that of a Radio 4 audience (and though not in the vanguard in this regard, I'm certainly well forward of the middle of the pack), the lunch crowd tends to look somewhat like extras from an episode of Fawlty Towers. On the other hand, time has mellowed me with infirmities since I first came to Clare Hall, and complaints I once found laughable — voiced through the Saga of the Dining Room Baffles, and the as-yet unresolved Deep Chair Crisis in the Common Room — I now find pressing and urgent.

All in all, I cannot say how happy I am to have ended up in Clare Hall among its constantly refreshed community of likeminded scholars, disburdened of undergraduates. Clare Hall has always been, and will always be, the most cherished of the associations I have with Cambridge.

### **Dr Tony Street**

Official Fellow; Medieval Islamic Logic

# Not a **Goodbye**

The decision to leave was made in January when I realised it was time to stop boarding, avoid the weekly motorway grind, and instead enjoy my home in Kent. I have many people to thank for helping me to make my way here and shape my understanding of and affection for this place as I say farewell to Clare Hall (although this is not a goodbye, rather à bientôt).

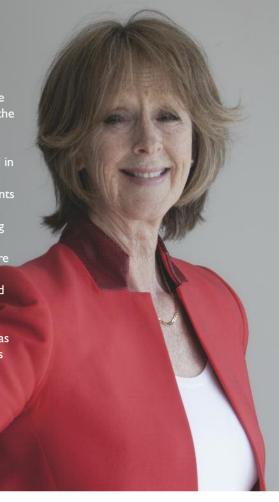
"I have been fortunate to have been part of a team that has enthusiasm for building a refreshed future for the College"

I have been fortunate to have been part of a team that has enthusiasm for building a refreshed future for the College and most especially defining a strategy for future enhancement of the estate. To depart from this with a sense of things not yet complete is niggling but, at the same time, I leave knowing full well that my investment along with the investment of others is strengthening and shaping the College for the next phase in its development.

I do rather regret not having been more successful in moving the College beyond where we are today in terms of strengthening the endowment. Endowments are built through both fundraising success and investment performance. The impetus for funnelling even small gifts into the endowment rather than spending them is rooted in financial prudence. There are ramifications to this fiscal philosophy, including suppressed salaries, tight control over spending and an ageing physical infrastructure.

As I look back on almost 3 years at Clare Hall, it has been an exciting and memorable stint and I confess that, even though I think I know what's coming, it doesn't mean I'll be prepared for how it will feel to disconnect from this wonderful place.

Amanda Walker outgoing Bursar



# New Bursar's initial thoughts



In a sublime period of just five days in early March, I not only achieved a personal best in the Cambridge Half Marathon, but was also offered the position of Bursar at Clare Hall. But it was

the call from David (viz. lbbetson, the President. Ed.) that was most exciting, giving me not just an enormous sense of anticipation, but also a recognition of the honour and privilege in accepting the role.

I write this having been in post for just a few weeks, but already feeling a strong sense of the unique community that is Clare Hall. Everyone has made me most welcome, which is reflective of the spirit and ethos of the College. In return, I commit to do what

"I write this... already feeling a strong sense of the unique community that is Clare Hall."

I can to help to build that special identity, to make resources available that will provide the facilities and environment that our members and friends deserve, and which will continue to attract and retain the best to Clare Hall.

After a career in the accountancy profession, qualifying in Aberdeen, a couple of years in Connecticut, USA, and for the last thirty years in Cambridge, I sense that College and University life will be very different, but it is that change and challenge which I am looking forward to. I, of course, understand and appreciate the financial constraints, and there are risks and uncertainties in the future, but we have a proud history, a great team in place, and I share in the confidence that we have exciting times ahead.

**Ian Strachan** Bursar



# Graduate Student Body

You're already beginning to realise that Clare Hall is a hive of activity. There's so much more to follow! Here is what the Graduate Student Body (GSB) have been up to! Clare Hall has been lucky to benefit from an excellent and committed GSB committee this year, who have organised numerous social events, sporting fixtures, swaps and Fellow-student interaction events. We kicked off the year with an action-packed Welcome Week with cheese and port, parties, punting and a walk to Grantchester, to name a few of the events.

So far this year, our wonderful GSB Social Officer has organised numerous events including pub quizzes, board-games nights and movie nights as well as a festive trip to Ely Cathedral for the Christmas markets, and an outing to the local Fireworks display on Bonfire Night. We have also thrown a variety of themed parties this year including Halloween, Christmas,

Valentine's Day and most recently our colourful Rainbow Party in acknowledgement of LGBT History Month.

There have also been multiple Fellow-student dinners, where our Fellow-Student Interaction officer has put on popular drinks receptions to give our students even more time to interact with our fantastic Fellows. Clare Hall also had its first Fellow-student Whisky Tasting event, where humanities students and Fellows could chat about their research. Look out for the Sciences Whisky Tasting event coming soon!

This year Clare Hall students have also formed a football team, taken part in the squash team, and the Clare Hall Cricket team were hard at work in preparation for the Students vs Fellows cricket match in the summer [See report on p.27. Ed] Lent term also witnessed the Hanging of the Blade from the Women's Rowing Teams' fantastic success at May Bumps in 2016.

The GSB have also organised a number of formal swaps this year with other Cambridge Colleges such as Murray Edwards, Corpus Christi and Darwin. In the Lent term the GSB Music officers also organised an excellent Jazz Formal, well attended by students, Fellows and other College members.

This year Clare Hall has formed an exciting, renewed relationship with its sister College

in Oxford: St. Cross. In the Michaelmas term, a group of fifteen Clare Hall students visited St. Cross for a formal swap. The trip was a great success and we were lucky enough to be able to return the favour in the Lent term when St. Cross visited Cambridge. Our GSB External Officer Noah led a tour of the city, followed by a champagne reception and formal dinner. We look forward to more events with St. Cross.

The GSB have done a fantastic job of putting on so many events and creating so many opportunities for students this year... and we're not finished yet! We still have many events to look forward to in the Easter term, including the Clare Hall Graduate Conference, which will bring together students and Fellows across a wide range of disciplines to share and discuss their research.

Although Clare Hall will not have a May Ball this year, our Social Officer is hard at work planning a summer BBQ party, which promises to be a great way to end the year and a fantastic end-of-term celebration for many of our students.

Thank you to our superb GSB committee this year, without which all of this would not have been possible.

**Sophie Allcock and Fiona Calvert** Joint Presidents of the GSB

"Clare Hall has been lucky to benefit from an excellent and committed GSB committee this year, who have organised numerous social events, sporting fixtures, swaps and Fellow-student interaction events."





# Ashby Lecture 2017

On 16 June, Dr Ha-Joon Chang (Reader in Economics, University of Cambridge) delivered the Ashby Lecture (in Clare College) on "How much is the free market compatible with a 'decent' society'?", a 'decent society' being one that affords all its citizens political freedom, material comfort, personal security, and dignity.

The lecture began with arguments advocating the 'free market' — that economic system which purports to best generate wealth for the entire society by ignoring or superseding traditional social connections, such as obligations of caste and family, in order to create a 'level playing field' on which individuals are 'liberated' to compete and fulfil their potential. The balance of the talk was devoted to disputing this claim.

Fundamentally, the free market asserts freedom of contract. The problem here is that the contracting parties are often unequal. The employer may be free to hire, but the worker is not free to be

unemployed. Thus, though the free market seems to operate above party politics, its supporters have tended to oppose government efforts to interfere with the purity of the contractual relation.

As for the 'level playing field', its benefits would exist only if everyone had the same access to economic and social advancement. The free market confers 'liberation' only if one is wilfully blind to the immense advantages that come with wealth, social position and political power.

Dr Chang concluded that a 'free market' has never really existed. It is a social construct created and perpetuated by those who profit from its workings. In fact, society's values have evolved with government enacting legislation that expressly tries to compensate for the unevenness of the actual playing field.

**Robert Ackerman** 

# The Clare Hall Colloquia

The Colloquia are an important and productive way for Clare Hall Fellows to share their research with the rest of the Fellowship, harnessing the potential of the College's interdisciplinary makeup. The year 2016-17 has been an active one, with the Colloquia serving up a bumper crop of

talks on a wide range of subjects from an incredibly lively arsenal of scholars, combining intellectual stimulation and accessibility.

From Aristotle's philosophy of science to the legal niceties of underwater cultural heritage; from the genetic code of bacteria to Christianity on the Silk Roads; from spying for the Russians to pre-Reformation alchemy; from image-worship in Hinduism to the cultural history of windows; from how to

write meta-histories to LGBT litigation in the United States – and much more! Question-time has also been spritely and enthusiastic, showing itself to be a key ingredient in the College's research culture.

A huge thank you to all speakers and audience members.

Daniel Jolowicz dj334@cam.ac.uk

# The Cambridge Trust Talks

The Cambridge Trust - Clare Hall Talks series was launched on 31 January 2017 with a plenary session attended by Mrs. Helen Pennant, Director of The Cambridge Trust, and included presentations by Brynja Thorgeirsdottir ("Embodied emotions in the Sagas of Icelanders"), Elias Nosrati ("Health inequalities in the United States: deindustrialisation, incarceration, and the political economy of public health"), Heidi Mogstad ("The art of hospitality: An ethnographic study of two Norwegian volunteer organisations' cultivation of hospitality and care in response to the 'refugee crisis'"), and M. Wesam Al-Asali ("Labour, Scale and Material: traditional building construction in architectural practice").

The Series looks to promote research projects undertaken by Cambridge Trust scholars based at Clare Hall with an aim to widen their academic network across the University of Cambridge and internationally.

The talks are organised once a term with each session including four presentations by Clare Hall based Cambridge Trust scholars. Each presentation lasts 15 minutes and gives the scholars the opportunity to discuss their current or most recent research projects. This is followed by a brief Q&A. The audience usually consists of Cambridge Trust students, affiliated academics, Clare Hall Fellows, students, and other Cambridge-based scholars.

For further information see www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-trust-clare-hall-talks

# Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Networking



The Clare Hall Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Network Series was launched on 7 March 2017. This annual series of events, which will take place regularly (once a term), is designed specifically for Clare Hall students and Visiting Fellows working in the arts, humanities and social sciences. It aims to encourage stronger links within their research and academic networks. The inaugural event included a special whiskytasting hosted by Stephen Bourne, the Vice-President. Whisky-tastings will remain a core feature of these events with regular contributions from Fellows and students (performed, of course, humanely, with perfect artistic and scientific propriety. Ed.).

Both series were convened by Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Fellow and Tutor, Clare Hall.

For further information see www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/clare-hall-arts-humanities-and-social-sciences-network-series

In the pages that follow, we'll take a sample glimpse at our Junior Research Fellows, and the progress they've made from last year. Here's your starter from:

# **Dr. Gabriel Byng**



I was delighted to be part of the curatorial team for the exhibition 'Ralph Erskine and Clare Hall'. I'm lucky enough to live in an Erskinedesigned flat

and I'm grateful every day for his sensitive, humane architecture. My research has focused on finishing my monograph, 'Church Building and Society in the Later Middle Ages', to be published by CUP later this year. With this done, I am working on my new project, tentatively entitled 'Art and Authority in Medieval Society', as well as a few shorter papers. With a colleague, I also won a Paul Mellon Centre Digital Projects Grant for a two-year investigation into the distribution of pilgrim badges. In my free time, I'm working on a history of a branch of my family, Jews living in Bavaria during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, about which I gave a talk in Clare Hall in December.

My other main activity this year has been learning, or attempting to learn German with the Cambridge University Language Centre.

# **Daniel Jolowicz**

Isaac Newton - Ann Johnston Research Fellow



Arrival at the halfway threshold of my time as a Research Fellow at Clare Hall prompts a moment of reflection. A genuine locus

amoenus ("delightful place", "happy refuge". Latin. Had to look it up. Our JRFs are really learned types. Ed.), the College has provided an exceptionally congenial environment for life and its pursuits, populated as it is by a cast of international and interdisciplinary scholars offering a constant flow of fresh ideas and alternative perspectives.

As a classicist, my research activities currently consist in completing a manuscript of my book, Latin Poetry in the Ancient Greek Novels, which attempts to expose a background layer of Latin hitherto denied to these texts. My sympathy for subversion in all its forms also saw me convene a one-day colloquium on the topic of 'literary resistance'.

I thoroughly enjoy participating in College life via activities of the mind (as convenor of the Clare Hall Colloquium) and body (in the College's squash team).

(Hint. In the photo, Daniel is not the ultra-pale chap on the right. Ed.)

# Senior Tutor's Report



Clare Hall is the smallest of the Oxbridge Colleges. We have a student body of around 180. excluding those who are writing up their PhD theses. There are many advantages in

maintaining this small size, which makes Clare Hall a unique offering for postgraduate students. It offers genuine collegiality and friendliness, where students can mix with Fellows, Visiting Fellows and Life Members alike, in a way that is unique in Cambridge.

The recent Stanton Williams Report on the future of the College estate (see "A Vision for the Future?" at the beginning of the Review. Ed.) points to some potentially exciting ways we might seek to provide more accommodation for our existing students and enhance their social spaces. The GSB (remember, "Graduate Student Body". Ed) were closely involved in the consultations conducted by the architects, and as a Governing Body we are committed to respecting and responding positively to the views and initiatives coming from our students.

"We thank all our donors for their generosity in supporting our students and helping to make Clare Hall by far the most popular Graduate/Mature College of choice in the University."

A central challenge for Cambridge as it seeks to maintain its front-rank status amongst the world's great universities is postgraduate funding. This is an area where colleges like Clare Hall can make a real and lasting difference. The recent generous bequest from Denis Boak has allowed us to participate with the University in paired and matched-funding schemes and we currently have two Masters students here on Boak-Newton Awards and two students in receipt of the highly prestigious Vice-Chancellors-Boak Awards for PhDs. These awards complement our longer-established lankovic Studentship, awarded this year to Mario Cekic for a PhD in Computer Science, and the wider range of bursaries made annually to assist students. We thank all our donors for their generosity in supporting our students and helping to make Clare Hall by far the most popular Graduate/Mature College of choice in the University.

On behalf of the Tutors, I would like to thank our two Directors of Studies. Dr. Thomas Forster (Mathematics) and Dr. Catherine Mackenzie (Law), for their enthusiasm and support over the year. Also, the two Co-Presidents of the GSB. Sophie Allcock and Fiona Calvert, have been most supportive. Finally, I would like to pay tribute to Ms. Irene Hills, our much-loved Tutorial Administrator, who came to Clare Hall in 2004 and who has given an exceptional level of commitment to the College. We wish her well on her retirement and, in turn. welcome her successor, Ms. Magda Bergman, who comes to us from the School of Physical Sciences.

Dr Iain Black Senior Tutor



The wine reception during the intermission provided a lovely opportunity to meet many of Intimate Engagements' friends and supporters.

In January, cellist Adrian Brendel and pianist David Dolan took us on a journey through compositional styles and performance practices and presented an illuminating overview of the cello and piano repertoire, including works by Bach, Beethoven, Fauré

# Intimate **Engagements**

This year we celebrated the I0th anniversary of Clare Hall's Intimate Engagements
Concert series, in which prominent artists combine performances with informal presentations on themed programmes.
The Series opened in November with a gala concert featuring The Vienna Piano Trio. The Trio performed works by Beethoven and Brahms and explored the journey of inspiration from one great composer to a successor. This was a memorable event, also due to the installation of a virtual acoustics system, which transformed the dining hall acoustics.



and Webern. The programme was intertwined with preludes and postludes improvisations, which paved the way as the performers masterfully moved through almost three centuries of musical styles.

In the third concert, cellist Thomas Carroll and violinist Matthew Trusler joined forces for a performance combining solo works by Bach and Bartok alongside two pillars of the violin and cello duo repertoire by Ravel and Kodaly. This was a tour de force of rarely performed works that shed light on the richness of texture and sound that can be achieved with this minimal orchestration. The fourth and last concert of this year's series featured The Brodsky Quartet in a programme that followed fugues in works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Shostakovich and Beethoven.

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the series' loyal and appreciative audiences and the series' supporters, the Music Angels, without whom we wouldn't be able to have these memorable events. I look forward to sharing many more in the years to come.

## Dr Abigail Dolan

Artistic Director,
Intimate Engagements Concert Series

# **Jehangir Cama**



I studied Physics at St. Stephen's College, Delhi, before coming to Cambridge where I completed an affiliated BA followed by a PhD in Biophysics. I was a recipient of the Nehru Memorial

Trust Cambridge Scholarship and a Trinity College Graduate Studentship.

My research involves the development of microfluidic techniques to study a range of biological questions in novel, quantitative ways. I've developed technology to quantify the transport of antibiotics across different components of Gram-negative bacterial membranes, studying transport pathways involved in antibiotic resistance. (Got it? Ed.) In the past year, I've started collaborating with the National Physical Laboratory on developing safety and efficacy standards for polypeptide antimicrobials, which hold promise as novel therapeutics for drug resistant pathogens. I am also interested in developmental biology and have recently devised a technique for studying the effects of physical forces on 3-dimensional stem cell colonies, to understand how biophysical cues affect stem cell differentiation.

In addition to my research, I am a pianist who has performed in Cambridge and Delhi. My most recent recital, in Trinity College Chapel last November, included Liszt's magnum opus, the B minor sonata. I play golf and badminton, and have a keen interest in Russian literature. I've also been closely associated with the UNESCO Parzor Project for the Preservation of Parsi Zoroastrian Culture and Heritage since its inception.





# Jenny Bangham



I've been spending this year beginning a new Wellcomefunded project in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science on 'community tools'

in science. How do scientists come together to produce tools that benefit a whole community, like databases or stem cell repositories? How do those technologies shape the politics and practices of science?

I'm tracing the early history of 'FlyBase', an online genetic database that today orders and communicates genetic information about the fruit fly Drosophila. Established in the 1990s, FlyBase helped to transform biology into the highly collaborative, data-intensive science it is today. By exploring the politics, infrastructures and professional expertise produced by database technologies, I am investigating what difference these have made to biology and biomedicine.

I have also been finishing my book project on the history of blood transfusion and human genetics in Britain, provisionally called Blood Relations (Clever pun! Ed). The convivial Clare Hall writing group (which is organised by Fellow Keri Wong) has been invaluable in getting the manuscript finished and sent off to the press.

# Domestic Bursar's Report



Our staff at team Clare Hall is small. They all work very well together. Our operational activity continues to change and develop and we are continuing to find new ways of working that are more efficient and provide the best services to College members.

Over the last year, we have been looking at ways to ensure we are resourced in the best possible way. That staff use their skills for the best outcomes. We have restructured our IT department and are now supported by the University's Information Service (UIS). We have 2 staff that assist us (Ben Watkins & Dan Sayle). Adrian Powell-Owens, having been IT Manager at Clare Hall for 11 years, has now left us and has handed the reins to the University crew. Our Estates Department has seen changes too. Our carpenter/ handyman, Mark Missenden, has left and we now have a new member of the team, Bob Jones, who focuses on electrical work and painting.

Many of our students will be very familiar with Irene Hills who has just recently retired, having been at Clare Hall for 12 years as our Tutorial Administrator. Her helping hands will be greatly missed. Thankfully, we appointed Magda Bergman to step in and she is already making a great impression with the student

population and is providing great support to the Tutorial Office.

In our Development Office, Erica Emond has become a full-time member of the team and is developing summer education programmes for undergraduates from around the world who come to have a taste of Cambridge. Other new arrivals include Carol Flitton, Martine French and Sam Mott who join our housekeeping team and are keeping us all ship-shape.

"It is said that coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Of course, we all miss Liz Ramsden who retired earlier in the year, having served the College for over 20 years. Luckily for us all, Liz remains in close contact and pops in regularly for our Life Members events. Liz has helped our new Accommodation Officer a great deal and has passed on lots of knowledge and useful facts to help support Becky Williams in her new post here. Becky started with us in our Housekeeping department and has shown such great potential that she was promoted into the post that Liz had held before her retirement.

The staff here are making great inroads and improvements every day. It is said that coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success. Well done to all. Keep up the good work.

Jane Phelps Domestic Bursar

# The Cricket Match 2017

Before a game early this summer, a member of an opposing team surveyed Clare Hall warming up and asked, 'Does this College only field players from countries where nobody plays cricket?'. It's certainly true that the USA doesn't regularly feature at the business end of the cricket World Cup. And Finland's emergence as a global superpower of the game is not yet complete. There are even two Scottish guys playing for the club, for goodness sake! But such unlikely diversity makes Clare Hall cricket in general, and our annual game in particular, a special part of College life.

This year's match between the President's XI and the Students' XI on 23 June was the most compelling of the three which have been held since the current series began in 2015, striking the correct balance between goodwill and competitiveness, fun and ferocity. Dr. lain Black and (soon to be, Dr.) Aftab Jalia captained the President's XI and the Student team respectively, and it was clear from the off that the sun-baked wicket would witness a closely fought contest, with tight fielding, some impressive bowling, and plenty of swashbuckling batting. Sam Martensz deserves special thanks for whipping everyone into shape in the nets through spring.

For the President's XI, an opening batting partnership of Dr. Tim Stuart-Buttle and Dr. John Regan mustered 32. Regan was dispatched to the pavilion after his perennial nemesis Luke Villiers sent down a ball which glanced elegantly off the top of the bail on

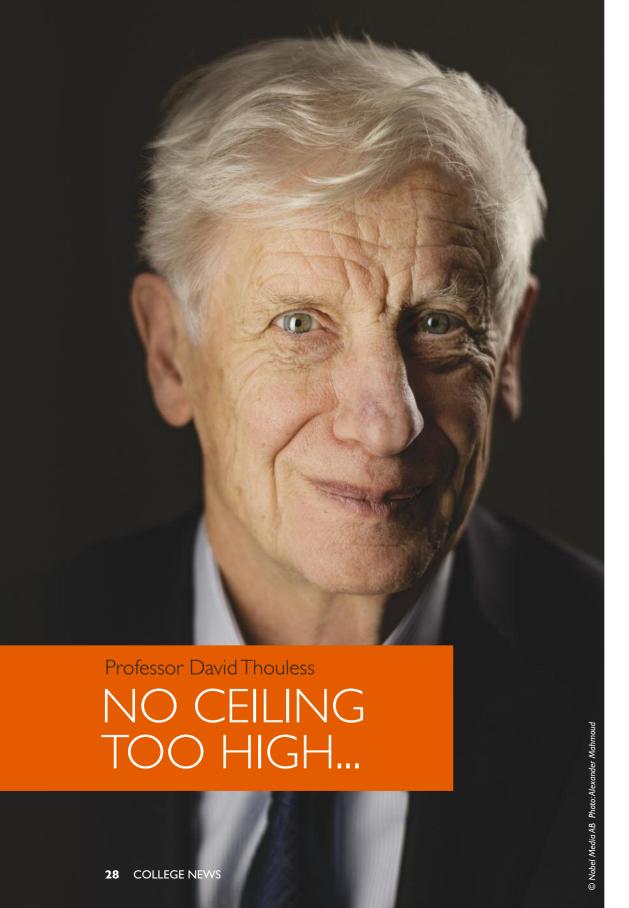
off stump (Shame! Ed.). Elegant glance or not, the fatal tinkle was heard, and Regan marched off. This would be one of only two bowlings in this innings, the other coming when Robert Nishida dismissed Dr. Ian Farnan after an impressive knock. The big hitters in this innings were Conrad Lennard who retired on 20 runs, the aforementioned Dr. Stuart-Buttle who came away with 19, and one of the men of the match, Elliott More, with 25. Bursar Ian Strachan and Dr. Kai Mikkonen closed the innings with a partnership which demonstrated that being away from the game for extended periods is no hindrance to run-scoring.

As the student team took the crease, captain Aftab led by example with 25 not out before retiring, and all-round nice chap, Dr. Stratton, followed that with a fine 7. Andrew Friend amassed the same, Villiers hit 22 and retired, Williams 3, Isobe fell to a stumping, Bray took 6, and Nishida 13. Noah Law was run out, as was John Drew after hitting a single. Captain Aftab returned to close the innings with Dr. Girish Kulkarni, making an additional 5 runs.

Adroit and aggressive bowling from Sam Martensz, Lennard and Stuart-Buttle to well-set fields, coupled with absorbent fielding, prevented the students from scoring the 19 runs they needed to win the match. But what a fine game of cricket it was all round.

John Regan





# On our current Nobel Laureate and Honorary Fellow, David Thouless.

On 4 October 2016, the whole media world focussed on David Thouless. On that day Professor Göran K. Hansson, the Secretary General of the Swedish Academy of Sciences, announced that David Thouless would share the 2016 Nobel Prize for Physics with Duncan Haldane and Michael Kosterlitz, for their discovery of the possibility of entirely new 'topological' states of matter. These new states were purely theoretical possibilities in the 1970s, but they are now seen to exist in many materials and promise to transform electronics and quantum computing. The prize-winners' work made one of the biggest advances in 20th century condensed

"Thouless and Kosterlitz realised that having vortices and anti-vortices together in pairs needs far less energy and they can dance around together in very unusual ways."

matter physics. Nobel committees are no longer simply content to award prizes — they like to subdivide the credit (and prize money) in an almost Gradgrindian manner ("With calculating attention to facts and figures alone." From a character in Dickens' novel Hard Times. Ed.) Thus, David received half of the prize, whilst Haldane and Kosterlitz had to make do with a quarter each. To put things in perspective, an unshared Nobel Prize in Physics has happened only four times since 1970.

To get a tiny flavour of their work, imagine a very thin film of material. It contains atoms whose spins point in particular directions. They all like to point in the same direction because this uses the least energy. They can also all swirl around anticlockwise like a vortex around a plug hole, or clockwise in an 'anti-vortex'. Alas, these configurations each need a lot of energy to maintain separately, and even heating the material up doesn't provide enough energy. So, everyone thought that vortices were irrelevant in thin

# "he held a Professorial Fellowship at Clare Hall and has remained a Life Member."

films. But Thouless and Kosterlitz realised that having vortices and anti-vortices together in pairs needs far less energy and they can dance around together in very unusual ways. They don't cancel each other out but act in pairs as if they were single particles, interacting with other pairs, popping up spontaneously from nothing, or simply disappearing.

They noticed that if you heat up the thin sheet containing these vortices and antivortices they will encounter each other more and more frequently, until they simply lose track of who their partner is supposed to be — like a dance floor of waltzing couples responding to their music being steadily speeded up. Suddenly, a temperature is reached where the pairs are jumbled and cease to bind to their opposite partner: the properties of the thin material then change radically; this break-up is called the Kosterlitz-Thouless phase transition.

This discovery changed the prevailing view that superfluidity and superconductivity could not occur in thin films. It creates a panoply of unusual new states of matter

that possess topological features that characterise the complexity of the windings of the vortices involved.

David spent some of his early years nearby, attended St. Faith's School in Cambridge and then Winchester College, before becoming an undergraduate. He graduated from Trinity Hall in 1955 with a first in physics and then did a PhD under Hans Bethe's supervision at Cornell (which began while Bethe was a one-year visitor at the Cavendish) before being appointed in 1961 to an assistant lectureship, and Director of Studies at Churchill, and then lecturer in the Faculty of Mathematics in 1963. He moved the following year to the Cavendish (along with Richard Eden) to take up a lectureship in Solid State Theory. He left to become a lecturer at Birmingham one year later but returned to the Cavendish with a Royal Society Professorship in 1983 but only stayed for 18 months before taking leave to the University of Washington, Seattle, from whence he did not return except as a summer visitor. During this period at the

# The prize-winners' work made one of the biggest advances in 20th century condensed matter physics.

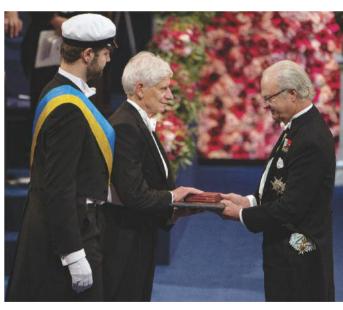
Cavendish, he held a Professorial Fellowship at Clare Hall and has remained a Life Member. Today, we are honoured to welcome him back as a distinguished Honorary Fellow living near the College, and look forward to seeing David and his wife Margaret often in Clare Hall.

### John Barrow, Fellow

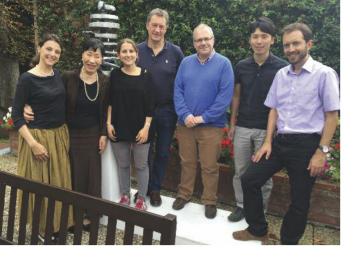
Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Director of the Millennium Mathematics Project.



Above: David Thouless and his wife, Margaret



Above: David Thouless receiving his Nobel Prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at the Stockholm Concert Hall, 10 December 2016.



Clare Hall provides regular and substantial financial support to its prospective and current students. During the academic year 2016-17, several different bursary schemes have proved to be highly effective and confirmed the Tutorial Office's strategy to secure them on a long-term basis.

"several different bursary schemes have proved to be highly effective and confirmed the Tutorial Office's strategy to secure them on a long-term basis."

The Boak Student Support Fund, introduced in Lent 2017, provides support for MPhil. and PhD students of Clare Hall to pursue outstanding research and educational programmes, and is intended to facilitate research and/or conference attendance requiring significant additional support. The awards, ranging from £1,000 to £2,000, are highly competitive and hence offered on a selective case-by-case basis regarding academic merit and research potential. Calls for applications are made twice during an academic year. The first recipients of The Boak Student Support Fund were Amy Batley, Elinor Lieber, Garrett Bray, Joshua Noseworthy, Marina Riabiz, Heidi Mogstad, Aftab Jalia, Peter Sutoris, Daniel Bruder, and Guy Sechrist.

# **Bursaries and Awards**

In collaboration with BP. Clare Hall has recently launched the BP and Clare Hall India Innovation Masters Programme to support graduate students from India who want to study for a Master's degree in any of the STEM subjects related to the energy sector for up to one year at the University of Cambridge. The emphasis is on future leadership in academia, industry or government. The 2016-17 BP and Clare Hall India Innovation Masters Programme award of £30,000 was offered to Surabhi Agrawal who is now ideally placed to consider pursuing a PhD programme at the University of Cambridge. In Surabhi's opinion, "the BP-Clare Hall Studentship is a paragon opportunity for Indian students to study at Cambridge. Hailing from a small town to study at one of the leading universities in the world felt like a mirage but the support provided via this Studentship and the College enabled me to pursue my Cambridge dream."

"Hailing from a small town to study at one of the leading universities in the world, felt like a mirage but the support provided via this Studentship and the College enabled me to pursue my Cambridge dream."

The College is grateful to Mrs. Anna-Marie Greenaway, Director BP University Relations, for her unrelenting support, guidance and flair for identifying timely and practical student sponsorship schemes.

Other major scholarships offered by Clare Hall are the *Professor Mikiko Ishii* Bursary and Ivan D. Jankovic Studentship.

The Ishii Bursary is an award of £2,500 offered annually to a Clare Hall student of outstanding academic merit in the Arts or Humanities. The 2016-17 recipient of The Ishii Bursary was Caterina Pello who is currently working on a thesis entitled 'Women in the Early Pythagorean Doctrines and Communities'. During Professor Ishii's visit to Clare Hall, Caterina acknowledged the continuous support received from the College and expressed her gratitude to Professor Mikiko Ishii for enthusiastically promoting the Humanities.

The Jankovic Studentship offered in partnership with Clare Hall provides full support to a citizen of the Republic of Serbia to undertake doctoral studies in any subject at the University of Cambridge, and it is tenable for up to three years. Mario Cekic, a first-year PhD student in Computer Science, currently holds this award and is working on a research project entitled 'Developing high-level specifications for optimisation problems'. Mario has recently noted that 'having such a stable and unrestricted source of funding enables me to fully focus on my academic development. On top of that, I believe that Clare Hall is the most intimate College in Cambridge and one with a high ratio of Fellows to students. I sincerely hope I will be able to provide something similar in return one day."

# **Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes**Fellow and Tutor, Steward, Bursaries and Awards, Clare Hall.

# Scholarly travels

A Cameo of one of our very interesting Visiting Fellows, Dr. Li Tang

I came to Clare Hall as a Visiting Fellow in January 2016 from the University of Salzburg. My research is focused on the history of Syriac Christianity in China, Central Asia and along the Silk Roads up to the 14th century.

The Syriac Christian tradition uses the Syriac language and liturgy and is one of the oldest Christian traditions. The expansion of Syriac Christianity to the Far East is attributed to the East Syriac Church which established itself in Sasanian Persia during the 5th century. In the following centuries, Syriac Christianity spread via the overland Silk Road to Central Asia and China, and via the maritime Silk Road to the Persian Gulf region, India and Sri Lanka. By the 14th century, Syriac Christendom had embraced the Asiatic realm from the Euphrates to the Chinese shore.

"My research is focused on the history of Syriac Christianity in China, Central Asia and along the Silk Roads up to the 14th century."

However, such a glorious history had been long lost. It was not until the early 20th century that this knowledge gap began to be narrowed, as more and more Syriac Christian tombstones, manuscripts, tablets from the period between the 8th and the 14th centuries have been found in many

parts of China and Central Asia. Syriac monastery ruins have also been discovered along the ancient Silk Roads. The unearthed manuscripts and inscriptions were written in many languages e.g. Chinese, Syriac, Sogdian, Old Turkic, etc. Some were written in Old Turkic but using the Syriac alphabet. These archaeological discoveries have revealed at least two things: (1) What impact Syriac had on several Central Asian languages; and (2) to what extent Syriac Christianity spread among various ethnic groups in Central Asia and China.

My research seeks to reconstruct a coherent history of Syriac Christianity along the Silk Roads, especially in China and Central Asia, investigating both historical records written in various languages and archaeological discoveries. I have conducted fieldwork along the Silk Roads in China, India, Sri Lanka and in the Middle East, searching for artefacts, visiting monasteries and excavation sites, interviewing local people and collecting oral traditions. So far, I have published two monographs on the history of Syriac Christianity in China, one on the Tang Dynasty (618-907 CE), and the other on the Mongol-Yuan Period (13th-14th century). I am now working on a new book on the encounter of Syriac Christianity with other religions along the Silk Roads.

For me, coming to Clare Hall to do further research is like arriving at an oasis on the Silk Road after travelling through mountains and deserts. The intellectual exchanges with Fellows and students at Clare Hall have stimulated my thinking and broadened my knowledge. The warm and cordial atmosphere in the College has made me feel at home and helped me build



new friendships. It is rewarding for me to know that Fellows and students of different academic disciplines are interested in my research and my fieldwork experiences. Clare Hall is indeed a place to think and to embrace the future. I take pride in being a member of Clare Hall.

# **Dr Li Tang**Visiting Fellow (University of Salzburg), scholarly traveller along the famous Silk Roads

Dr. Kiyoko Gotanda, a Post-Doctoral Fellow of Clare Hall, was a former professional ballet dancer who is now a researcher in the fields of evolution, behaviour and ecology. She appeared in the Review last year, and here gives a brief account of her recent activities. The versatility of the College continues to amaze

# Dr. Kiyoko Gotanda



During the 2016-2017 year, I was the lead editor of a special issue of The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society – B, entitled "Human

influences on evolution, and the ecological and societal consequences." I was also co-author of a paper published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the US that looked at the effects of urbanization on rates of phenotypic change, and a paper published in Science that looked at global weather patterns and how it could affect selection.

With the generous support of Clare Hall, Newnham College, and Christ's College, I spent two months on the Galapagos Islands where I continued my studies on human influences on the evolution of Darwin's finches. I was also the recipient of a Banting Fellowship from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

I am also passionate about photography which bridges the gap between my interests in art and science.

# Focus on Art

# Another new initative in a most inventive year



Friends of Clare Hall Art Society (FCHAS) is a new initiative led by Helaine Blumenfeld OBE in support of art projects at Clare Hall. FCHAS aims to strengthen and promote Clare Hall's network of artists, art historians as well as Fellows and Life Members from other disciplines with an interest in the arts. The 2017 FCHAS programme includes three key events that brought prominent local and international artists to Clare Hall.

The FCHAS was launched on Wednesday 22 March with welcome addresses by Helaine Blumenfeld and Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes and a special talk by Cambridge artist Jon Harris. The evening began with an opportunity to view lon's sketchbooks and drawings, all filled with quirky views of Cambridge streets and exquisitely captured architectural details. In his captivating talk, lon offered an 'illustrated map' of Cambridge based on his work as a

cartographer and entertained the audience with anecdotes from the history of the city and surrounding area.

On 28 June, Cambridge-based artist Nicholas Juett presented a few of his artworks and discussed his artistic process in a talk addressed to FCHAS and College members. Nicholas' vibrant oil paintings, which often depict bridges on the Cam, are highly regarded and have become a Cambridge institution. Recently, he has also exhibited at Clare Hall as part of the wellreceived 'Breathing the Kite' exhibition (19 January - I March 2017).

The 2017 FCHAS programme includes three key events that brought prominent local and international artists to Clare Hall

Finally, on 29 November, FCHAS has scheduled a screening of Susan Steinberg's documentary film 'Mirrors to Windows: The Artist as Woman', followed by a talk and Q&A with the film director. Steinberg's film presents ten inspirational women artists and aims to 'reach out to the creative spirit which resides in each of us'.

FCHAS events are convened by Helaine Blumenfeld OBE, Patron of FCHAS, and Dr. Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Hon. Secretary of FCHAS.

For more information about FCHAS membership and future events please email artsociety@clarehall.cam.ac.uk

# An important symposium



The international Cambridge Symposium on Gender Equality and Human Rights Series, launched by Clare Hall on 10 February 2017, was chaired by Melanne Verveer, American Ambassador for Global Women's Issues, and Director of the Georgetown Institute of Women, Peace and Security, and the 2017 Tanner Lecturer on Human Values at the University of Cambridge. The aim of

The aim of the inaugural Symposium was to discuss evidence on implementing the right to education in conflict and post-conflict settings.

the inaugural symposium was to discuss evidence on implementing the right to education in conflict and post-conflict settings. The plenary discussion considered three main areas of research and policy-making in relation to ongoing educational programmes and strategies: new geopolitical landscapes and human rights strategic aims, women's peace-building roles in transitional/post-conflict context, and gender-inclusive educational programmes in underprivileged communities. Ambassador Verveer gave the opening address entitled 'Closing the Gap: Adolescent Girls' Access

to Education in Conflict-Affected Settings'. A wide range of topics and themes was covered during the Symposium by guest speakers, including Dr. Manali Desai, Lecturer in Sociology, Cambridge ('Violence and Exclusion: The Multiple Dimensions of Marginalization of Muslim Women in India'), Sigrid Lupieri, PhD, Development Studies, Cambridge ('Aging in times of crisis: health inequality among older Syrian refugees in Jordan'), Garrett Rubin, MPhil, Faculty of Education, Cambridge ('Political legitimacy and international education intervention in Syria'), Heidi Mogstad, MPhil, Social Anthropology, Cambridge ('Structural and spatial inequalities and violence against women in post-apartheid South Africa'), Megha Harish, MPhil, Centre of South Asian Studies, Cambridge ('Gender imbalance in STEM studies'), Baroness Mary Goudie, Labour member of the House of Lords ('The right to education in conflict and post conflict settings'), Emily Echessa, Deputy Head of Team Save the Children ('Save the Children's Girls education programme'), Miriam Lynn, Equality & Diversity Consultant, Cambridge ('Implicit bias has its roots in the social world in which we live') and Professor Pauline Rose, Director of the Research for Equitable Access Centre, Cambridge.

The second edition of this Symposium will take place in the Lent term 2018 and will address the theme of Immigration.

The second edition of this Symposium will take place in the Lent term 2018 and will address the theme of Immigration. The Symposium Series is convened by Dr. Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Fellow and Tutor. Clare Hall.

For further information see www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/cambridgesymposium-gender-equality-and-humanrights-education

# Dr. Ya-Lin Huang



I have been a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Clare Hall since October 2016. My research field is Molecular Biology and Developmental

Biology. Developmental Biology is the study of the process by which animals and plants grow, develop, and age.

I conducted my PhD in the lab of Professor Christof Niehrs, who pioneers in the field of signalling pathways with a special interest in Wnt signalling, in the Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg. Wnt signalling transduction pathway consists of proteins that pass signals from outside of a cell through cell surface receptors to the inside of the cell, and is pivotal for embryonic development, stem cell homeostasis and disease.

My current research in Cambridge under the supervision of Dr. Michaela Frye focuses on the homeostatic regulation of stem cells, proliferating cells, and differentiated cells in epithelium. Tight regulation of the adult stem cell number is required to sustain an adequately sized population for optimal tissue homeostasis. Misregulation of homeostasis results in either hyperplasia or loss of stem cells which can lead to cancer or regeneration defects and premature aging.

My project aims to identify novel players in homeostatic regulation of epithelium stem cells through either RNA methylation or protein ubiquitination. One of our Junior Research Fellows, Anuja Datta, describes her activities last year

# Anuja Datta



I have been a Research Associate at the Department of Materials Science since 2015. Prior to this position, I worked as a Research

Assistant Professor (2011-2015) and as a Postdoctoral Researcher (2009-2011) at the Department of Physics, University of South Florida, USA. My research projects are primarily focused on designing novel materials and exploring their properties to harvest and harness energies from our environment.

Last year my academic growth has not been limited to research, publications and scholarly presentations. I have successfully directed several Part III and M. Phil research projects and developed and taught a Part III course in Materials Science.

Being a part of Clare Hall has given me the opportunity to diversify my social network outside my research field through interactions with fellow College members. The beautiful locations of Cambridge and the College have given me ample chance to pursue my hobby of sketching and photography.

# A View from

# **Clare College**



Visitors to
Cambridge are
sometimes
bemused to
learn that Clare
Hall is the old
name for Clare
College. The
bonds between

institutions are strong: it was a bold move when a middle-sized College produced a daughter College and certain Fellows of Clare moved to the new location. The generous provision of visiting sabbatical rights at Clare Hall reflects this founding event, and it is still a great boon for Fellows of Clare College.

My own link with Clare Hall extends back to my earliest sabbatical terms in Cambridge. Since my own teaching at the Faculty of Divinity is in the philosophy of religion, and I see the subject as having a broad remit and scope, the range of interests and expertise at Clare Hall is very productive for my own work. While I enjoy the company of philosophers and theologians, I profit from a vibrant intellectual exchange with a wide variety of disciplines. Clare Hall has often furnished a most inspiring milieu for me, both as a visiting scholar and as an occasional guest at the College.

Notwithstanding their kinship, the two Colleges are very different institutions. Clare Hall feels more like an institute for advanced studies. While my own conversation at Clare amid the baroque

splendour of the Old Court tends to revolve around the somewhat mundane needs and whims of undergraduates, departmental headaches or perhaps contemporary politics, the dialogues in Herschel Road bustle with more abstract matters. So often prompted and stimulated by the influx of scholars and scientists from all over the world, conversation there begins in my experience with 'And your expertise is?'

"In my experience, it is the rich intellectual scene of Clare Hall that is so rewarding."

In my experience, it is the rich intellectual scene of Clare Hall that is so rewarding. Alongside the congenial stalwarts of the College, I have encountered a constant flux of learned visitors to Cambridge, many of whom have been rapt in deep researches and have discoursed most eloquently at table or over coffee upon Aeschylus or Wagner, Gawain or the British Romantics, violence in film or anthropology in South Asia. In our age when the noble idea of the university as a community of scholars seems increasingly supplanted by a drab instrumentalism and crass utilitarianism, long may the wonderful serendipity of Clare Hall, this focal point of vigorous intellectual inquiry in Cambridge, be relished!

### **Douglas Hedley**

Professor in Hermeneutics and Metaphysics, Faculty of Divinity

# From the Fellow-Student Interaction Officer



I became
Fellow-Student
Interaction
Officer on the
Graduate
Student Body
shortly after a
wonderfully
organised
welcome week

at the start of the academic year. Welcome week consisted of a string of events organised by the GSB and Clare Hall Staff and Tutors, designed to introduce new and existing Fellows and students to each other.

### Receptions

The first Fellow-Student interaction event was a drinks reception prior to the Fellow-Student dinner, held in November. The event was open to all, and was well-attended by both Fellows and students. This was followed by a rather more elaborate pre-dinner drinks reception, hosted by Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes.

"Lent term saw the first Clare Hall whisky-tasting evening..."

The event was repeated in the Lent term, this time with a slightly different format, a single reception followed immediately by another fantastic dinner, hosted by Rosemary Luff.

### **Whisky Tasting**

Lent term saw the first Clare Hall whiskytasting evening, celebrating the inaugural Art. Humanities and Social Sciences Network event, convened by Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes. Around 30 Fellows and students attended, brought together by a shared appreciation of whisky. Our host, Stephen Bourne, selected some very fine whiskies and provided an introduction for each. English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh whiskies were on offer, each one sampled after a fascinating introduction by Stephen. Of course, this was more than just simply the consumption of distilled spirits (Ah! Ed). Stephen highlighted the different distillation processes and significantly different tastes the ageing process achieves. Who knew England produces such fine whisky! An event that we hope will be repeated (I bet! Ed.).

### **Graduate Conference**

This brings me to the finale of Fellow-Student interaction events for 2016-17: the Graduate Student Conference which took place on the 20 May. Seven Clare Hall student speakers from a variety of disciplines in the sciences and humanities presented their research, followed by a panel discussion led by Clare Hall Fellows. A round-table discussion and networking lunch followed.

### **Steve Denman**

Fellow-Student Interaction Officer, Clare Hall Graduate Student Body.

Another of our Research Fellows, Naoya Iwata, who appeared in the Review last year, gives further insight into his ongoing work

# **Naoya Iwata**



I am currently an Overseas Research Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science here at the Faculty of Classics (2016–). I was a

Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Faculty of Philosophy in the University of Oxford (2015). I obtained my Bachelor of Integrated Human Studies (2007) and Master of Letters (2009) at Kyoto University, and went on to do a PhD at the University of Cambridge (2015).

I specialise in ancient Greek philosophy, especially Plato and Aristotle. My postdoctoral project investigates their philosophical methods in relation to the ancient Greek geometrical method of analysis. More broadly, I am interested in the research question of what they thought about the epistemic structure of each science and the relationship between different scientific disciplines.

In October 2016, I gave a talk entitled 'Aristotle's Philosophy of Science' at the Clare Hall Colloquium where a lively discussion followed. I very much enjoy the friendly and intellectual atmosphere the College creates.









These major lectures are held every year. Thanks to Robert Ackerman, a Fellow Commoner, for providing this review

On 8 February 2017, Melanne Verveer, the American Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues (2009-16), delivered Clare Hall's prestigious Tanner Lectures in the auditorium of the University's Law Faculty. Her lecture was entitled "A Gendered Approach to Peace-building."

She began with a discussion of the changing nature of war. Since 1945, war has been a constant, toxic presence in the world, but most of the time the conflicts have been not

between nations but between a government and a non-state entity, most often in the form of an insurrection or civil war. The leaders of the warring parties have nearly always been men, and the negotiations to settle the conflicts have nearly always been conducted by men as well.

# For all these reasons, women are natural front-line activists for peace.

War affects women differently than it does men: it is nearly always worse for women. Along with the carnage on the battlefield, war usually results in the shattering of the domestic social world: families are impoverished and displaced, food production declines precipitously, and children's upbringing and education comes to a halt. One additional and especially nasty feature of modern warfare has been the use of mass rape as a weapon of war. Sexual violence has meant that it is often more dangerous to be a woman than a soldier. For all these reasons, women are natural front-line activists for peace.

The lecturer then offered a survey of peace agreements negotiated by men, which have typically focused on disarmament, control of territory and the allocation of political power. Most of these agreements have broken down within five years because little or no attention had been paid to repairing the massive social trauma that had been inflicted on civilian society, and little attention had been paid to the dislocation represented by the sudden return of the mass of soldiers into a ruined economy that had no employment for them.

Over the last twenty years, many analysts have pointed out the problems that had undercut the earlier peace settlements. Ambassador Verveer then described in detail two recent peace negotiations of conflicts that have been going on for decades, namely, that between the government of the Philippines and the Moro Liberation Front, and that between the government of Colombia and the FARC guerilla army. In both, women were involved in the negotiations from the start, and in the Philippines the chief negotiator was a woman.

Finally, Ambassador Verveer described UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which summed up the new understanding of the importance of women's participation at every level of political action.

For a video of the lectures: www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/tanner-lectures

## The Tech Talks Windows to new opportunities:

This series of talks is aimed at giving our students and postdocs real insights into successful, and sometimes not so successful, start-ups and businesses. At the Tech Talks, we bring speakers who have been there, done it, and are willing to candidly share their experiences. There is also a unique opportunity to chat to the speaker, and network and mix with the rest of the audience over a glass of wine and something to eat afterwards.



This season kicked off with a talk by Chris Abell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Biological Chemistry at Cambridge University. His talk, entitled "Spinning out of Chemistry", charted the origins of three successful companies he has created based on technologies developed in the lab and finding new applications for them in industry.



Next up was David Gill, CEO of St. John's Innovation Centre, who outlined the origins of the Silicon Fen and the ingredients that made Cambridge such a success in creating new innovations and technologies, and on the back of these, new companies. He was also keen to warn against complacency, and noted the challenges the city is facing with regard to transport, housing and

other factors that could well be killing off the goose that lays the golden egg.



Our third speaker came from further afield – from Austin, Texas. Joe Tondu, President of Tondu Corporation, shared critical lessons learned from a long career as an entrepreneur across very diverse industries such as gas and oil, to pharmaceuticals and biotechnology.

### **Clare Hall Inspires:**

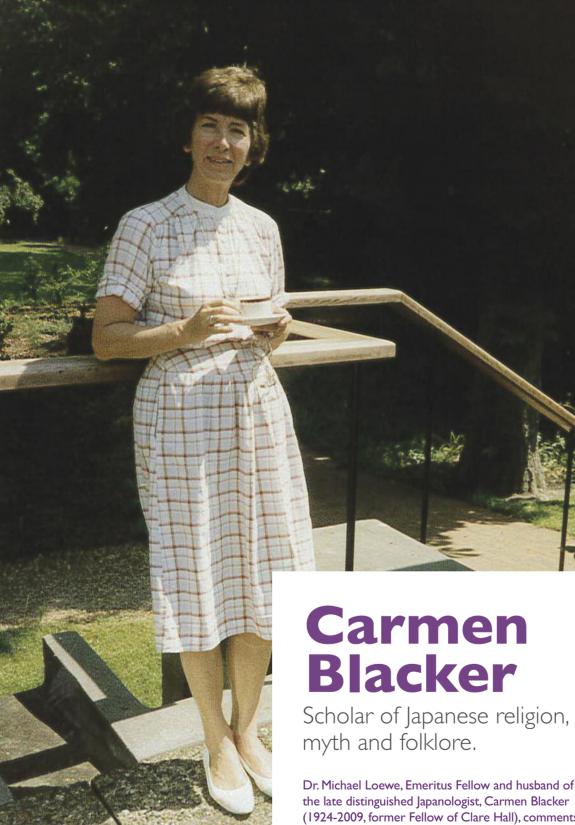
'Clare Hall inspires' was held on Thursday, 9 March in the Richard Eden Suite at West Court. This day-long personal and professional development workshop was developed by the College postdoctoral representatives for the entire College community as a way of exploring the many benefits of a college affiliation. Sessions included a presentation from the Careers Service, 'speed mentoring' with Fellows and Life Members, a career-mapping activity, a panel discussion with CH Life Members from academia, industry and business and, of course, lots of time for networking together in the ample early-spring sunshine.

The occasion provided an opportunity for participants to not only meet and network with senior men and women in the Clare Hall community, but also to begin to think through ways their College connection might benefit them both personally and professionally.

The event was attended by over 35 students and postdocs who came to learn more about the connections that Clare Hall has to offer. We are very grateful to the 21 Life Members and Visiting Fellows who kindly gave up their time to give mentoring advice and to take part in the panel discussion.

#### Dr. Kristen Klebba

College Affiliations Officer, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPdA)



CARMEN BLACKER

Very shortly after the death of Carmen Blacker (Official Fellow of Clare Hall. 1965-1991), the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Culture and the Japan Society of London set up a

series of annual lectures to be delivered in her memory in Norwich and London. Given by some of Carmen's former pupils and colleagues, the lectures concerned themes to which Carmen herself had contributed and to which she had devoted her scholarly energies. Unfortunately, it was not possible to include the text of more than five of the lectures in the book that is under review (See end of article. Ed.) and which carries material of two other types that likewise illustrate Carmen's interests, throwing a light on her personality and the contacts that she made within academic and other circles.

Like other academics, Carmen published articles, reviews and short notes in a variety of journals from Europe, Japan and the United States of America. Their titles duly register on a curriculum vitae, but with the passage of time, they recede into obscurity. The editors of this volume have collected a number of such pieces for reprint, choosing those that they believe deserve a wider dissemination. In doing so, they provide examples of Carmen's skills as a writer engaging the interests of her readers, thanks to her insight, and presenting technical points, say of Japanese religious ritual, with an unusual clarity. Carmen wrote on the basis of deep scholarly study combined with the observations of an eyewitness. She explains the mysteries that lie behind Japanese culture to specialists in other fields.

From her early years, Carmen kept a diary, and it was with the strict exclusion of

Scholar of Japanese religion,

the late distinguished Japanologist, Carmen Blacker (1924-2009, former Fellow of Clare Hall), comments on a recent book about his wife's work.

matters that were personal or might dismay friends and colleagues that Mary-Grace Browning, one of Carmen's pupils, has extracted passages that concern public affairs and are of historical value. Dating from 1937, the extracts describe Carmen's visits to Japan in the 1950s: the last entry to be included is dated in 2000. They give personal accounts of living conditions in lapan, and of the religious festivals and the scholarly meetings that she attended. They record her participation in long, wearisome pilgrimages in the mountains, arduous training in the disciplines of Zen Buddhism, and her contacts with Japanese priests and scholars, and leaders of a new religious sect.

"Carmen wrote on the basis of deep scholarly study combined with the observations of an eyewitness. She explains the mysteries that lie behind Japanese culture to specialists in other fields. From her early years, Carmen kept a diary..."

The diaries are by no means confined to Carmen's experiences in Japan. They tell of the growing interest in Japanese religion, literature and history in Europe; they mention the danger that such studies might have been brought to a close at Cambridge in the 1980s. They also show Carmen taking her place in public events, such as that of accompanying the Prince of Wales at the Inauguration of the reign of the present Heisei Emperor.

The extracts reflect the deep friendship that she enjoyed with notable figures such as Arthur Waley; diplomats serving in Japan such as Sir Hugh Cortazzi (editor of the volume mentioned); scholar eccentrics such as Donald Mackinnon; the poetess Kathleen Rayne; Ishibashi Hiroko, Director of Ueno

"A touching entry concerns the invitation for a private visit to the Empress of Japan, with whom she discussed the motifs of folklore."

Gakuen, Tokyo, and Laurence Van der Post. The diaries show the part that Carmen played in working with British diplomats, in introducing Japanese scholars to academic institutions in Great Britain, and in lecturing in Japan on the folklore of Europe.

A touching entry concerns the invitation for a private visit to the Empress of Japan, with whom she discussed the motifs of folklore. Other entries touch on the scholarly ways and quirks of academic life in Cambridge, the pleasure that she took as a Fellow or member of a college. As may be seen from the illustrations in the book, Carmen was also a keen photographer.

#### **Dr. Michael Loewe** Emeritus Fellow

Hugh Cortazzi, James McMullen and Mary-Grace Browning (eds.), Carmen Blacker: scholar of Japanese religion, myth and folklore. Writings and reflections. Folkestone: Renaissance Books. 2017



#### **Clare Hall Music**

Music has an important part to play in the life of Clare Hall, and there is a regular progression of concerts alongside the Intimate Engagements series [See earlier. Ed.]. Some feature members of the College, some outsiders; some fall broadly within the range of the classical repertoire, others outside it. Central to the organisation of these concerts, and sometimes to their execution too, is our resident pianist. Patrick Hemmerlé. Patrick has an enthusiastic group of followers in Cambridge, some from Clare Hall and some from elsewhere, and we are very lucky to be able to listen to him performing in our own hall.

Perhaps the high point of the year was the performance of Robin Holloway's Champagne Chabrier for two pianos, played by Patrick and Marie Noelle Kendall at the concert to mark our fiftieth anniversary. The piece had been commissioned by the College to mark the anniversary, and we look forward to its being performed again at celebratory events. It proved an excellent foil to Ravel's La Valse and Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances.

The other high point for many was the ever-enjoyable Christmas concert, bringing together diverse members of the College community to sing popular songs (i.e. Christmas carols) and hear music and readings appropriate to the Christmas season.

But these were just two of several events that could be picked out as the College's musical offerings continued to go from strength to strength.

#### The President



Last year, Clare Hall established a new annual lecture series, the King Lectures in Biomedical Sciences, through a generous gift from Professor Donald West King. Donald King is a pathologist and has held Faculty positions at Yale, University of Colorado, Columbia University, and the University of Chicago. A Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall in the 1970s, he is also a Foundation Fellow of the College. Harold Varmus was our inaugural lecturer in 2016.

This year, we were delighted to have Dr. Marc Kirschner deliver the second series of King Lectures in Biomedical Sciences. He visited the College for a week and gave scientific seminars at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute on 2 May, and at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology on 4 May. Dr. Kirschner discussed his work aimed at understanding cell types and cell states in development. On 5 May, the King Lecture entitled "The Uniqueness of Biological Understanding" was attended by

academics and others from all over Cambridge. The lecture focused on aspects of evolution, highlighting some of Dr. Kirschner's key findings. Attending the subsequent dinner at Clare Hall were many notable scientists in the biomedical area and senior members of the University.

"Dr. Kirschner is the founding chair of the Department of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School. He has made seminal discoveries in several areas of cell biology"

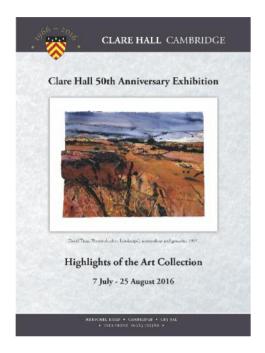
Dr. Kirschner stayed in Clare Hall with his wife Phyllis in the Mary Elizabeth & Donald West King Rooms. They had many enjoyable discussions with Clare Hall Fellows, postdocs and students, as well as numerous other Cambridge academics.

Dr. Kirschner is the founding chair of the Department of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School. He has made seminal discoveries in several areas of cell biology including in cell cycle, cytoskeleton and early development. Dr. Kirschner is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Foreign Member of the Royal Society of London and a Foreign Member of the Academia Europaea. He has been awarded the E.B. Wilson Medal (American Society of Cell Biology) and the Gairdner Foundation International Award. He has published two books with John Gerhart: Cells, Embryos, and Evolution (Blackwell, 1997) and The Plausibility of Life: Resolving Darwin's Dilemma (Yale University Press, 2005).

#### Lori Passmore

Official Fellow, working on Cryo-electron microscopy of ribosomes

## Clare Hall 50th Anniversary Art Exhibition



The 50th Anniversary Art Exhibition was curated by Professor Frances Spalding and Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Fellows of Clare Hall. It ran from July to August 2017 and showcased highlights of the Clare Hall art collection.

After almost five decades of collecting artworks, mostly through donations, Clare Hall has now a considerable number of eclectic and often inspirational art, from paintings, textiles and drawings to glass sculptures, European folk ceramic and Japanese calligraphy. Celebrating this collection allows for a double tribute to art itself and to Clare Hall's international network of artists and academics. Supported by its global community of life members, the College has secured during its first fifty years a tradition that goes

beyond immediate educational achievements, platforms and affiliations. It is a tradition of belonging - one that overwrites the customary short-term associations through study programmes and fellowships. In a fittingly illustrative manner, the art collection testifies to this sense of belonging as most of the artworks have been offered to the College in recognition of its mission to promote high-profile scholarship in a nonhierarchical environment. The thirty artworks selected for the 50th Anniversary Exhibition highlighted the heterogeneous style and media found across the Clare Hall art collection and, implicitly, emphasised the wide-ranging artistic and academic interests of Clare Hall's intellectual identity.

## Clare Hall 50th Anniversary

## **Lecture Series**



To celebrate its 50th Anniversary, Clare Hall hosted a series of high-profile public lectures throughout the year. This lecture series included talks by Mr Francis Wells, FRCS – "The Heart of Leonardo" (5 February), Professor Simon Goldhill – "Very Queer Family Indeed: Getting Intimate with the Bensons in Victorian Cambridge" (18 March), Professor Alan Macfarlane – "Four Civilisations Compared: China, Japan, Europe and the Anglosphere" (27 May), Professor Sarah Coakley – "Is there a future for "Natural Theology"? Evolution, Cooperation and the Question of God" (1 July), Patrick Hemmerlé – "Arnold Schoenberg, an ongoing controversy" (9 September), and by Dr Irving Finkel – "The Ark Before Noah" (18 November). For a detailed information about each lecture see www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/50th-anniversary-lecture-series.

The 50th Anniversary Lecture Series was organised by Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Fellow of Clare Hall



Clare Hall Rowing



Easter Term rowing is positively joyous: the days are warmer, being on the water feels incredible, and the longer days mean never getting to the Boathouse before sunrise, and even the occasional evening outing!

Clare Hall rowing ended 2015-16 on a high, after the W1 got Blades in May Bumps, bumping up 5 positions (despite the M1 not doing quite as well!).

The start of this year was occupied with recruiting novices and teaching them to row, and by the end of Michaelmas we were happy with our achievements: both novice men and women participated in Queen's Ergs (the ergo challenge that starts the rowing year in Cambridge), and both crews participated in several races. The men's crew was particularly active, taking part in Emma Sprints, Clare Novices Regatta and Fairbairns Cup. The women participated in the Christmas Head doing their best to look like a Christmas Tree (the Christmas Head is all about the costumes!) and they got a pot for their (rowing) efforts.

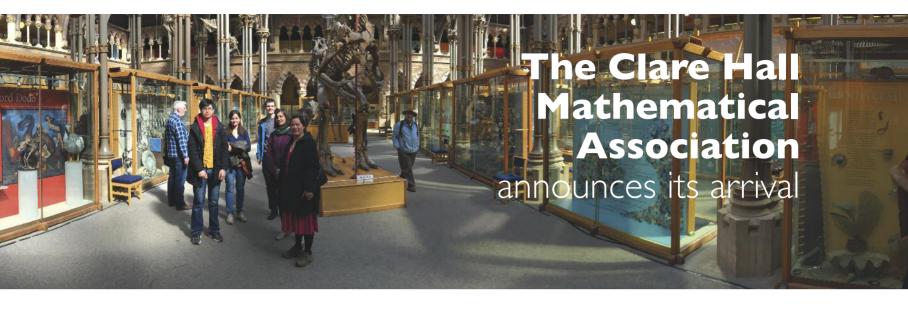
With Lent came earlier mornings, and things got serious as we trained for Lent Bumps, the first of the two main events in Cambridge college-rowing every year. But before we got any more rowing done, a celebration was to be had: the Blade Unveiling Ceremony for the 2015-2016 W1 crew who got Blades in the 2016 May Bumps. The entire Boat Club (and many Boat Club alumni!) came to Formal Dinner to celebrate the unveiling of the newest Blade, which now hangs on top of the Clare Hall Bar.

After the celebration came Lent Bumps! Despite our best efforts, we had a difficult time in Lents. After three years of steadily bumping up, the new MI, formed mostly of novice rowers, found themselves in a tricky position in the M3 division, and went down four spots. The WI did not fare much better: although they rowed over on the first day, they finished Lent Bumps three places down, partly due to the unfortunate circumstance of being chased by the two strongest crews in the W3 division. Despite the results, the Club enjoyed participating in Bumps, and much fun was had (both during Bumps and on the Bumps Saturday night).

As the May Bumps approached everyone concentrated on training. Easter Term rowing is positively joyous: the days are warmer, being on the water feels incredible, and the longer days mean never getting to the Boathouse before sunrise, and even the occasional evening outing!

#### Helena Pérez Valle

President of the Clare Hall Boat Club (2016-17)



The Clare Hall Mathematical Association (CHMA) was founded this year by a group of mathematics and computer science students in Clare Hall to provide a unique opportunity for the discussion of advanced mathematical topics. It is the mission of the CHMA to extend its stimulating mathematical environment to the rest of the Clare Hall student cohort and ultimately to the entire Cambridge graduate student body. Although the CHMA is most accessible to students in mathematical fields, all graduate students from all fields are welcome to join.

We are also hoping for the interest of Clare Hall Alumni who might use the CHMA as a platform of contact and interaction with current College members.

To promote an environment of passionate discussion, the CHMA holds weekly lunches which are attended by students from a variety of mathematical fields, as well as by mathematics Faculty members. The topics of discussion range from light-

hearted conversation to current research topics. The CHMA plans to invite many Faculty members to participate in CHMA sponsored talks. These talks will be on mathematical subjects but are open to all members.

To promote the College's welcoming atmosphere, the CHMA believes that having a strong social presence is essential for its success. As a result, the CHMA organises one or more social events each academic term, such as a sponsored trip, in addition to the talks.

As a founding event, the CHMA organised a trip to the Bonfire Night in Lewes in Michaelmas Term 2016. The impressive experience of the processions, bonfire, and fireworks, as well as the adventurous nature of the trip itself, formed strong bonds between the current CHMA committee members and also between the committee and CHMA senior officers.

These bonds were further strengthened during the second event, in Lent Term 2017. Attended by both students and mathematics Faculty members, this trip

was headed for Oxford. Here, the CHMA provided a mix of sight-seeing — Oxford University colleges, the Bodleian Library, and the Natural History Museum with its famous Oxford dodo — and mathematics. After a tour through the new Oxford Mathematical Institute, Stefano Gogioso, a recent Oxford DPhil. graduate and former Cambridge student, gave a talk on his research subject — applications of category theory (an extremely abstract field of mathematics) to quantum physics — which left everyone quite astonished.

The CHMA believes that mathematics is a subject without boundaries. This was part of the reason for the choice of Oxford as the destination for the Lent Term trip. For the same reason, we would like to encourage every Clare Hall student, not only those with a background in mathematics, to join the Association and enter the discourse on mathematical topics. Similarly, we are also hoping for the interest of Clare Hall Alumni who might use the CHMA as a platform of contact and interaction with current College members.

#### The CHMA Committee

## **News** of Members

#### Clare Hall Code:

AM: Associate Member; EF: Emeritus Fellow; HF: Honorary Fellow; LM: Life Member; OF: Official Fellow; PF: Professorial Fellow; RF: Research Fellow; VF:Visiting Fellow



**Christine Alexander** (PhD 1979.VF 2003-4) has co-authored a book with Sara L. Pearson entitled, Celebrating Charlotte Brontë Transforming Life into Literature in Jane Eyre.

Robert Anderson (EF) has been appointed President and CEO of the Chemical Heritage Foundation, based in Philadelphia, USA.

Robert Balfour (VF 2003) has had a book entitled, Education in a New South Africa: Crisis and Change (which he was working on whilst at Clare Hall in 2014), published by Cambridge University Press. He also held an exhibition of artwork (some paintings for which he had made whilst in Cambridge) which explored living spaces in art and architecture, in Durban, South Africa.

John Barrow (PF) was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society in 2016 and co-edited the CUP volume The Philosophy of Cosmology. He also became a grandparent for the fifth time.

Gillian Beer (HF, EF, President 1994-2001) has been awarded the prestigious Truman Capote Prize for her recent book, Alice in Space, on the Alice novels by Lewis Carroll.

Helaine Blumenfeld (LM) exhibited her latest permanent work of art, 'Fortuna', commissioned by the Canary Wharf Group, at a major exhibition of her work entitled Hard Beauty at the Hignell Gallery, in autumn 2016.

Pierre-Yves Brandt (VF 2010-11) was elected President of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion during its General Assembly in Istanbul. This is a 4-year term for the period 2015 to 2019.

Morten Broberg (VF 2015-6) received the Carlsberg Foundation Research Prize 2016 for outstanding research in international development law and mathematics.

William Calin (VF 1984-85) has published his twelfth book, The Lily and the Thistle: The French Tradition and the Older Literature of Scotland (University of Toronto Press, 2014).



David Callies (VF 1999) has been honoured by The William & Mary Law School Property Rights Project with the 2017 Brigham-Kanner Property Rights Prize. The Prize is presented annually to a scholar, practitioner, or jurist whose work affirms the fundamental importance of property rights.

Eric Carlson (VF 1984) is Professor of History at Gustavus Adolphus College, Minnesota, and received the Edgar M. Carlson Distinguished Teaching Award at the commencement ceremony on 29 May 2016.



Michele Chiaruzzi (VF 2011) had his new book, Martin Wight on Fortune and Irony in Politics, published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2016.

Alex Chitsime (PGDip 1972) has had a school constructed in his honour in Che Januare village in Malawi, by Standard Bank. Upon his retirement last year, Chitsime chose a school project in his area when the bank asked him what they could do to honour his legacy. Mr Chitsime said the project is important because in the area children walk long distances to go to the nearest school (over 2 kilometres away). The official ground-breaking ceremony took place on the 8th of April, 2015, and the foundation stones were laid by Mr Chitsime, Mr Mashanda, Mrs Chitsime and the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Mrs Thoko Banda.

Luke Clark (RF 2001-04) will be joining the University of British Columbia in July to become the first Director of its newly established Centre for Gambling Research. He is a renowned expert on problem gambling and addiction. His research as a cognitive neuroscientist has focused on the brain mechanisms underlying gambling decisions.

William Conklin (VF 2001) was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 2016.

Alex Crick (PhD 2014) was awarded the Salje Medal in 2014 for the best completed PhD in the Sciences.

Riddhi Dasgupta (PhD 2008) was awarded The Order of the Coif from the University of California, Berkeley Law School, in July 2016.

Robyn Davidson's (VF 2004) book about her ninemonth journey by camel across the Australian desert in 1977 was made into a film in 2013 entitled Tracks. The film has since been featured at many international film festivals including in Toronto, Venice, Adelaide and London.

Maria Carla Galavotti (VF 1997) became a member of the Leopoldina National Academy of Sciences in Germany in

Robert Glaeser (AM 1972) was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts &

Carmen Gonzalez (VF 2006) has co-edited a new book, International Environmental Law and the Global South (Cambridge University Press, 2015). The book examines the tensions between affluent and poor countries that have derailed efforts to protect the global environment, and proposes a variety of approaches to bridge this divide. Professor Gonzalez has also been selected as the George Soros Visiting Chair for Spring 2017 at the Central European University School of Public Policy.

Geoffrey Harcourt (VF 1972-73) was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of New South Wales in 2016, and has also been made an Honorary Professor at the University of New South Wales, Australia. After having had nine volumes of his selected essays published, he has been working on a project to publish more essays he has written jointly with colleagues.

Daniel Hastings (VF 2002) has been appointed to a three-year term as Director of the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART), effective from January



Richard Haves (VF 2013) has been awarded a New York State Council on the Arts annual grant for his project "Housing New York: The Recent Past", which will discuss the diverse range of housing solutions in New York during the period 1965-1995.

Anthony Hooley (PhD 1977) was appointed to the Technology Advisory Board of Weir Group PLC in 2015.

Priyanka Joshi (PhD 2015) was the 2015 Salje medal winner for best PhD in sciences (Chemistry).

Ali Kazim (MPhil 1982) is currently writing a book on the life of a family which migrated from Delhi to Lahore after partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947.

Edward Kerschen (VF 1988) is the 2017 recipient of the Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award at the University of Arizona Graduate College. Edward is currently Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering there. The Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award is presented annually to University of Arizona faculty and professionals who excel in their teaching and mentoring of graduate and professional

Stuart Kirsch (VF 1999) is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He says his new book, Engaged Anthropology: Politics Beyond the Text (University of California Press), "in part discusses the questionable science that the mining industry uses to justify their destructive activities". In 2016-2017 he will take the post of Visiting Fellow at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at Notre Dame University.

Nicholas Lash (PF 1988, EF) has been awarded a Papal Knighthood by Pope Francis for sevices to the Holy See and the Catholic Church.

James Mahon (VF 2003) has left his previous job as Professor and Head of the Philosophy Department at Washington & Lee University in Virginia and joined City University of New York as Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of Philosophy.

Nivedita Manchanda (MPhil 2010, PhD 2015) was the 2015 Salje Medal winner for the best PhD in Arts & Humanities (Politics & International Studies).

Stephen Mawdsley (PhD 2012, RF 2012-15) published Selling Science: Polio and the Promise of Gamma Globulin in 2016 - a book based on research conducted during his Isaac Newton - Ann Johnston Research Fellowship at Clare Hall.

**Peter Miller** (RF 1990-93) has recently published *History* and its Objects:Antiquarianism and Material Culture since 1500 (Cornell University Press, April 2017).



Jessica Milner Davis (VF 2011) has recently been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of New South Wales in recognition of her interdisciplinary research and writing. Her latest book, Satire and Politics:The Interplay of Heritage and Practice, is published by Palgrave Macmillan in their Comedy Research Series. She is also collaborating on another project, Judges, Judging and Humour, for Palgrave, and is contributing to two cultural history books series, one on comedy and the other on humour, for Bloomsbury Academic.

**Lorne Neudorf** (PhD 2015) was appointed Associate Professor at Adelaide Law School in April 2017.

**Boris Oguibénine** (Guest Scholar 1977) has published 2 books which were partly prepared during his return visits to Clare Hall: L'héritage du lexique indo-européen dans le vocabulaire russe (Paris, Institut D'Études Slaves) and A Descriptive Grammar of Buddhist Sanskrit (Institute for the Study of Man, Washington DC).

**Carl Olson** (VF 2002, 2017) published his most recent book, Religious Ways of Experiencing Life: A Global and Narrative Approach (Routledge), in 2016.

**Armen Parsyan** (PhD 2006) edited a 700-page volume, *Translation and its Regulation in Cancer Biology and Medicine*, published by Springer in 2014.

**David Peters Corbett** (VF 2003) has taken a new post at The Courtauld Institute of Art as Professor of American Art and Director of the Centre for American Art, in September 2016.

Congratulations to **Marie Sherlock** (MPhil 2005) who gave birth to a son, Manus, in December 2016. She had time to take a call from one of the 2016 Anniversary Telephone Campaign callers, and make a donation, whilst still in hospital.

**Alan Short** (PF) won the Carter Bronze Medal of the Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers in 2016. He has also recently published *The Recovery of Natural Environments in Architecture*, a culmination of 30 years' research.

**Ali Smith** (HF) was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of East Anglia in July 2016. She also published 'Autumn' which deals with issues raised by the voters' decision in the 2016 European Union membership referendum and which is the first of four seasonal 'state of the nation' works.

**Peter S. Smith** (VF 2003-04) has recently had two books published: When the Innocent are Punished. The Children of Imprisoned Parents (Palgrave Macmillan 2014), and Waffen-SS-Europas nazistiske soldater (Gyldendal 2015).



John Sydney Carter (AM) has unveiled 'Adagio', a new sculpture, at the University of Leicester, which has been inspired by the curved contours of brass instruments

**David Tarlinton** (VF 2014-15) was appointed Head of the Department of Immunology and Pathology at Monash University in January 2016, having left his previous post at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research after 24 years.

Congratulations to **Gian Tartaglia** (RF 2007- 2010), who with wife Claudia and daughter Viola, welcomed son Eugenio to the family in 2015. Gian is ICREA Research Professor at the Centre de Regulació Genòmica, Barcelona.

**Diva Tommei** (PhD 2013) received significant international press coverage and raised more than 500,000 USD on Indiegogo for her invention, Caia, which is a smart robot that finds and redirects natural light into rooms.

**David Thouless** (OF 1983-86, HF), along with two others, was awarded the 2016 Nobel Prize for Physics for the discovery of the possibility of entirely new topological states of matter

**Merlene Toh Emerson** (LLM 1983) was awarded an MBE in the Queen's 90th birthday honours list for "political and public service".

**Esther Van Ginneken** (MPhil 2010, PhD 2014) won the Salje Medal in 2014 for the best PhD in the Arts & Social Sciences.

**Hugh Williamson** FBA (OF 1985-1992), Emeritus Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford University, was awarded an OBE for services to scholarship and theology in the 2015 honours list. His research interests include the Book of Isaiah and the related history and literature of the Persian Period. He has served as Chairman of the British Academy's Humanities Group and Chairman of the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society.

Hans-Rudiger Zimmermann (Certificate of Postgraduate Studies, 1979) has moved from Germany to Lima, Peru, where he aims to found a new academy for mathematics and physics, with the support of Cambridge academics.

In 2016 Clare Hall was proud to welcome **Sir Philip Campbell, Lord Rees of Ludlow and Professor David Thouless** as Honorary Fellows of the College.



#### **Lukas Engelmann**



I am a historian of medicine. I received my PhD on the visual medical history of AIDS from Humboldt University, Berlin, in 2013.

For my PhD, I spent a term as a PhD visiting student at the Department of the History of Science at Harvard University, before I took up a position as a post-doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Zurich. In May 2014, I was appointed post-doctoral Research Associate at CRASSH in Cambridge, to work on the visual representations of bubonic plague in the Americas. My current research focuses on plague mapping, fumigation in global health history, and the long history of digital epidemiology. In Fall 2017, I will take up a new role as teaching associate at the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science.

I joined Clare Hall in 2016, and am a regular attendant at the weekly writing group, and appreciate the outstanding Collegiate atmosphere at lunches and dinners. But I also like cooking at home, and enjoy running through the Cambridge fens.

## From the Chair of the Social Events Committee

This academic year, the Social Events Committee (SEC) went through some significant changes. Various new members have joined the team: Dr. Juha Jäykkä, Dr. John Regan and Dr. Julia Tischler, and a few Visiting Fellows attended the termly meetings offering their fresh perspective on things.

With Juha stepping in as co-organiser, the traditional Friday Family Suppers have thrived. The origami sessions led by Asako Tsukamoto and Fran Watson, the architecture session with Kapla construction blocks organised by Professor Antonello Alici, the Carnival Family Supper, and the evening with the 'Ocean Swimming' talk by Ed Williams (Elite Swimming Academy) were a huge hit.

Throughout the year, the SEC continued to run events and activities for College members, families and children, including an excursion to the Christmas Gift & Food Fair at Ely Cathedral. Within the breathtaking setting of the cathedral, the children enjoyed themselves playing and taking photographs with the reindeer, while the parents explored the stands of local art and craft and mouthwatering food. This was the first event that the SEC organised in conjunction with Ely Cathedral, and the number of participants and feedback received suggest that it will not be the last.

In keeping with the festive theme, the SEC and Dr. Robert Anderson organised the Christmas Carols with a selection of poetry and instrumental pieces masterfully executed by Patrick Hemmerlé (Our resident pianist. Ed). Most of these events

would not have been possible without the collaboration of the porters and kitchen teams. Pat. Trevor, and the other members of staff did a fantastic job with the Children Christmas Party in particular.

Throughout the year, the SEC continued to run events and activities for College members, families and children, including an excursion to the Christmas Gift & Food Fair at Ely Cathedral.

The SEC organised a few more events for the Easter term and the summer, including a guided tour of the Botanic Garden, and the Clare Hall Nordic Week (22-24 June, in collaboration with the Development Office). This featured a series of Nordicthemed events including a talk by Dr. Martin Düchs on Ralph Erskine followed by formal dinner, and a Moomin Family Supper.

A sincere thank you goes to the SEC team, Amanda Barclay, the kitchen and Porter's Lodge staff, as well as to the numerous College members and families that made these activities so warm and enjoyable. These events are for you, so stay tuned for more!

#### Dr. Lucia Tantardini

# **Sports**News

Sports don't end with rowing and cricket at Clare Hall, and 2016-17 was no different with football and squash teams and a number of inspired varsity level individuals giving it their all.

Michaelmas saw the freshly formed Clare Hall football team enter the MCR (Middle Combination Room. Ed.) Champions Trophy League. With the exception of some flashes of brilliance from striker Patrick Armstrong's fast feet, early performances were forgettable but enabled the team to find their feet with a great 6-2 win against Zoology to close out 2016. It was the last game of the season in January, however, which proved most exciting where, in miserable lanuary windy, rainy and muddy conditions, a 10 man Clare Hall team held the lead for most of the match, only for the sustained pressure to ultimately prove too much in the dying minutes. Lent term saw a transition to the 5-a-side where early games saw goalie Paul Nulty kept busy, but recent games saw more levelled performances, thanks in part to Vasconcelos' consistency in the midfield.

Under the leadership of Franck Courbon and later Andy Jones, the squash team had a successful season, promoted after finishing 1st in their division. The Cuppers contest saw an intensely close match with Fitzwilliam, but ultimately the 3-2 defeat brought an end to the team's cup dreams. Clare Hall's Nina Toudal Jessen, Samer Kurdi and Jim Miller played key roles in Cambridge's nail-biting basketball varsity victories. Nina was a top scorer for the



Cambridge Panthers (W2) contributing 9 points and an inspired performance in the down-to-the-last-15sec-thriller 28-26 victory. Jim thrilled the crowd in the men's blues, saving Cambridge with vital free throws, sending the game into second overtime and winning it with a buzzer-beating 2 point jump shot, contributing 10 points in the 74-72 victory.

Cambridge Volleyball starred several Clare Hallers: Pawel Budzianowski, Gianmarco Raddi, Maor Nutkevitch and Alicia Krozer. The women's Volleyball team finished 4th, just behind Oxford in the Premier League South, 6th at Student Cup and was in the final 8 competition for BUCS national finals. The men's team sadly went down to Oxford 3-I, despite featuring some sterling displays by Pawal Budzianowski.

To support the sports teams, the GSB has spent part of the annual budget on equipment and expenses for the football, cricket and squash teams. If you would like to get involved in College sport, please contact the GSB.

**Garrett Bray**GSB Sports Officer

"Under the leadership of Franck Courbon and later Andy Jones, the squash team had a successful season, promoted after finishing 1st in their division."



## Forthcoming Life Member Events 2017-18

#### Saturday 23 September 2017

Supporter Garden Party at Clare Hall

#### **Tuesday 31 October**

Frankfurt Life Member event

#### **Thursday 9 November**

CH in the City event, London

#### December 2017 (dates tba)

Hong Kong Life Member event Macau Life Member event Beijing Life Member event

#### Wednesday 20 December 2017

Christmas Carol Service at St Martin-in-the Fields and Drinks Reception at City University Club

#### Spring 2018

Oxford Life Member event

Life Members and friends are welcome to join us for these events, bookings are made via the website – www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk

Please ensure we have your correct contact details for you to inform you of forthcoming events, you can update your details with us online – www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/update-your-details or contact the Development Office on development@clarehall.cam.ac.uk / +44 (01223) 332368



