Introducing Alan Short: President of Clare Hall

My education began on Harrow Hill in E.S. Prior's magnificent Red House at the heart of the small day school owned by Harrow School to fulfil its obligations to educate poor local scholars under the 1868 Public Schools Act. I frequently stood marvelling at Prior's fantastical free style facades as balls of various sizes were thrown towards me. I had a scholarship which carried enviable privileges, not least an unlimited account at the Harrow School Bookshop which I exploited shamelessly. I was subsequently admitted to Trinity College to read Architecture. It must have been on my maths because, towards the end of my interview with the renowned Classicist Mr. Easterling, I offered to show him my portfolio of drawings. He refused, observing that he would only say the wrong thing.

It was an interesting time to be at Trinity. Unprepossessing youths in our matriculation photograph later became 'top people'. It is symptomatic, perhaps, that I have no recollection of the present Archbishop of Canterbury who was in my year. I navigated
the Tripos with aplomb, becoming a senior scholar before taking up an Exchange Fellowship at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design, before returning to Cambridge. The RIBA had no time for Ivy League schools. I do remember great kindnesses being shown to me as a graduate student by my various tutors in both Cambridges. I had an exciting spell in practice whilst teaching in my leisure hours at Edinburgh, Manchester, Leicester, Washington University and elsewhere, even becoming the first Dean of a huge Art and Design Faculty at a new 1992 university. My built work has always focussed on the design of sustainable buildings and cities. It is highly inter-disciplinary and completely entwined with university departments and laboratories.

I was one of very few practising architects anywhere deeply plugged into Higher Education and Research. I hope very much that our graduate degree programmes in the Department are changing that. I managed to put a series of research concepts into practice, almost wholly unadulterated and unvarnished by tedious practicalities, winning the first ‘High Architecture, Low Energy Award’, ‘Green Building of the Year’; the Society of College, National and University Librarians ‘Best Academic Library Award’ and various ‘Projects of the Year’, ‘Environmental Initiatives of the Year’ 2006; ‘Buildings of the Year’ and a sequence of RIBA Awards. I had a wonderful team of young helpers, not all from Cambridge, many of whom have gone on to become well known in their own right.

I was elected The Professor of Architecture (1970) at Cambridge in 2001. The instructions for the final interviews in the Syndicate Room insisted that no visual aids could be employed by the candidates. This threw all the candidates, Architecture being a visual art. All one could do was to describe one’s work with increasingly animated hand movements. I addressed the burning question at the time, ‘What is research in Architecture?’ in perhaps the leading research institution in the world. It was therefore very important to win the first RIBA President’s Award for ‘Outstanding Professional Practice-located Research’ in 2007 which I did for the research project ‘Design for the Warming Environment’. This work revolved around my design for the passively downdraught-cooled School of Slavonic and East European Studies in Bloomsbury, at the epicentre of the London Urban Heat Island. The insights of two long term collaborators, the Director of the BP Institute for Multi-phase Fluid Flow here and the Professor of Building Simulation at Loughborough, a Life Member, were key to cracking the problem of cooling a large building at the centre of a hot city without using gas-guzzling air-conditioning. We built it. It won many prizes.

My method is to start by looking back at buildings of the pre-air conditioning era so the history of Architecture and of the making of environments within public buildings is very important. We have uncovered some truly technically and compositionally brilliant designs and it was an honour to be awarded the 2014 George Collins Fellow of the Society of Architectural Historians to present our work on the original Johns Hopkins Hospital at the annual conference in Austin, Texas.

I have a long-standing interest in the architecture of hospitals, winning the long winded ‘2009 RIBA President’s Commendation for Outstanding University-located Research’ for our work on the resilience of the NHS Estate. I was the Principal Investigator for the EPSRC Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change project ‘Design and Delivery of Robust Hospital Environments in a Changing Climate’ and the NIHR funded ‘Design Strategy for Low Energy Ventilation and Cooling of Health Buildings’. We produced a film of our work on the NHS Estate, ‘Robust Hospitals in a Changing Climate’ which won the tve Global Sustainability Film Award 2013 at BAFTA. All of this work and the sequence of key buildings is described in my 2017 book The Recovery of Natural Environments in Architecture. I also have a deep interest in the architecture of theatres and led the AHRC project ‘Design and Delivery of Dynamic Spaces for the Performing Arts’, out of which came my book Geometry and Atmosphere and a film of the same name, adopted by the Arts Council.

We are now working on a different variant of the ‘theatre’ type, spaces for surgery, funded under the Antimicrobial Resistance programme via the AHRC. This highly interdisciplinary project is called ‘Excising Infection in Surgical Environments’ (ExISE) introducing Infectious Diseases academics to historians of science, fluid flow physicists and engineers to art historians and surgeons. We are deeply sceptical of the 1960s type ultraclean theatres in which surgeons work in a cold downward gale. We are well on the way to inventing a safer, very low carbon, cheaper and infinitely more enjoyable space in which to operate, connected to the natural world outside.

I was very honoured to be appointed a Ministry of Education Distinguished Professor of the People’s Republic of China based in the National Centre for international Research in Low-carbon and Green Buildings in Chongqing in 2018 of which I am International Co-director and as a Guest Professor at Zhejiang University last year. This has certainly reinforced our UK-China EPSRC/NSFC funded project ‘Low Carbon Climate-Responsive Heating And Cooling Of Cities’ (LoHCool) focussing on carbon reduction opportunities in megacities in China’s Hot Summer-Cold Winter zone, despite increasingly hot summers. The film of the outcomes A Low Carbon Future for China’s Furnace Cities has recently won the tve Global Sustainability Film Award 2019, a wholly unanticipated return to the red carpet.
President's Letter

I am really thrilled to have been elected the next President of Clare Hall as a serving Fellow by my College peers. That is a rare honour in Cambridge. Colleges rarely elect their own kind. I am a very fortunate incoming President because my predecessor has left Clare Hall in an enviable state at the end of his seven-year Presidency.

The College is prospering and is oversubscribed in every one of its constituencies. The majority of our students put this College as their first preference, very sensibly. Our Research Fellows in both the Sciences and the Humanities are up-and-coming stars in their respective disciplines. Our Fellowship is extremely distinguished. We have a stream of Visiting Fellows of the highest intellectual quality coming from around the globe. Our Life Members continue to make waves in their disciplines.

The College governance has been thoroughly reviewed and reformed as necessary under David Lbbetson’s direction to make it a thoroughly modern and compliant institution. Our former Bursar, Amanda Walker, had more than a hand in that. Our staff colleagues are highly effective in every department and,
very, very importantly, our food is really excellent. A Michelin Star cannot be far away. We all owe David Llubetson a great deal. It has been a pleasure to act as his Vice-President. His robust ripostes to the ever-present drizzle of legal threats to our peaceful College existence have kept morale high in the Senior Management Team, safe in the knowledge that each riposte was being delivered in our name by one of the most senior legal authorities in the Anglophone world.

Clare Hall is the particularly fortunate beneficiary of the Tanner Foundation. The 2020 Tanner Lecture was both memorable and supremely witty. We welcomed the George Bemis Professor of International Law at Harvard University, Jonathan Zittrain, who conveyed his deep misgivings about the unalloyed enthusiasm exhibited by all around us for a future world likely to find itself held hostage by machine learning. His first talk was called, not without irony, *Gaining Power, Losing Control*, the second *With Great Power comes Great Ignorance*. He was challenged, but not too violently, by his Harvard colleague Professor Sophia Roosth, Lord Rees, from rather closer to home and Dr Stephen Cave, Executive Director of the Leverulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence.

Professor Norman Davies, Honorary Fellow, delivered the 2019 Ashby Lecture as a very personal reflection on British views on Europe. The Ashby is also supported by the Tanner Foundation. A generous endowment by Professor Donald King supports the King Lectures. We rely heavily on Official Fellow Dr Lori Passmore’s excellent judgement in selecting speakers in the field of molecular biology and the 2019 King Lecture by the internationally renowned Mary-Claire King on the genomic analysis of inherited breast and ovarian cancers was booked out immediately for reasons which became very apparent after the first few minutes of her brilliant lecture.

Our Fellowship has excelled itself again this year. Clare Hall congratulates Dr Mene Pangalos on receiving a knighthood in the New Year Honours List in recognition of his services to UK science. It seems to have become a tradition that awards of global significance are mentioned only fleetingly as we speed through Governing Body business, sandwiched between the ritual signing of the last set of minutes and the President’s Report, but the Review provides us with an excellent opportunity to record the College’s most heartfelt congratulations to Professor Maria Grazia Spillantini on her appointment to the Italian State’s highest civil honour, Ufficiale dell’Ordine della Stella d’Italia, and to Professor John Barrow on his election as Academician of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, the oldest supranational Academy in the world. Neither will ever have to queue for a table again in any of Italy’s finest restaurants. Honorary Degrees were conferred on two of our former Presidents, an Honorary Doctorate for Dame Gillian Beer from the University of Chichester and an Honorary Degree for Professor Ekhard Salje from Würzburg University.

We are delighted to welcome a new Professorial Fellow, the neuroscientist Hugh Markus, an international authority on stroke medicine. We have six new successful candidates in the ferocious Clare Hall Research Fellowship competition in Dr Bipasha Chakraborty, Dr Juan Rodriguez-Molina, Dr Juan Manuel Bermúdez-Garcia, Dr Boyang Shen, Dr Christopher Jenkins and Dr Adrian Mihai.
Dr Trudi Tate has very kindly accepted the role of Assistant Senior Tutor and Clare Hall contributes a new University Pro-Proctor in Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, who will now ascend through the ever grander Proctorial states of grace, year by year. The College is delighted that Dr Lucia Tantardini has accepted the role of Praelector with Dr Elizabeth Ashman Rowe as Deputy Praelector. All are drilling me in my duties to come during graduation ceremonies. A stiff new clothes brush has been purchased.

The College’s prestigious Salje Medals honour the very highest performance by PhD graduands. This year our congratulations go to Dr Valentina Quarantotti in Medical Sciences and Dr Penny Jones in Archaeology for winning this year’s Medals for their Doctoral dissertations. I thoroughly enjoy the student induction events and the formal Matriculation ceremony at the commencement of the academic year, a great opportunity to meet everyone and wear our gowns, all organised immaculately by our dedicated Tutorial team. Once again the Tutors have carefully plotted the placements for a series of very memorable Fellow-Student dinners. They organise the annual Supervisors’ Dinner which enables us to thank the army of Masters and Doctoral Supervisors who mentor our students with a sumptuous feast. Supervisors come from across almost the entire University, so broad are our students’ interests.

Rowing is an important part of Cambridge life. Of course it is the taking part that matters, not the winning, but it is a lot more enjoyable if one is winning and the Clare Hall Boat Club excelled recently, both the men and the women, winning the Pegasus Cup for the most successful overall boat club performance in the 2019 May Bumps races, leaving rival colleges bobbing about in their considerable wake.

We have invested a great deal of time and effort this year into considering the College Estate with our energetic new Domestic Bursar Harry Joseph, a distinguished former army adjutant who is building on the foundations laid by the excellent previous Domestic Bursar, Stella Isaacs, a former naval logistician. One of Ralph Erskine’s most trusted assistants Tony McGuirk has revived his beautiful unbuilt scheme for all of the external spaces within and around our main buildings and this year we have thoroughly surveyed the existing fabric to identify much needed repairs and maintenance. A prominent acoustician has diagnosed the causes of the ‘wall of sound’ that envelopes those that feast in the Dining Hall and we will implement his corrective recipe.

Inevitably, but no less sadly, we must mark the passing of two distinguished members of the College, Professor David Thouless and Duke Ryan. It was a very great privilege to be invited to view Professor Thouless’s principal awards on display after his funeral in Grantchester: the Wolf Prize for Physics, the Paul Dirac Medal, the Lars Onsager Prize and the Nobel Prize in Physics. It was extraordinarily sad not to have been able to enjoy Duke Ryan’s company in College this winter with Patricia but I do have very happy memories of our last dinner together at Trinity’s High Table as returning alumni.

And then the pandemic struck. I am very confident that Clare Hall’s immediate response, to allow everyone in residence to stay if they wished and to secure the College and continue to feed everyone at the dizzying level our chefs achieved before lockdown, was by far the most appreciated of all the Cambridge colleges’ responses. Many of you will have seen the charming film made by our ‘internees’ to thank the College staff who have more than gone the extra mile to make this unprecedented time work. For them as for all of us, Clare Hall is a very special place which attracts intense loyalty and affection.

Alan Short
President
David Ibbetson:
Farewell Letter

‘Have you enjoyed your time as President?’ I was sitting next to Martin Harris at a concert in College in February, and he asked the question which had surely been put to him seven years ago. The answer was an unequivocal yes. ‘I bet they never told you what to expect,’ he continued. They hadn’t – though Martin was probably the only person who could have done.

I had been told that Clare Hall was a really friendly college, and I knew that it had no undergraduates and very little capital, but almost nothing else. My first surprise, the day I took up the post, was the number of people at lunch. Lunch on an August day in most colleges would be a pretty desultory affair, but Clare Hall was vibrant. That was when I started to learn about Visiting Fellows and Life Members. Away from their normal homes, they formed a sort of glue holding together all the members of the College. Over my seven years, I have come to learn the real meaning of what it is to be an academic Community – the capital letter is deliberate – and to recognise just how important Clare Hall is within Cambridge.

The next surprise was when the fire alarm went off in the middle of the night and I realised it was my job to deal with it (Brian Pippard is reported to have found out the same thing 50 years ago). Eventually, we got an updated and less oversensitive fire alarm system, and night-time portering too. One thing less for my successor to deal with …

Travel for college events was not unexpected, but the volume of travel each year was. A Development Director (at another college) said she had two trips a year as I reeled off the dozen or so countries I was scheduled to visit. Foreign travel has been a real pleasure, and I cannot remotely claim not to have enjoyed it, but I had not thought just how exhausting it could be. Development Directors have to be slave drivers by inclination. Worse, jet-lag is never an excuse: on one occasion I arrived in Macau, below par after a long flight, just in time for dinner with some university officials, a few hours sleep, and a meeting the following morning at what my body clock told me was midnight. This valedictory letter could well have been entitled ‘Recovering from jet-lag’.

And, of course, nobody warned me that the College would be shutting down for my final six months as Covid-19 swept the planet.

One thing above all will be my memory of the last seven years: the sheer pleasure of working with College members: Fellows, both Visiting and permanent, Life Members and students; and above all a series of College Officers who have made my life very easy and a team of staff members always willing and able to help. I will never understand how everybody at Clare Hall manages to be quite so nice, nor how everybody pulled together so extraordinarily easily when faced with the Covid crisis.

Three events of the last year stick in the mind. The unexploded grenade, happily not in a state where it would explode, found one Saturday afternoon, which brought out the very best of the Porters on duty as they summoned the bomb squad and set about evacuating buildings. The gathering hosted by Life Member Evan Zimroth on the night the UK and EU parted ways, where hardly a word was said about Brexit as we listened to Visiting Fellow Anthony Johnson playing Irish fiddle music virtuosically and Visiting Fellow Fraya Frehse singing Brazilian songs. The third was utterly unexpected. The night before the College stopped all meetings and events there was a drinks party in the Common Room to say goodbye to some departing Visiting Fellows. An hour into it there was an appearance by eleven-year-old Declan MacDonald, son of Visiting Fellow John MacDonald, who sang absolutely beautifully, ‘Tomorrow is just a day away’. That, above all, was the message of hope for the future; it was at that moment I came to see just how special is our Community.

David Ibbetson
President of Clare Hall, 2013-20
New Vice-President: 
Helen Pennant

Helen has been a Fellow of Clare Hall since July 2013 when she arrived in Cambridge from Vancouver to take up her role as Director of the Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust. Having always valued the support and opportunities that membership of Clare Hall has offered her, Helen is delighted to be taking up a new role at the heart of the college as Vice-President from 1 August 2020.

Helen has always been fascinated by the diversity that different cultures offer and has a strong belief in fair access to education for all. She is fortunate to be able to advance these interests both through her Fellowship at Clare Hall and her Directorship of the Cambridge Trust. She is also on the Board of Trustees at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

At the Cambridge Trust, Helen leads strategic direction and creates opportunities for study and research through scholarship funding. Managing an endowment of £180 million and with around 1,400 students in residence each year from 85 countries, the Cambridge Trust has funded almost 19,000 international scholars. Decisions about a scholarship can shape an individual’s entire life and Helen regards her role as an honour and a privilege to serve both the student body and the wider academic community.

As Vice-President Helen hopes to build and strengthen the community at Clare Hall by promoting connections between its different constituencies: students, Fellows, Visiting Fellows, Life Members and staff. She would like to build on the tremendous heritage of the College and continue to make everyone’s experience of Clare Hall richer and more fulfilling.

With a background in government service, Helen comes with an international outlook and career portfolio. She studied French and History at the University of Oxford and spent five happy years in Paris as Labour and Education attaché at the British Embassy. She has been working in university environments since 2006 when she relocated to Canada and joined the University of British Columbia where, as it happens, she worked for Cambridge’s current Vice-Chancellor Professor Stephen Toope (who is also a Fellow of Clare Hall) as Executive Director International.

Helen lives very near Clare Hall with her husband John and 16-year-old son Thomas. She enjoys many aspects of life in Cambridge including the opportunity to work alongside some of the brightest minds in the world, the highly intelligent and accomplished colleagues and students, all of whom lend their thinking to new and innovative ideas that help us to understand the past and build a picture of the future.
Harry joined Clare Hall in November 2019, following eight years’ service in the British Army. He was commissioned into the Royal Corps of Signals and was first posted to York to lead a Troop of thirty communications specialists. The highlights of his time there were two very different events: a six-month operational tour of Afghanistan, and the start-to-finish organisation of a 150-mile relay race for 400 competitors across North Yorkshire. Thereafter, he moved to Stafford to lead an operations team responsible for the deployment of 100 soldiers and specialist equipment supporting NATO exercises and missions. Lastly, he volunteered for service with the Defence Cultural Specialist Unit and spent eighteen months working as a Cultural Advisor in French-speaking African countries, before being appointed as the Adjutant, responsible for personnel, discipline, and welfare, while coordinating recruitment, training, and deployments.

Harry brings a broad professional experience to College, as well as experience as a university student, and study abroad.

Since arriving, he has been busy developing the Clare Hall operations teams and working to improve residents’ experience of college life. Not long after Harry started in the post, he became very involved in the College’s preparations for the likelihood of Covid-19 arriving in Cambridge, and in March Clare Hall and the University went into lockdown. Despite others telling him this must be one of the more challenging starts for a Domestic Bursar, Harry has actually enjoyed the crisis and incident management more than one might imagine. Although working from home is not always easy, planning, implementing, and improving innovative measures to protect the College population provides more than enough reward.

His organisational skills have been hugely appreciated in College, especially through the challenges of lockdown. He works closely with the Tutors, Porters, Accommodation, Catering, Housekeeping, Maintenance and other crucial services to support students and Fellows through these unusual times.

Harry is married to Jessica and together they are raising Otto (human, aged four) and Ronnie (Labrador-Collie, aged five). In the little time he may call his own, Harry can usually be found in the gym or on his motorbike.
Bursar’s Report

In my 2019 Report I suggested that Clare Hall was fortunate in being less exposed to certain financial risks than other colleges, particularly from the loss of student fees and from a reduction in rental income. However, we have found that we are not immune to these risks and, as we move through 2020, domestic concerns over Brexit have been completely overtaken by the global Covid-19 pandemic. At the time of writing we are continuing to assess the impact of the loss of rental income from our student, Visiting Fellow and guest accommodation, and our Summer 2020 conferences and events have been cancelled or deferred. Student numbers for the current and future academic years are uncertain, and so fees and rental income may continue to be lower. The value of our endowment has experienced a significant reduction during 2020, in line with market falls.

But, countering these challenges, there is a financial resilience in the College balance sheet and in our operating model which has confirmed that we are less exposed than others. With careful and prudent management of expenditure and of our cash flows we are confident that we will have the means to see the College through.

Financial update
My belief is that accountancy, in particular financial reporting, is more an art, of presentation and communication, than a science, of balancing debits and credits. The motto of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, of which I am a proud member, is ‘quaere verum’ – ‘seek the truth’, and that aim is particularly pertinent when trying to explain the College’s accounts for the year ended 30 June 2019.

The annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019 are available on the College website at: https://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/files/Signed%20accounts%202019.pdf

The 30 June 2020 Report and Accounts will be available in November 2020.

Our objective for the income statement continues to be to maximise our income, whilst maintaining tight control over expenditure. These objectives continue to hold good, in fact even more so, in the times of financial risk and uncertainty discussed above, although the shift in emphasis is to minimise the reduction in our income. It is again pleasing to report that we continued to make good progress on revenues during the financial year 2018-19, with our total income, before donations and endowments, increasing by £248,000 (7.3%) from 2017-18. The chart opposite shows the sources of our income, with approximately half derived from accommodation charges, and the balance split
relatively evenly from fees, catering, and investment income.

However, our total expenditure has also increased, from £3,914,000 to £4,072,000 (4.0%). In addition to inflationary pressures on costs, this is reflective of our ongoing commitment to invest in students and research, and to continue to maintain and improve the quality of our estate.

Income from donations totalled £519,000 in 2018-19 (£563,000 in 2017-18) and the Capital Grant from the Colleges Fund was £105,000 (£123,000 in 2017-18). Overall, our operating surplus on College activities increased slightly from £156,000 to £185,000. This is deemed satisfactory and is consistent with the objective set in our budget of operations being at (or preferably slightly above) break even.

That all sounds reasonably positive. However, it is at this point that we need to ‘seek the truth’ in order to fully understand what the 2018-19 accounts are portraying. Two other elements impact on the overall result for the year and, therefore, on our unrestricted reserves and endowment. Firstly, the unrealised gain or loss on our investments, 93.5% of which are held in the Cambridge University Endowment Fund. In 2018 we experienced a gain of £1,407,000, but in 2019 a gain of only £357,000. Secondly, the actuarial movement on our pension liabilities. In 2018 this was an actuarial gain of £188,000, in 2019 an actuarial loss of £101,000. Whilst neither of these items impacts on our cash flows, they do impact on our reserves. Our unrestricted reserves have reduced by £366,000 in the year. By comparison, in 2018 this was an increase of £343,000. In 2019 our total comprehensive income has increased by only £440,000, in 2018 this was an increase of £1,751,000. Our free reserves have fallen from £2.5m to £2.0m. Movements in investment values and in pension deficits are largely outside of our control, but we need to be alert to forecasts that both are currently trending against us.

The balance sheet at 30 June 2019 reflects the increase in total comprehensive income of £440,000, and at the year-end we had net assets of £34.9m (2018 - £34.5m), of which £23.5m is represented by restricted reserves. We undertake regular monitoring of our cash flows and gearing to ensure that we have sufficient funds available to meet current requirements, and that we are in compliance with our banking covenants.

The forecast position at 30 June 2020, subject to audit, reflects the negative impact of Covid-19 on our accounts, and our budget for 2020/21 has been reworked to reflect our current best estimate of income and expenditure for the year. Achieving our objective to break even for the year to 30 June 2021 will be particularly challenging.

**Current priorities**

We have had to make some difficult decisions during 2020 to manage our expenditure, particularly in cutting discretionary spending, and the deferral of certain planned maintenance works. Exciting plans for the development of our small conference and events business have been held back, and we continue to review our Estate Action Plan priorities. But, as noted above, Clare Hall is resilient, and we will continue to invest in the College to provide the best environment that we can for all our students, Fellows, and members.

Finally, I would just like to express my personal thanks to all those who support the College. The staff, who during 2020 have given an exceptional level of commitment during
From the **Tutorial Office**

The year 2019-20 started with the enjoyable rituals of Induction at the beginning of Michaelmas Term, and two Matriculation ceremonies soon after. New students signed the beautiful new Matriculation book, accompanied by violin soloist Leora Cohen one evening, and cellist Tadhg Sauvey on the other. The kitchen provided a fantastic meal and we swung into another exciting academic year. In the first few months, we enjoyed a series of marvellous Fellow-Student dinners, a dinner for PhD students and their supervisors, college talks and seminars, concerts, art, and many congenial discussions over lunch and coffee with our students.
In mid-March, however, the pandemic forced thousands of students across the University to return home and do their research remotely. Almost uniquely within Cambridge, Clare Hall allowed our students to remain in College, if that was best for their health and study, and many did stay, along with some Visiting Fellows. The Tutors kept up their duties from home, supported by our Administrator, Becky Williams.

The Tutors worked tirelessly with the Domestic Bursar, Porters, and others, to support students through this time. Senior Tutor Iain Black was even busier than usual, weathering many long planning meetings online as the colleges and the university faced new challenges. Our thanks to the kitchen, porters, and other staff who kept our students safe and supported on site. The students themselves and the GSB have done a brilliant job of supporting one another.

**Bursaries**

We are delighted that we are able to provide financial support for a number of brilliant students. We have two fully funded bursaries for MPhils, and a third for a PhD, thanks to the generosity of Life Member Ivan Jankovic (Serbia) and the late Denis Boak (West Australia). These funds supported Staša Stanković (Serbia, PhD medicine), Alexandra Germer (US, MPhil Art History), and Will Clarke (UK, MPhil Development Studies). We also provided part-funding and minor bursaries to Yishai Barth (Mellon Bursary, MPhil History of Medicine); Elena Christodoulou (Sullivan Bursary, MPhil Judge Business School); Simone Primarosa (Coales Bursary, MPhil Advanced Computer Science); Mans Holmberg (Pippard Bursary, MSt); Bruce Cunhao Liu (Tropp Bursary, MSt); Bernhard Seidler (S. J. Lee Bursary, MPhil History of Medicine); Daleep Singh (Peter Brown Memorial Bursary, MPhil Economics); Klara Widrig (Chibnall Bursary and Hart Bursary for her work on pre-historic birds and on museums).

Life Members have generously helped to fund a one-off MPhil scholarship in the Humanities, named in honour of our distinguished Emeritus Fellow, Michael Loewe. In 2020-21 we welcome UK student Rowan Jeffery-Wall (MPhil Modern European History) as the Michael Loewe-Cambridge Trust scholar.

The BP-Clare Hall India Innovation bursary for 2019-20 supported two students from India, Srijit Seal (Chemistry) and Yasir Khan (Maths). In 2020-21 we welcome the last recipient of this award, Saranya Sasindran from Kerala (Engineering for Sustainable Development). We are grateful to BP for their support, and we are looking to replace this bursary from the renewables industry. If you have any contacts or are able to help, please get in touch with Marie Janson in Development or Trudi Tate. We are proud to support outstanding students from India to undertake important work in energy research, especially in renewables and environmental fields, and we hope this can continue in the future.

Several of our MPhil bursary students have gone on to win external funding for their PhDs, including Klara Widrig and Yishai Barth, who have both been awarded Gates Scholarships, and Srijit Seal who has won a Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Cambridge International Scholarship. Bernhard Seidler has won a PhD place at the Institute of the History of Medicine and Medical Ethics in Cologne, and Bruce Cunhao Liu has been awarded an MRC studentship for a PhD in Biostatistics at Cambridge. We are hugely proud of you all. And congratulations to the winners of the annual Salje Medals for 2019: Dr Valentina Quarantotti for her PhD in Medical Science: Towards the Understanding
Thank you to our Life Members for supporting our student Mental Health Fund. This has been very helpful to many students in different ways. Some of our students have also benefited from the University’s Crane’s Fund for longer-term support.

We are particularly grateful to the GSB committee and the students on site, and all over the world, who have done so much to keep the Clare Hall spirit and community alive.

Trudi Tate
Assistant Senior Tutor
Janokvic MPhil Bursary

Alexandra Germer was awarded the 2019-20 Jankovic MPhil Bursary to support her studies in Art History.

Alexandra’s dissertation examines how political ideologies have shaped the relationship between the museum and the museum visitor. She studied guest books and visitor surveys from German art museums after the Second World War, and identified the external causes – ranging from political protests to developments in painting – that affect how the public talks about modern art. She also examined the museums’ expectations of their visitors, and the way they understand their own authority as a cultural institution. Ultimately, the questions at the heart of the project were: how is taste shaped and how does it evolve? And what are the limits of democracy in museums?
News from our Development Director

Professor Stoker. Professor Hugh Williamson, who was Senior Tutor at the time, spoke about life in College.

We had a fantastic line up of talks at our annual Alumni Weekend in September, with Professor Hasok Chang challenging the idea that physics is the foundation for everything, and Dr Carolyn Cobbald talking about the impact of food dyes a hundred years ago, something we are still familiar with. This was followed by the annual Garden Party. The President, Professor Ibbetson, and the Assistant Senior Tutor, Dr Trudi Tate, spoke about how much your support has meant to our students. On the back of this, we decided to launch an appeal for a bursary, in honour of Professor Michael Loewe, to mark his 52 years as a Fellow of Clare Hall. We are delighted by your strong show of support, and the first student to receive this generous support is starting at Clare Hall in Michaelmas Term.

In November, the President travelled to Switzerland and Serbia for meetings with Life Members and in December, to China for meetings with Life Members as well as academic partners in Beijing and Shanghai. This being Professor Ibbetson’s last year as President, we had a full programme of events for the spring and summer planned, and then the Covid-19 pandemic happened, and we had a new world of no travel and no meetings. Instead we have had to find other ways of communicating and staying in touch and are looking forward to exploring virtual events with you.

In these turbulent times, what we have learnt is that staying in touch is more important than ever. You can find the latest news and updates on our website, and more on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – where you can follow the stories of life in Clare Hall. We also have a platform dedicated to connecting our Life Members directly with each other – Clare Hall Connects. You can find the portal on our website.

And of course, we hope you and yours are safe, and as Vera Lynn, sang – We’ll meet again.

Marie Janson
Development Director

This has been a rollercoaster year for us in Development.

The weather in July can be fickle, but we were lucky to be celebrating the Michael Stoker years (1980-87) under a blustery but sunny sky. People joined us from across the world, including New Zealand, USA and Europe. We were also honoured to have members of the Stoker family attending. Professor Ermanno Gherardi from Pavia, a former research colleague, spoke about the impact still being felt from the research of
Donors 2019-20

We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and organisations for their generosity during the 2019-20 financial year, including those donors who wish to remain anonymous, have given gifts in kind, or made a bequest to the college.

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Tanner Lectures 2020

We were delighted to welcome Professor Jonathan L. Zittrain of Harvard University as our 2020 Tanner Lecturer. His theme was Gaining Power, Losing Control.

The first lecture was entitled ‘Between abdication and suffocation: three eras of governing digital platforms’. It mapped three eras of governance for online platforms. The first started around 1995 and was an era of rights; much of the discourse around online platforms focused on the risk of censorship and control by external forces, whether governmental or corporate. By 2010, a new era of public health had dawned, weighing the priorities of the rights era against the various concrete harms arising from the platform’s use and abuse, such as disinformation, or campaigns against vaccination. Today – in 2020 – we’re still not sure how to balance the rights and public health frameworks; there is a need for a new ‘process’ era of internet governance centred around frameworks for managing clashes between them.

The process era is not yet in full swing. The computer giants have worried about ethical issues, but progress has been halting. Google created an external ethics board and abolished it within a week. On one occasion Facebook deleted 865 million unsatisfactory posts, with little transparency as to their content. But ambitious efforts seem to be close on the horizon. As technology companies move into an era of process, in which institutions such as Facebook’s oversight board might be more commonplace, a major question for all of them is: when does ‘can’ imply ‘ought’?
Or, in other words, when do technology companies’ growing powers and capabilities constitute an imperative to intervene against the problems and harms they facilitate?

The second lecture was entitled: ‘With great power comes great ignorance: what’s wrong when machine learning gets it right?’ Much of the lecture focused on the notion of intellectual debt. We can discover what works without knowing why it works, and then put that information to use at once, assuming that the rationale will be worked out later – answers first, explanations and theories later. Thus aspirin was discovered in 1897, but no-one explained how it worked until 1995. In some cases we pay off the intellectual debt immediately; in others we let it compound, relying for decades on partial theoretical knowledge.

In the management of intellectual debt universities have an important part to play, and the illusion of control must be denied to governments. We can just say ‘no’ or, better, ‘know’ – and try to understand the underlying theories and not just the answers.

Three decades of advances in digital technology have made humanity more capable, while stirring the sense that we are somehow becoming less free. The world of cyberspace must become more humane and fair, and it must pay more attention to the human values which the Tanner Lectures affirm. The three traditional learned professions of Divinity, Law and Medicine need to enter into dialogue with others, including the modern data scientist, to understand and manage the phenomenon of intellectual debt and other issues related to artificial intelligence.

The lectures were followed by responses from Professor Martin Rees, Dr Stephen Cave and Professor Sophia Roosth, and Professor Jonathan Zittrain drew the ideas together in his concluding presentation. Our warmest thanks to all the speakers.

David L. Gosling
Life Member and former Spalding Fellow
SPALDING LECTURE 2020

Dr Li Tang, Senior Research Fellow at Innsbruck University and Doktor der Philosophie in the field of languages and cultures of the Christian Orient from the University of Tübingen, gave the 2020 Spalding Lecture on the topic ‘When Jesus, Mani and Buddha met in Chinese Grottoes: Early Religious Encounters on the Ancient Silk Road’.

Dr Tang began her lecture by mentioning some of the traders and others who first explored parts of what became known as the Silk Road, which stretches from Mesopotamia to China. Historically the Silk Road facilitated not only trade but also the dissemination of several world religions, including Buddhism, Syriac Christianity and Manichaeism.

Around the first century of the Common Era (CE), Buddhism spread from north-west India via central Asia to China. It was characteristically Mahayanist, and the translation of large numbers of Indian Buddhist scriptures into Chinese, plus other works composed in China, had considerable implications for the spread of Buddhism throughout East Asia. Chinese Buddhism incorporated Taoism, and many manuscripts found their way into European libraries (such as the Stein Collection).

Syriac Christianity and Manichaeism both reached China from Persia in the seventh century CE, which meant that by this time all three major religious traditions were present to a greater or lesser extent along the length of the Silk Road. Syriac Christianity owes much of its distinctiveness to its use of the Syriac language, a dialect of Aramaic, which is closely related to the Aramaic of Jesus Christ.

Manichaeism was founded by Mani, a third century CE Persian prophet, who taught that there is an ongoing struggle between a good, spiritual world of light and an evil, material world of darkness. Mani claimed to be the Paraclete, whose coming was preached by Jesus, and his followers lived austere lives; there may have been Zoroastrian influence on the Manichaean churches.

Between the fourth and fourteenth centuries CE hundreds of caves were hand-carved and decorated out of the rock cliff face along the northern Silk Road for religious veneration — especially around the oasis cities of Dunhuang and Turfan. Among the cluster of grottoes in Dunhuang was a recently discovered library cave which had been sealed in the eleventh century. This library cave and other ancient sites in Turfan have yielded silk banners, paintings and fragments of texts written in more than twenty languages and scripts. The majority of these texts have Buddhist, Christian and Manichaean contents, written in Syriac, Old Turkic, Chinese and several Iranian languages.

Dr Tang gave a lucid account of the discovery of these religious fragments, exploring in the process how textual evidences have revealed a dynamic inter-religious encounter among the religions of the Silk Road.

The lecture was introduced by Julius Lipner, Professor Emeritus in Hinduism and the Comparative Study of Religion, Cambridge, and a Spalding Trustee. Also present were Dr Anne Spalding, current Chair Rev. Canon J. Collis, and Dr Michael Loewe, a Trustee and former Chair of the Spalding Trust. The Trust, which funds the Spalding Fellowship, was founded by Mr and Mrs H. N. Spalding in the 1920s to promote a better understanding between the great cultures of the world by encouraging the study of the religious principles on which they are based. Our warmest thanks to Dr Tang for a fascinating lecture.

David L Gosling
Life Member and former Spalding Fellow, Clare Hall
Intimate Engagements

The Intimate Engagements chamber music concert series has a unique format in which outstanding musicians accompany their performance with an informal talk about their thoughts and ideas on the programme they perform.

The 2019-20 series opened with a superb performance by the renowned Sacconi Quartet around the theme of Revolution and Romance, with a programme by Schubert, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Helen Grime. The programme focused on the ways in which each composer revolutionised the medium of the string quartet. In the first part, the quartet presented Schubert’s Quartettsatz in C Minor D 703, illuminating how its dramatic scope is achieved despite the piece’s short duration, followed by an introduction to Helen Grime’s Quartet and its innovative structure. Beethoven’s Serioso Quartet and Mendelssohn’s String Quartet no. 1 in E flat Major op. 12 followed in the second part. The Quartet shed light on Beethoven’s mastery of form in the service of the dramatic narrative, and on Mendelssohn’s depth of expression already present in this early work. The presentation was shared by the four members of the quartet, giving a glimpse on the richness of personalities and perspectives of the ensemble, who then played in remarkable unity.
In the second concert, pianist David Dolan joined cellist Adrian Brendel to explore the performers’ scope for extemporisation within the core repertoire over different musical styles. Starting with Marcello and Boccherini and moving on to nineteenth-century repertoire by Beethoven, Schumann and Fauré, the duo presented in a thought-provoking way the wide scope for extemporisations within the text, in the form of embellished repeats and also in preludes and interludes, as a way to create the setting for the repertoire performance and to connect between the different works in the programme.

Gathering in the College hall’s intimate setting is one of the unique features of the series. This was especially the case in the third concert, which took place in March, just days before the formal lock-down started. The innovative Symphonova Orchestra led by conductor Shelley Katz presented a programme including some of the pinnacles of the string orchestra repertoire. The first part of the presentation focussed on the richness of expression that becomes available when combining the close interaction between the players uniquely possible in a small chamber group, together with the power of sound and expression found in an orchestral setting. I joined in to open the programme with Mozart’s Quartet for flute and string trio. The well-beloved Adagio for Strings by Barber was then performed, first in a chamber music format, followed by the orchestral version. Highlights of the string orchestra repertoire in the second part included Arenski’s Variations on a Theme by Tchaikovsky op. 35a, Mahler’s Adagietto from Symphony no. 5 and St Paul Suite in C Major op. 29 no. 2 by Holst.

Due to the pandemic, we regretfully missed a recital by pianist Ronan O’Hora, which was planned around the theme of The Sonata Tradition, and which I hope we’ll be able to programme again and enjoy in the next series. As I’m writing, there is uncertainty regarding when we’ll be able to gather again in the same room. I hope this will be possible before long, and look forward to sharing these great moments with the College community.

I’d like to take the opportunity to thank our Music Angels for making possible these unique musical encounters, and the series’ loyal audiences for their on-going support.

Abigail Dolan
Artistic Director
Art at Clare Hall

The Canadian short story writer Alice Munro once said of fiction: ‘It isn’t just ideas you need, and it isn’t just technique or skill. There’s a kind of excitement and faith that I can’t work without.’ This experience is often shared by artists and curators. The Art Committee at Clare Hall tries to find out, well in advance, what it is that the artist wants to exhibit. However, slides or photographs can give only a limited idea as to what might be shown. Plans for an exhibition at Clare Hall often begin on a wing or a prayer. When the art actually arrives we begin to see how it will work, and once hung on the walls it springs into life.
This last academic year has seen an interesting range of work. In September, just before term began, we opened an exhibition of Barrington Tobin’s paintings which looked back across three decades. Tobin does not impose his artistic personality on the viewer but allows his art to work gradually. Although inspired by things seen or experienced, his art is mostly abstract and quietly meditative. He often works in series and in a recent set he focused on the complicated feelings aroused by Rilke’s Sonnets of Orpheus, written in a twelfth-century stone tower in Switzerland where Rilke spent a solitary winter. The sonnets are said to have been inspired by his response to the death of a young woman and by a small engraving of Orpheus with his lyre, which he chanced on in a shop window. Evidently these famous poems had also fired Tobin’s lyric gift.

Next in the programme came Nicholas Juet’s exhibition ‘Towards the Mayflower’, full of dash and vigour. Again, a retrospective element let in some early works. The dominant interest, however, was his fascination with seventeenth-century boats and, in particular, with the story of the Mayflower and the Pilgrim Fathers, driven to risk their lives in a 66 day voyage across the Atlantic, in the hope of finding a better world and gaining freedom from religious persecution. The historic interest of this show was matched by the artist’s animated style.

An historical element in the next exhibition related to the fact that both artists, Jasper and Jean Rose, had been founder members in the late 1940s of the Cambridge Society of Painters and Sculptors, which awakened this city to contemporary art. Their names appear frequently in a scrapbook, filled with letters and photographs recording the Society’s early years. Jasper had died in 2019, but Jean, at 90, is very much alive and stayed two nights at Clare Hall, having been driven from her home in Bath by William, her elder son, for the hanging of the exhibition and its preview the following day. It was a pleasure to accompany them to Kettle’s Yard where Jean recollected visiting Jim Ede.

Jasper not only made his mark as an artist but also with Camford Observed: An Investigation of the Ancient English Universities in the Modern World (1964), a book that is entertaining but also sharply critical of the failure of Cambridge and Oxford, at that time, to meet the needs of a modern world. The family had already moved to America in 1963, but after the book came out Jasper was asked to become a founder member of the University of California, Santa Cruz, where his ideas about education were put into effect. In the summers the family returned home to their house in Cambridge. Soon after Clare Hall opened, Jasper took his younger son Ingo to see it, no doubt because this college’s modern approach suited his taste and beliefs.

After he retired, the family returned to England and settled in Bath. Jasper and Jean painted daily and exhibited regularly, capturing the world around them with an innocence of vision. Velvet magazine nicely caught the flavour of their art: ‘Turning everyday moments – walking the dog, attending a concert, manuring the garden – into something quietly magical, a collection of paintings by Jean and Jasper Rose has just gone on show at Clare Hall.’

Less fortunate was the timing of the next exhibition. Julia Sorrell’s ‘Nature and Form’ had only been up for three weeks when the coronavirus brought about lockdown. As a result, this powerful exhibition stayed up longer than intended, but, after the College closed down, remained unseen for several weeks, while further exhibitions were put on hold. Sorrell had benefitted from a travel award that enabled her to spend some time in Orkney. She was fascinated by its coastline and prehistoric structures. For five weeks she lived in a van and in a coastguard survival suit, making drawings and sketches. From these emerged a fiercely original group of paintings. These sat well alongside her other interest in drawing and painting the wildness of derelict trees and the drama and complexity of nature.

Frances Spalding
CLARE HALL COLLOQUIUM

Safeguarding issues for the College surrounding the coronavirus pandemic may have truncated the 2019-20 Colloquium series at the end of Lent Term, but we still experienced an impressive slate of speakers and topics through the academic year.

John MacDonald (University of Pennsylvania) outlined how planners, scientists and citizens can utilize green spaces, mass transit and housing to reshape city life in measurably positive ways. At rather different scales, Aura Reggiani (University of Bologna) demonstrated how network complexity might be modelled, alongside resilience and sustainability, to comprehend societal shocks arising from events such as terrorism or economic collapse.

Miriam Solomon (Temple University) showed us how studies from history and philosophy of science can be used to advise on the revision of a manual widely used in American psychiatry. Clive Sherlock (independent researcher; Oxford) explored the meaning of emotion given that we can only find the effects of emotion and not the emotion itself. John Clarke (Drexel University) explained how telling right from left may not be as complicated as brain surgery, yet brain surgeons occasionally get it wrong (wrong-site surgery is thankfully rare). The medical theme was continued by James Shayman (University of Michigan), who enlightened us on the development pathways and barriers involved in the production of new drugs for rare diseases.

Science and time meshed in a trio of very different presentations. Arcady Mushegan (US National Science Foundation) asked what comparisons of genome sequences can tell us about evolution and how he explored the ways in which computers are used to analyse biodata. In his talk on the pollutants contained within accumulating layers of arctic and alpine ice, Joe McConnell (Desert Research Institute, Reno; CH Shackleton Fellow) showed how sub-annual records obtained from ice cores allowed us to compare proxy environmental records with historical events such as lead and silver production in Europe.

Joseph Bassi (University of Texas) spoke on the history of sun-earth connections, including the topic of ‘space weather’ and why we should care about it.

With a dive into medieval archives, Amy Livingstone (Ball State University) introduced us to the Countess Ermengarde of Brittany, who led a fascinating, sometimes cloistered, life involving property claims, political intrigue and the Crusades. Moving forwards almost a millennium, Barbara Arneil (University of British Columbia) acquainted us with ‘domestic colonies’ (e.g. labour, farm and utopian colonies) and explored how knowledge of them can change the ways we might define colonisation and colonialism for nineteenth- and twentieth-century Europe and North America. Moving continents, Ramnarayan Rawat (University of Delaware) enquired as to why 25,000 Dalit marched in Delhi to welcome the Prince of Wales to India in 1922. These ‘untouchable’ activists used public processions as a novel tactic of counter-demonstration, staging a dignified challenge to nationalist mobilisations and agendas.

I am grateful to my predecessor Alexandra Winkels for enabling a trouble-free transition in the Convenorship, and I am very appreciative of Visiting Fellows and other colleagues for their talks and the lively audience participation. Please contact me if you are interested in contributing to the series.

Kevin Edwards (kevin.edwards@abdn.ac.uk)
Convenor
Convening Clare Hall’s 2019-20 Thursday Lunchtime Talks series has been a wonderful privilege. These informal weekly events enable College members to share their research in progress and serve as a sounding board for the thoughts and ideas for all members of the College, including partners. A typical session opened with a presentation, followed by an open discussion. Members have been very welcome to bring their lunch and enjoy a hot drink during the presentation and subsequent discussions. The sessions are one of the highlights of our weekly College calendar.

There was a fascinating range of topics, including the potential of comparative genomics (Arcady Mushugian), the ongoing influence of Europe’s earliest law codification (Jakob Stagl) and the implications of taxation systems for addressing social inequality (Marc Buggeln).

In March, in readiness for the much-anticipated cricket season and annual College match (sadly postponed due to the pandemic), members were treated to a tale of searching for cricket in Shakespeare’s day (John Drew).

Our Thursday Talks also offered opportunities to debate growing concerns about the influence of round-the-clock news channels and social media on our daily lives. During the year, members considered the rise of the fake news phenomenon in many parts of the world (Luciano Butti) as well as the role of manipulation in our lives (Christian Illies). International events have inspired our speakers. In February, as the world’s media awaited the outcome of President Trump’s impeachment hearing, it was standing room only in our Meeting Room as Clare Hall members were guided through the constitutional principles and political consequences of the process (Thomas Sullivan).

Grateful thanks are owed to our generous speakers and to the many College members who bring the series alive with their enthusiastic and informed contributions to the Q&A sessions.

I look forward to organising more fascinating talks in the coming year, bringing together the diverse range of research and interests among our College community.

Ems Lord
Convener,
Clare Hall Thursday Lunchtime Talks
The 2019-20 academic year was unlike any other for the Graduate Student Body (GSB) at Clare Hall. The Covid-19 pandemic brought unique experiences to all of us and highlighted the close-knit and welcoming culture of Clare Hall.

FROM THE GRADUATE STUDENT BODY
The GSB kicked off the academic year in a normal fashion, with Welcome Week 2019, which was more than just one week filled with events for the new students to settle into College and start their lives in Cambridge. New arrivals went on a scavenger hunt of Cambridge, learned some Clare Hall history on a tour around the site led by returning students and discovered College activities at the Societies Fair. They became familiar with the ALB student building during the PJ party and were part of the first themed formal of the 2019-20 academic year ‘The Magic of Clare Hall’, where the student body learned about the magic society that used to be housed in Elmside.

Next, the GSB organised Clare Hall Green Week to highlight the green initiatives in Clare Hall and to learn how to take better care of the environment. Events included a tour of the Clare Hall gardens, Meatless Monday, workshops and a vegan cake tasting. Later in the year, the GSB was able to further implement green initiatives in the College, following last year’s successful fossil fuel divestment commitment. A scheme for picking up leftovers from the dining hall was introduced, in collaboration with the Clare Hall kitchen, and a GSB Green Initiative Grant was launched for students to implement their green ideas in the College.

At the start of the academic year, the new GSB committee was elected and brought in many new initiatives to the College. A sexual misconduct policy working group was initiated, working fruitfully together with Fellows to review current policies. The GSB worked together with the Tutors on a student survey of the tutorial system and with the Domestic Bursar on improvements of the Clare Hall gym.

Collaboratory events with the new college counsellor who began to work at Clare Hall this academic year were initiated and the stress-relieving massage workshops continued. We were proud to fly the Pride Flag during LGBTQ+ history month.

This year was another great year for social events, including a Halloween party in the ALB and trick-or-treating for Clare Hall families along the houses on site. Other events included drink-and-draw, movie nights, social bouldering, an ugly sweater party in the festive season and blind wine tasting. As expected, the renowned Clare Hall GSB Jazz formals were a big success once again. We also had the chance to go to, and welcome, other colleges during formal swaps including a visit to our sister college, St. Cross College, in Oxford, and enjoyed visits to Clare College Chapel by invitation from the Dean. Clare Hall Conversations (described elsewhere in this Review) deepened the intellectual engagement between students and Visiting Fellows.

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit the UK, the GSB committee worked hard to keep the student body together by organising events online. We were very fortunate to have a lot of input from the student body as a whole. The GSB organised weekly social-distancing movie nights, drinks and draw evenings over the chat-app Discord, cooking challenges and a virtual pub quiz to name a few. All reached from the comfort of students’ homes, from anywhere in the world! Where possible, the GSB committee gave away Covid-19 Care Packages, including puzzles, chocolate and drawing supplies. The GSB art exhibition was transformed into an online collaborative magazine to showcase students’ non-academic work. Clare Hall students were able to follow a workshop on R online. The GSB Easter Seminar Series took place online, allowing for 6 evenings filled with presentations from students, Fellows, and Life Members.

In short, the academic year 2019-20 was a turbulent year, but nonetheless another one in the great spirit of Clare Hall. Another year where student-led initiatives were celebrated, thought-provoking discussions took place between all members of College and where the (online) social events brought some relaxation. The GSB committee wants to thank all the students for their engagement with the College and the new ideas they have brought!

Simone de Rijk
GSB President 2019-20

GSB Committee Members

President: Simone de Rijk
Vice-President: Emily Goodacre
Treasurer: Jennifer Allen
Secretary: Rebecca Jones
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CLARE HALL REVIEW 2020
The Clare Hall Boat Club 25th anniversary in an extraordinary year
This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Clare Hall Boat Club – an important one for all current members, supporters and alumni. The club was founded in 1995, making us the youngest college rowing club in Cambridge. Our commitment to create an inclusive environment for rowers at every skill level promotes close team relationships and, eventually, friendships for life. It is this environment, together with an ever-changing mixture of novices and senior rowers, that makes every year at CHBC remarkable. But this year was even more extraordinary in many ways.

We got off to a great start to our silver jubilee with about 30 new rowers joining the club, all very eager to learn rowing. The senior rowers did a great job integrating the new members and we had a delightful time celebrating our Pegasus Cup win from the previous year together.

By February, after many cold months of training, our two crews were formed and ready to take on the other colleges at Lent Bumps 2020. Carried out over four days, the bumps are the most intense and popular race on the Cam. At the start, signalled by a cannon, each crew is separated by a distance of about 30 meters. Once the race has begun, a crew must attempt to catch up with the crew ahead of it and bump (physically touch or overtake) it before the crew behind does the same to them.

Our two crews did very well with a net positive result. The women managed to bump Newnham W3 on the second day and rowed over on all the other days. The men got bumped on the second day by a strong Churchill M2 crew but retained their place in the table by bumping Trinity Hall M2 on a gusty final day.

With the outbreak of Covid-19, we had to suspend river activities in March. However, we participated in the Virtual May Bumps where every crew member runs 800m and reports their time online. The women’s team managed to bump every day, earning them the first Virtual Blades in the history of the boat club! The men’s team sadly lost two places in the table.

During this challenging time CHBC has also supported its community by providing live virtual workouts, open to any member of the college. We are determined to continue these until we can all be back on the river in a safe and healthy manner – hopefully quite soon.

Your CHBC

Boat Club Committee

President: Timo Haber
Treasurer: Tobias Baldauf
Men’s captain: Matteo Giordano
Men’s co-captain: Samuel Grath
Women’s captains: Yomna Zentani and Chantele Byron
Equipment officer: Collin Smith
Fundraising officer: Patrick McClanahan
Social officer: Alex Quent
Just days after the end of Lent Term, we found ourselves in national lockdown. I was among many students who had planned to visit family abroad over the Easter break, but the closing of borders meant that I stayed at Clare Hall and continued to work. Leslie Barnett House became a jungle of houseplants – some belonging to those who moved out before borders closed, and others rescued from offices, brought home in anticipation of the university buildings closing. A student-run gardening initiative gave us a few more plants to nurture: various salad leaves and herbs. They thrived in the sunny Spring weather, and the Clare Hall gardens provided a perfect space to soak up the sun alongside them. I took to eating most of my meals outdoors as the College kitchen implemented its takeaway-only service. Seeing others across the lawn made even the strictest stages of lockdown a bit less lonely, despite the closure of the dining hall and College social areas. For several weeks, a trio of ducks were our only guests; but before long, the ducks stopped visiting, and restrictions in College began to ease: small numbers of guests were allowed to visit, and students who moved out began to return.

Emily J. Goodacre
PhD student
The University’s request to ‘go home’ caused much anxiety amongst our cohort of students. Having to leave Cambridge for an uncertain period was daunting, but so was thinking that for the rest of the academic year we would probably not experience Clare Hall the way we had envisioned. It was a relief to be able to leave my belongings in my college room, despite the uncertainty of when I would be able to pick them up or use them again. By mid-March, I began my self-isolation period in Portugal and would soon be able to join my family. Although geographically distant, it was a pleasure to participate in the various online events organised by the GSB, and to bring home some of the Clare Hall spirit. Since I left Cambridge, life has been a balancing act, a readjustment to new working habits, working spaces and family rhythms. I have been dealing with the cancellation of my PhD fieldwork and the exponential increase of virtual webinars, meetings – basically, a new virtual life. While life is a constant of uncertainties, I do envision my return to Clare Hall, maybe not to the one I left, but certainly to one I look forward to.

Mariana P. L. Pereira, from Macau SAR, writing from Portugal, July 2020
CLARE HALL REFLECTS

On Saturday, 27 April, 2019, Clare Hall students, Fellows, and Life Members gathered for Clare Hall Reflects, the graduate student conference organised by the GSB in collaboration with the Development Office. This packed day of presentations, discussions, and networking encouraged Clare Hallers to reflect both on their time at Clare Hall and on the future.

Seven Clare Hall students reflected on their academic work through presentations of their research. Presenters included Friederike M. Dannheim (PhD in Chemistry), Zeina Dowidar (MPhil in Development Studies), Ian Hu (PhD in Biochemistry), Rebecca Anna Moses (MPhil in Arts, Creativity, and Education), Mariam Nazarian (MPhil in Music), Leonard Ng Wei Tat (PhD in Engineering), and Fiona Simmons-Jones (MPhil in Public Health). Panel discussions on welfare and careers saw attendees reflecting on how to maintain well-being during and after student life and considering their next professional steps. Over lunch, networking among students, fellows, and life members resulted in meaningful connections and anticipated lasting relationships. The day ended with a thought-provoking presentation from Tony Hooley, a former Clare Hall PhD student, who returned to reflect on his time at Clare Hall and his subsequent career in entrepreneurship.

For many, the chance to view the art exhibition, which was on display throughout the event, was a key opportunity for reflection. The exhibition featured fifteen pieces of artwork resulting from students’ reflections during their time at Clare Hall: photographs of the college, Cambridge, and beyond, a macrame working of the Clare Hall crest, and a detailed drawing featuring birds found around Cambridge were among exhibition highlights. Many of these pieces can now be found displayed within student accommodation buildings at Clare Hall.

The event committee would like to thank everyone who took part in making Clare Hall Reflects a success.

Emily Goodacre, Clare Hall Reflects Lead Organiser

Event committee: Emily Goodacre, Ivan Mouraviev, Mariana P. L. Pereira, Catherine Wise, Nick Stember, Anujan Poolegaindram, Friederike M. Dannheim, and Fu Xiang Quah
In October 2019, the GSB organised Clare Hall Green Week, a week filled with events to help College members to appreciate our environment and learn how to protect it. The week featured collaborations with various green organisations in the Cambridge area, including a plant sale hosted by Scotsdales Garden Centre, a vegan cake tasting featuring cakes from Gourmet Vegan bakery, and workshops hosted by Cambridge Zero Carbon Society.

Highlights of the week included a Meatless Monday lunch held in the dining room, a tour of our gardens led by Head Gardener David Smith, and a family-friendly film screening. Clare Hall Green Week was well-attended by College members, and we hope that event highlighted the importance of taking care of our environment.

Emily Goodacre,
GSB Vice-President 2019-20
The reception of British writers, artists, and thinkers in the wider world has been the concern of an extensive series of books edited by Elinor Shaffer since the British Academy adopted this aim and her proposal towards the end of the last century. The first volume was published in 2004: The Reception of Virginia Woolf in Europe. The series has included literary figures, historians, philosophers, artists, and scientists. The latest volumes appeared last year and were launched with considerable public and academic notice: the landmark vol. 25, The Reception of Newton in Europe (3 vols), edited by Helmut Pulte, Professor of the History of Physics at Bochum, together with Scott Mandelbrote, historian of the eighteenth century at Peterhouse, received a grand launch at the beautiful Wren Library at Trinity, where Newton was a student and later a Fellow, and one of Britain’s (and Europe’s) most illustrious thinkers of all time.

The editors and a number of contributors as well as Newtonians who were gathered in Cambridge to plan a new edition of his works met under the auspices of the Wren’s Librarian, Nicolas Bell, who arranged a small exhibition, focusing on the French reception of Newton, and the editors and several contributors as well as the Series Editor spoke briefly. These volumes present a brilliant and exciting picture of the whole era of the Enlightenment in Europe which unfolded from Newton’s Principia, not only a scientific revolution but following from it a cleansing and a blooming time of further thought and education, not least enthusiastic self-education and popularisation.

Small groups formed to study the new texts and even tried to recreate Newton’s experiments. Universities altered their acquisitions and cataloguing practices to encourage new thinking and new experimentation. The philosophical framework was shaken, and controversies with major thinkers such as Descartes and Leibniz emerged into the challenging thought of Hume and Kant. The lights went on in most parts of Europe. In the nineteenth century the word and the profession of ‘scientist’ became established and institutionalised, and in the early twentieth century Einstein became Newton’s most distinguished successor.

In September and October The Reception of William Blake (2 vols) was launched at the School of Advanced Study in the Senate House of London University, where the co-editor, Professor Morton Paley from Berkeley, and contributors from the US, Germany and Spain spoke of the brilliant originality of Blake, who belonged to no single school but created his own idiom and his own art of illustrating it.

The following day we held a Colloquium at Tate Britain, opening with a private view of the splendid new exhibition of Blake’s work curated by one of our contributors, Martin Myrone, who had for the first time traced the history of the gradual acquisition of Blake’s works by British museums and collections. This was a day of immense illumination, chaired by the co-editor of the Blake volumes, Sybille Erle, with contributors extending their written chapters into new territory, whether in Hungary, or the Netherlands, or Japan, and we who had worked on both Newton and Blake felt that both, in their entirely different ways, had seen and shone new lights on the world.
EDUCATION RESEARCH in Kazakhstan

‘A student does not demonstrate that she truly understands material until she uses it to produce new knowledge.’

With this motto in mind, I recently completed my fieldwork research in Almaty Bilim-Innovation High School for Girls, Kazakhstan. The research aimed at exploring students’ conceptual change in their understanding of genetics within the 'students as producers' pedagogical approach. It involved two stages: first, Grade 10 students collaboratively designed video lessons on introductory genetics as well as genetic engineering, using Explain Everything, a user-friendly application, on iPads. Second, Grade 8 students used the digital learning resource developed by Grade 10 students to study genetics. The Boak Award from College it possible for me to purchase iPads and supplementary materials. After the research, the iPads were donated to the Kazakhstani school (with the blessing of the College), in the hope that similar educational projects would continue.

Preliminary findings show that collaborative learning while designing a digital resource contributed to improvement in Grade 10 students’ understanding of problematic areas. Additionally, designing a digital resource that would be reused by younger students was a fulfilling experience, increasing Grade 10 students’ self-efficacy and confidence to create similar resources. On a broader scale, this research may popularise the 'students as producers' approach, as well as lead to a better understanding of how the intersection of collaborative work, peer tutoring, and technology-enhanced learning can facilitate improvement in students’ understanding of science topics.

Sincere thanks to the Boak Fund for making this research possible.

Aigerim Korzhumbayeva
PhD student, Education
Studying Diversity in Disney’s fairy tales

When people think about literary research at the University of Cambridge, I suspect they do not think of Disney. It certainly seemed an unlikely topic to me. Nevertheless, I am now in the third year of my PhD in Children’s Literature writing a dissertation and publishing articles on, specifically, The Walt Disney Corporation’s fairy tale and folklore adaptations, and more broadly, its global storytelling franchises. My dissertation looks at depictions of diversity in Disney’s films that adapt fairy tale or folklore, or cultural stories from around the world. It’s a rewarding topic, offering us insights into the ways in which our culture represents (or not) diversity in some of its most popular, commercial forms of story-telling.

I explore the following research questions:

- How has Disney’s method of depicting ethnic diversity on-screen in its filmic adaptations of traditional Anglo/European fairy tales and folktales from non-European cultures evolved from 1989 to the present?
- How does culture – and whose culture – become encoded in the visual and audio texts and presentations of these films?
- How have people across the world responded to these films in different global, local, or ‘glocal’ spaces?

Through its exploration of Disney’s fairy tale oeuvre, my dissertation explores the ways in which well-intentioned multiculturalism can bolster institutional or cultural biases, and shows that polyphonic multiculturalism needs to be based on an inclusive model, where hegemonically Othered or exoticised perspectives are not only included, but centered. As a part of my larger study, I look closely at the films Mulan (1998) and Moana (2016) and compare and contrast both the animation methods and the reception of the films.

I chose these to compare because they have many similarities in the ways that they differ from other Disney animated classics, such as Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Cinderella, or Sleeping Beauty. Both films have titular heroines who come from cultures outside of the Eurocentric fairy tales that Disney had previously chosen to depict.

Both Mulan and Moana also include in their depictions of other cultures many musical and visual cues that constantly and deliberately remind viewers that these films are different from the other Disney classics. I am fascinated by the process of exoticisation which goes on, even as the films attempt to pull these cultures into the Disney corpus to prove the corporation’s commitment to diversity and multicultural representation. And what does ‘exotic’ mean in these works? The Oxford English Dictionary defines the verb ‘exoticize’ as ‘to make exotic; to glamorize; to treat or portray as unusual (often with the implication of romanization, stereotyping, or condescension).’ For my purposes, the third meaning is the most important, as the idea of being different, or, perhaps, an ‘unusual’ depiction, is part of the appeal of these films – and part of the company’s marketing strategy.

I also find it interesting that the corporation uses such films to try to prove that they are
sensitive to the demands of a globalised world, making an effort to show the ways in which the cultures are represented well, and the ways in which ‘locals’ approved’ or ‘sanctioned’ the making of the films. These films stand out from the rest of the fairy tale or folklore adaptations in terms of their cross-cultural reception, which was mixed for a variety of reasons, as different cultural and ethnic groups questioned how authentic multicultural representation might be best constructed, and who ultimately gets to answer this question.

I don’t have the answers to these final questions, but I hope that my dissertation will broaden our understanding of diversity and ways of balancing multiple perspectives. For more on my thoughts on these two films in particular, please see my article ‘Mulan and Moana: Embedded Coloniality and the Search for Authenticity in Disney Animated Film’ in the open access journal Social Sciences. (https://www.mdpi.com/2076-0760/7/11/230)

Michelle Anya Anjirbag
PhD candidate, Faculty of Education

Staša Stanković, Jankovic scholar

Staša came to Clare Hall to write her PhD in Medical Science. She is on a Clare Hall scholarship, generously funded by Ivan Jankovic. By combining disruptive, state-of-the-art genomic technologies with genetic epidemiology to analyse genomes of more than half a million individuals, Staša aims to identify key biological mechanisms that govern reproductive ageing and fertility in women. She will also seek to understand how these mechanisms might link reproductive function in women to risks of later diseases such as cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis, type 2 diabetes, and ultimately longevity.

Discovery of novel genetic markers might lead towards development of effective interventions in the treatment and prevention of early ovarian failure, and prediction of individual reproductive window.

Staša has had a busy and successful first year in College. She has won a Next Generation Women Leaders Award 2020 from the consulting company McKinsey & Co as one of the most influential young female leaders in the Balkan region.

Staša founded Innovation Forum Serbia which fosters the development of the Serbian healthcare start-up system. This takes an interdisciplinary approach to innovations by bridging the gap between academia, industry, policy makers and investors, and strengthening collaborations between Serbia and the rest of the world. Innovation Forum Serbia approaches the most innovative healthcare technologies first hand, imagines their potential usage, and accelerates their growth.

Staša has created a partnership with leading academic, industrial and governmental institutions in Serbia and initiated the first ever healthcare accelerator in Serbia, IMAGINE IF! This programme boosts the local ecosystem, globally exposing Serbian start-ups, providing them with funding and mentorship support from local and global key leaders from healthcare industry. Staša also took part in the European Commission meeting in 2019 for the Smart Specialization Strategy for the Western Balkans, where she shared her thoughts on the role of accelerators and incubators on sector-specific development.

The Prime Minister of Serbia recognised Staša as one of the most successful Serbian students abroad, and involved Staša, together with other distinguished students and entrepreneurs, in an initiative that aims to reduce the local ‘brain drain’ of Serbian experts. Staša is a member of World Minds, a selected community of leaders worldwide who have made proven contributions in science and business. Finally, she has been nominated as one of the young female leaders with remarkable impact on the Serbian healthcare system for the AFA Innovation Week 2019.

Our warmest thanks to Ivan Jankovic for his generous support for Clare Hall students.
Kurdish women and the politics of voice in contemporary Turkey

The voice is key for how we think about agency, will and self in the contemporary world. Marginalised groups are said to ‘lack a voice’; activists seek to ‘give voice’ to those they deem silenced; and we are often advised to be ‘vocal’ about our opinions. What kind of desires and aspirations, anxieties and contestations do such understandings of voice produce amongst those described as lacking it?

My research with Kurdish women singers, poets, and storytellers addresses this question by tracing the resonances and reverberations of these women’s voices. In Turkey, where I do my fieldwork, the Kurdish movement ardently calls upon Kurdish women to raise their voices in order to assert themselves against the forces of political oppression and patriarchal restrictions. As my work shows, however, making voices audible is not as unequivocally empowering as it may appear at first sight.

While in the past Kurdish women’s voices constituted powerful social forces thanks to their specific sonic elaboration and affective charge – capable of sustaining social relations in the face of dispersal and oppression – today their voices feature primarily as symbols of empowerment and agency. What these voices pronounce and how they do so is less important than the mere fact that they become audible in public. Audibility thus comes at the risk of diminished vocal force.

My research shows that the imperative advanced by modern representative politics – that one ought to have a voice in order to claim agency – plays an important role in transforming cultural transmission. It fosters new understandings of self and interiority: while previously women employed their voices to give expression to the plight of loved others (such as husbands or children) in recent repertoires their voices increasingly serve to express a private, bounded self. Moreover, long-established communally owned repertoires are being reconstituted as artists seek to claim individual ownership, pursuing modernity’s compelling promise that ‘having a voice’ will translate into agency and authority.

Dr Marlene Schäfers studied for her MPhil at Clare Hall 2009-10 and is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Ghent University. 
The Impact of Jesus in First-Century Palestine
Textual and Archaeological Evidence for Long-standing Discontent

Rosemary Margaret Luff

Over the past fifty years, scholarly quests to determine the character and motives of the historical Jesus (as opposed to the Christ of faith) have centred on Galilee. This is because the Synoptic Gospels, mainly pertaining to Galilee, were considered more reliable than the Gospel of John, a spiritual text focusing on Jesus’ ministry in Judea. However, recent archaeological research has considerably enhanced our understanding of John and points to its historicity. While John is literarily independent of the Synoptics, there is a fascinating connection with Mark’s narrative in that earlier oral versions of specific events can be identified in both Gospels. Thus, via a comparative approach using the Gospels of Mark and John, late Second Temple Judaic literature in general, and archaeological findings, this book describes key facets of Jesus’ character as to why he came to the fore when he did, and the possible stressors precipitating this. Undoubtedly, the strong eschatological vein portrayed in Jesus’ teaching raises questions concerning the nature and degree of instability experienced by the Galilean and Judean masses. It is important to note Jesus did not end his life in Galilee but in Jerusalem. Thus Galilee is not viewed in isolation but in conjunction with Judea.

The archaeological evidence underlines a close connection between Galilee and Judea (common Judaism) with the distribution of stepped pools (miqva’ot) and stone vessels, and associated material remains, such as imageless Hasmonean and Herodian coins, non-figurative oil lamps, and locally made rather than imported pottery. The archaeological evidence also indicates a prosperous and thriving Galilee in the early first century CE, but the Gospel texts suggest a society under stress, one where the rich were flourishing at the expense of the poor. The poor are not easily identifiable in the archaeological record. So, material prosperity was evaluated across Galilean and Judean archaeological sites, to pinpoint the centralization of wealth, the creation of which likely put pressure on rural communities, especially the poor. This wealth, this power was found to lie with the high priesthood living in luxury in Jerusalem. Hence it is proposed Jesus’ demonstration in the Temple and subsequent confrontation with the high priesthood are highly significant.

The Gospels of Mark and John attest to the authenticity of the Temple incident and confirm Jesus did speak openly about the destruction of the Temple. They also agree with reference to their Old Testament citations in that Jesus appears to be accusing the Temple authorities of corrupt behaviour. The book suggests that these New Testament texts have originated from oral versions that would have been in circulation much earlier than the written material, and therefore are strongly reminiscent of the words of Jesus. The Temple was, at the time, a money-spinning enterprise functioning to the detriment of the poor, its commercialisation destroying any sense of a ‘house of prayer’. Jesus regarded the rich landowners of the high priesthood as a prime cause of hardship for the poor. Indeed, it was in Jerusalem that his brother James carried on his ministry to the impoverished, and he was remembered as vehemently denouncing the avarice and venality of the rich.
The Clare Hall Archive: A Place to Think and Discover

In the 54 years since its founding, Clare Hall shares one of the richest, innovative, and unique traditions among the Cambridge colleges. Founded by Clare College on principles of a centre for advanced study, Clare Hall was the second graduate-only college in the University of Cambridge (Darwin College was the first in 1964). The origins of Clare Hall are meticulously captured in two books by one of Clare Hall’s Founding Fellows, Richard Eden. The collections in Clare Hall’s archive wonderfully augment and expand this history in documents, photographs and artifacts.
Among the interesting artifacts is the Clare Hall Charter of 1984. Authorised with the royal seal of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, it certifies Clare Hall as ‘a fully independent graduate college in Cambridge University with its own Royal Charter and Statutes’. (Eden, 1998, p. 1)

The archive also houses the official vellum deed from the College of Arms granting Clare Hall its well-known arms or crest. The red chevrons draw on the arms of Clare College, which in turn harken back to arms of its foundress Lady Clare. The black band of five silver tears evolve from Lady Clare’s personal adjustment: ‘After the death of her third husband she encircled her arms with a black band bedewed with tears, thus putting the shield into mourning’. (Oldfield, p. 10)

Archival records indicate that six Fellows and Visiting Fellows of Clare Hall were honoured with a Nobel Prize. Only Churchill, Gonville and Caius, and Trinity, have individually been awarded more Nobel Prizes during the past five decades.

A Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall in 1993, Kim Dae-jung is the last of three winners affiliated with Cambridge to win the Nobel Peace Prize (Philip Noel-Baker of King’s in 1959 and Austin Chamberlain of Trinity in 1925 are the others). Preserved in our archive is a beautiful letter from Kim Dae-jung as the President of the Republic of Korea accepting an Honorary Fellowship at Clare Hall: ‘I owe to the University of Cambridge a peace of mind and an inspiration for a new beginning’. A wonderful letter worthy of permanent display.

Along with documents and vellum, the archive preserves much visual media, including architectural plans, photographs, and art. Clare Hallers will certainly enjoy a visit to our archive in pursuit of research or nostalgia chronicling the struggles, triumphs, innovations and cultural diversity of Clare Hallers in the twentieth century and new millennium.

Many thanks to our archivist, Elizabeth Stratton, for her assistance and patience in locating materials for this piece. Visit the Clare Hall archive in person in West Court or online at: https://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/our-people/elizabeth-stratton.

Maximiliaan van Woudenberg
Visiting Fellow
Clare Hall conversations:

…I can safely say that the single best thing one can do in Cambridge is have a good conversation.
New students often worry about missing out on the Cambridge experience and want to know what they should absolutely be a part of. Some people think this means getting up at 5:30am to practice for Bumps or spending £200 on a May Ball ticket. After three years in this university, however, I can safely say that the single best thing one can do in Cambridge is have a good conversation.

A good conversation does not entail small talk with a successful CEO, advice from an experienced political leader, or tales of a well-travelled adventurer; it is the meeting of a handful of people who acknowledge their common pursuit of truth. Just like the Rule of Saint Benedict, the good conversation creates the space for a communal and contemplative life.

In that regard, my first year at Clare Hall was indeed valuable. £5.75 not only paid for a three-course meal, but also exposed the eager graduate student to conversations with passionate professors, often open to discussing their own work. It is easier to treat your interlocutor as a peer when their wise words pass through a mouth delighting in the same dessert as you: perhaps one of Luigi’s meringues or a slice of coffee and walnut cake.

A student who does not frequent College often, however, could go a whole term without having a meaningful conversation with a Fellow and might wonder what is so special about having so many visit Clare Hall from other universities. The Clare Hall Conversations answer this question. By deepening and extending the exhilarating experience of discussions beyond traditional academic hierarchies, they transmit the College ethos imagined by its founding members, already in conversation.

With the help of Mariana P.L. Pereira and the College, we set up a series of academic discussions based on the premise that both students and Fellows enter the room and exchange ideas as equals. At the beginning of each term, students and Visiting Fellows are matched based on academic interests. They then meet in College, over a glass of wine, to discuss an article, either recently published or in progress. Conversation topics range from the professionalisation of judges in Medieval England, to the metaphysical implications of the premises of physical cosmology, to crime in Philadelphia.

Beyond the opportunity to join an expert in the midst of an unsolved research question, the true reward lies in the excellent nature of the connection forged in this common intellectual struggle. Most students report, often with surprise, the gratifying sensation of elaborate ideas challenging their mind but never their status as peers. Every participant becomes a comrade in knowledge, and we leave the Conversation with a sense of renewed legitimacy and pride in our scholarly capability. Never will a Conversant shy away from a good discussion and their time in Cambridge will have been well spent.

Abraham de Maupeou-D’Ableiges
Gratefully, Julietta Harvey

It was a crucial moment for me when I went to tell the President of Clare Hall, Sir Michael Stoker, that although I had been awarded my Research Fellowship to continue working on seventeenth-century poetry I had spent the recent months writing a novel — my first.

With characteristic generosity Michael encouraged me to go ahead, he trusted my novel would be a credit to Clare Hall. His open-mindedness gave me confidence.

In the reverend quietness of the UL's Rare Books Room, I had written the story my father told me, of a small boy who, alone of his family, escaped the massacre of the Greek population of his home village on the Turkish coast after the First World War. After a long sea voyage he arrived, with other refugees, barefoot and hungry, in Thessaloniki. My father left me to imagine the rest — which was the story of his, and my family's, life.

The first two chapters brought me a publisher, Michael Joseph, and the completed novel, entitled *Familiar Wars* (1987, paperback 2015), was short-listed for the Whitbread and PEN Macmillan Prizes and the Angel Award, and translated into Norwegian. My second novel, *One Third of Paradise* (2015), continued the story and was runner-up for the London Hellenic Prize. I am just completing my third, *Fear of Light*.

My father had already died, but I believe he would have been moved by my epigraph from Homer, ‘the day of the return home was lost to him’ — and thrilled to have a remote connection with Odysseus.

Life Member Julietta Harvey was a Research Fellow at Clare Hall, 1977-83.
PHILIP JENKINS: A Clare Hall Institution

I came to Clare Hall in October 2013 as a mature visiting PhD student from the Department of English Studies at the University of Salamanca. In recent years I have become something of an institution at Clare Hall. As required by my home university my doctoral thesis ran to just over 200,000 words and reached 436 pages. So I walked many times between the main college building and my study in the Ashby from 2017 onwards as I revised what I had written.

The title is ‘The Satirical Reception of the New Learning in English Literature, 1592-1743’. By ‘New Learning’ I mean here antiquarianism, early modern science and textual criticism, a form of editing. During the period new ways of understanding emerged which were based on evidence rather than the ancient authorities (such as Aristotle), which had been the motor of knowledge for centuries. The satirical response was unforgiving.

In early October 2019 on a sunny day in Salamanca I was awarded the highest grade at the defence of my thesis in the Faculty of Languages and Literature.

Philip Jenkins
Visiting Student

CLARE HALL REVIEW 2020
News of Members

Nicole CuUnjieng Aboitiz (RF) has published Asian Place, Filipino Nation: A Global Intellectual History of the Philippine Revolution, 1887-1912 (2020).

Michelle Anya Anjirbag (PhD student, Education) has published two articles and two book chapters in 2020 from her research on Disney films and adaptation. In 2019 she presented a paper on 'Lullabies and trauma in Disney film' at the IRSCJ Congress, The Implications and Impact of Silencing Narratives, in Stockholm.


Alan Atkinson (VF 1988) has published Euphrosyne in Australia (3 vols) one volume of which won the Victorian Prize for Literature (2015). Alan has a Visiting Fellowship at Durham University in 2021.

John Barrow (PF) has been awarded a Leverhulme Emeritus Fellowship for 2020-22 to work on a project entitled Cosmological Problems, on the history of mathematics. Congratulations to John on being elected Academician of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences.

David Bates (A 2005) was awarded the Prix Dumasnoir by the Académie des Sciences, Belles-Lettres et Arts de Rouen, for the French translation of his biography of William the Conqueror.


Dame Gillian Beer (President 1994-2001) was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Chichester in October 2019. She has published a revised and enlarged edition of George Eliot and the Women Question (2019).

Richard Bodmer (PhD 1989) was presented awards in 2019 by the Regional Government of Loreto, Peru and by Operation Earth, Beijing, China. For the past 35 years Richard has been involved with research and conservation in the western Amazon with a focus on community-based conservation, sustainable use by indigenous peoples, and the impacts of climate change.

Ruth Bottigheimer (VF 1990) received an award for her lifetime achievement in fairy tale scholarship in Meiningen, Germany.

Congratulations to Morten Broberg (VF 2015) and Tanis Pedersen Broberg who were married in May 2019.

Ariane Burke (VF 2007-08) received a National Geographic grant for survey work in Zambia, looking for Middle Pleistocene archaeological sites and assessing the research potential in the Upper Luangwa Valley. She has published several papers, including Colin Wren and Ariane Burke, ‘Habitat suitability and the genetic structure of human populations during the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) in Western Europe’, PLOS ONE, 14, 6 (2019).

Eric Carlson (Visiting Student, 1994-85) has retired from teaching and is now Research Professor in History at Gustavus Adolphus College, St Peter, Minnesota.

Stefano Maria Casella (Bologna VF 1996) gave the Sixth Annual Poetry Lecture on Ezra Pound for the Cyprus English Studies Association Annual Conference in Nicosia (2019).


Lesley Cohen (PhD 1988) was appointed as Editor-in-Chief of Applied Physics Letters.


Howard Colquhoun (VF 2007) is now Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at the University of Reading. He was awarded an Emeritus Fellowship by the Leverhulme Trust to work on research papers on the reading and writing of sequence-information in synthetic copolymer molecules, which he did at Clare Hall in 2019.

Malcolm Cooper (RF 1968-70) continues to be involved in the management of the UK’s National Research Facility for the x-ray study of materials with synchrotron radiation at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility, Grenoble.

Gregory Currie (VF 1989) has published Imagining and Knowing: The Shape of Fiction. He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 2019.


Richard Cottle (VF 2002) has co-authored Linear and Nonlinear Optimization (2017). He was awarded the Saul Gass Expository Writing Award (2018).

David Dean (PhD 1983, RF 1983-86) is currently Professor of History at Carlton University, Canada. He has published A Companion to Public History (2018) and is co-editor of a new journal, International Public History. In 2019 he was a keynote speaker at conferences in Poland and in Indonesia.


Simone Eringfield (MPhil student Education) is co-Chair of the Cambridge Peace and Education Research Group. During the lockdown, she created the podcast Cambridge Quonachets which was featured on the University’s profile series Unexpected Experiences.
Leila Essa (MPhil 2015) was awarded her PhD on Partitioned Nations, Shared Narratives: Contemporary Novels on India and Germany at King’s College London and is now a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Germanic Studies at Trinity College Dublin.


Michael Evans (EP) has co-authored Language Development and Social Integration of Students with English as an Additional Language (2020).


Carol Frost (VF 1990-91) co-authored Essentials of Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology, 2nd edn (2019). She is the 2020 President of the Mineralogical Society of America.

Helen Fulton (VF 1995-96) is currently Chair of Medieval Literature at the University of Bristol. Helen and Geraint Evans co-edited The Cambridge History of Welsh Literature (2019), the first volume of its kind.

Eric Gamazon (VF 2018) received the Genomic Innovator Award from the US National Institutes of Health.


Congratulations to Katarina Goeschl (PhD 1995) and Timo Goeschl (MPhil 1995) who celebrated their twentieth wedding anniversary in 2019. They met at Clare Hall in the 1990s when they were both doctoral students and now live in Germany with their two children.

Ian Goldberg (VF 2014-15) was named Canada Research Chair in Privacy Enhancing Technologies.


Chaim Harvey Hames (VF 2003) was elected Recor of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in 2018 and elected a member of the Academy Europa in 2019.

Norman Hammond (VF 2004) is now a Senior Fellow at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research in Cambridge, while remaining Professor Emeritus of Archaeology at Boston University and a Research Associate of the Peabody Museum at Harvard. In 2019 he published a much-expanded second edition of The Archaeology of Afghanistan: Articles on diverse topics have appeared in Antiquity:The Coat of Arms (about the monuments to Sir Thomas Baines in Christ’s College Chapel) and other journals.


Van Austin Harvey (VF 1979) retired from Stanford in 1996 but continued to teach and publish articles in Philosophy Now. Now 93, he still lectures at the Institute for the Study of Western Civilization in Sunnyvale, California.


David Hughes (RF 1982-85) taught music for 22 years at SOAS, University of London, covering Japan and Southeast Asia. In 2017 he was awarded Japan’s Order of the Rising Sun, for his contributions to Anglo-Japanese relations through music. In 2019 he was awarded Japan’s annual Kokumai Fumio Prize for Ethnomusicology.

Philipp Jabold (MPhil 2017-18) has published ‘Stereotype Formation but no Dissociation: Contradicting Statistics Reduce Explicit and Implicit Stereotypes Engendered by Disproportional Crime Reporting’, Social Psychological and Personality Science, 11, 3 (July 2019). This research was supported by the Boak Fund at Clare Hall.

Muhammad Jakraniya (MPhil 2000) is now a Professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Management, North South University, Bangladesh.


Congratulations to Joel Jones (GS 2005) and Monica Santa Maria on the birth of Vicente in August 2019.


Paschalis Kitromilides (VF 1989-90) has published Religion and Politics in the Orthodox World: The Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Challenges of Modernity (2019) and Insular Destinies: Perspectives on the History and Politics of Modern Cyprus (2020). He was recently awarded an Honorary Doctorate, Democritos University of Thrace; Award of Excellence in Social and Historical Sciences, Academy of Athens; and First Lifetime Achievement Award, European Society for the History of Political Thought.

James Krieger (PhD 2016) had a postdoc in Pittsburgh and was awarded equal Best Postdoc of the Year in the Department of Computational and Systems Biology. He is moving to Madrid to continue his research. Congratulations to James on his engagement.

Samer Kurdi (PhD student Materials Science) was invited and attended the 69th Lindau Nobel Laureate meeting (https://www.lindau-nobel.org/) in 2019, and has written two blogs for them: https://www.lindau-nobel.org/author/skurd/. Samer won the Cambridge Society for the Application of Research PhD student award and a Canadian Centennial Scholarship Fund scholarship. He works with the Majico.org team who won the Royal Society of Chemistry Emerging Technology Award for their work on sustainable water ecosystems.

Visa Kurki (PhD 2015) was awarded a three-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Academy of Finland, and published A Theory of Legal Personhood (Oxford University Press 2019).

Rose Lai (VF 2010) was appointed Dean of the Honours College of the University of Macau in 2019. She received the 2019 International Real Estate Society Achievement Award for outstanding accomplishment in real estate research, education and service.


Gerald Lazarus (RF/VF 1970-72) is currently Professor of Dermatology at Duke University. He was the Founding President of the Milstein Medical Asian American Partnership Foundation which supports exchanges between US and China medical faculty. He was Founder of the Johns Hopkins Wound Center and has published more than 300 articles and 8 books. He describes his two years at Cambridge as ‘the most wonderful and enlightening of my life’.

Jangyoun Lee (PhD student Economics) has presented papers at two international conferences, with a third paper accepted for the 2021 Royal Economic Society. His paper on the minimum wage won the Best Graduate Paper Award from the annual Korean Labour and Income Panel Study.


Ems Lord (RF) is President of the Mathematical Association (2019-20), the oldest subject association in the UK (est. 1871). She has been appointed a Founding Fellow in the Chartered College of Teaching and has joined the All-Party Parliamentary Committee for the Teaching Profession.

Marie-Franco Loutre (VF 1998) was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by the International Union for Quarterly Research.
Quiang Luo (VF 2019) has published several articles on mental health, and articles in collaboration with Barbara Sahakian (PF) and Trevor Robbins, and is co-author of ‘Symptom improvement in children with autism spectrum disorder following bumepranide administration is associated with decreased GABA/glutamate ratios’, Translational Psychiatry, 10, 9 (2020).

Timothy Lustig (PhD 1993) was promoted to a personal chair in the Literary Studies at the University of Keele where he is Dean of Education in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. He has edited Henry James’s The Sacred Fount for CUP’s Complete Fiction of Henry James (2019).

Jane Lydon (VF 2014) is currently a Visiting Professor at the University of Western Australia. She has published Imperial Emotions: The Politics of Empathy across the British Empire (2019).


Hugh Markus (PF) has been appointed as the new Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Stroke.

Joshua Matthews (MPhil 2017-18) works for HFS Research in Cambridge, and is a City Councillor for Newnham.

Joe McConnell (Shakleton VP) has published ‘Extreme Climate after Massive Eruption of Alaska’s Okmok Volcano in 43 BCE and Effects on the late Roman Republic and Prolemaic Kingdom’, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (July 2020).

Alan Millar (VF 1997) has published Knowing by Perceiving (2019).

Elizabeth Miller (VF 2017) has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship and a Guggenheim Fellowship, to support her book project, Extraction Ecologies and Literature of the Long Exhauision, 1830s-1930s.

Douglas Moggach (VF 2000) edited (with Gareth Steedman Jones), The 1848 Revolutions and European Political Thought (2018); (with Nadine Mooren and Michael Quanta), Der Perfektionismus der Autonomie (2019); (with Gabriele Schimmels), eds., Bruno Bauer: Sui Principi del Belo (2019).


Tony Morse (VF 1985) was awarded the Peacock Medal from the Mineralogical Association of Canada (2018).

Christoph Müller (VF 2016-17) has published Swiss Case Law in International Arbitration, 3rd revised edition (2019).

Tim Murray (VF 1995-96) was Director’s Scholar, Getty Research Institutes, Los Angeles in 2017. He has co-authored The Commonwealth Block, Melbourne: A Historical Archaeology (2019) and Exploring the Archaeology of Immigration and the Modern City in Nineteenth-Century Australia (2019).

William New (A 1971) was awarded an honorary DSc by the University of British Columbia in 2019.

Karl-Wilhelm Niebuhr (VF 1992-93) is currently Professor of New Testament Studies at Friedrich Schiller University, Jena. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski in 2018.

Ellen Nye (MPhil 2015) is currently a PhD candidate at Yale. In March she completed the Cambridge Half-marathon in 1:29:38.


Giovanni Pallotti (VF 2002) was appointed as a member of the Academy of Sciences of the Institutes of Bologna.

Mene Pangalos (OF) was awarded a Knights Bachelor for services to UK Science.


Gianfranco Pasquino (VF 2003) is now Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Bologna. He has published Italian Democracy: How It Works (2020).

Margaret Pearson (VF 1997-98) is still teaching the book she wrote at Clare Hall, The Original Chin in classes at the Academy for Lifelong Learning, SUNY. Margaret writes, ‘Clare Hall transformed my life, and I am so grateful.

Caterina Pello (PhD 2014) is Director of Studies in Philosophy at Downing and St John’s Colleges, Cambridge. She was a postdoc at the Humboldt University, Berlin and is a Bye-Fellow at Downing College. Congratulations to Caterina on her marriage to Pietro Benetti Genolini who studied at Fitzwilliam College.

Frank Perlin (VF 1986) published City Intelligible: A Philosophical and Historical Anthropology of Global Commodification before Industrialisation (2020).


Jenny Pruefe (MPhil 2007) was appointed as the new Head of Paediatric Psycho-oncology at Essen University Hospital.

Viviana Pupenza (PhD student Geography) was awarded the Royal Geographical Society’s Planning and Environment Research Group second prize for her MPhil dissertation, Government Railways in the 1900s: A Resource for Resistance (2019). The fieldwork was undertaken in Cape Town, supported by the Clare Hall Bursk Fund.


Keith Ray (PhD 1980-88) was appointed Honorary Professor of Archeology at Cardiff University in 2019. He co-authored Neolithic Britain: The Transformation of Social Worlds (2018).

Esther Rothblum (VF 1996) is currently Professor of Women’s Studies at San Diego State University. She is editor of the Journal of Lesbian Studies and has recently edited The Oxford Handbook of Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health.

Barbara Sahakian (VE) has been given the British Association for Psychopharmacology Lifetime Achievement Award.

Conuelo Sáazar (PhD student Sociology) gave papers at conferences in Malaysia, Mexico, Argentina and France (2019-20), and has published ‘Facing the Digital Reading Disruption: A Personal Account of Mexican Poetry Mobile Applications’, UnMediated (April 2019); and ‘Gandhi, la cartografia de la memoria’, Letraslibres.com (August 2020).

Marlene Schäfers (MPhil 2009-10) is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Ghent University, working on memory and Kurdish history. She has been awarded a British Academy Newton International Fellowship (2020-22) and selected for the Evans-Pritchard Lectureship at All Souls’ College, Oxford. She has published articles in Comparative Studies in Society and History (2019) and Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies (2018).


Tim Sharp (VF 2004-05) is currently Executive Director of the American Choral Directors Association. He has published the third book in his series chronicling the music history in Tennessee, Knoxville Music Before Bluegrass (2020).

A film by Alan Short (President), A Low Carbon Future for China’s Furnace Cities, won the Vegas Movie Awards Best Short Documentary Film 2020 and the tve 2019 Global Sustainability Film of the Year Award. See: https://gsf.sve.org/tve_2019_film_awards/.

Clifford Siskin (VF 2013) was a Visiting Fellow at the Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence and the Faculty of English, Cambridge (2019-20). He published SYSTEM: The Shape of Modern Knowledge (2013).

Ali Smith (HF) has published Summer (2020), the final volume of her Seasonal Quartet.

Congratulations to Peter Spiller (LLM 1984, VF 2002) on the birth of his grandson, Hudson. Peter is a District Court Judge and is currently Chair of the New Zealand Immigration and Protection Tribunal.

Matthew Spriggs (VF 1993) was awarded the Order of Yanhuato (Third Class) in July 2020 for his services to education and appreciation of the history and archaeology of Yanhuato.


Alan Strathern (RF 2002-08) is now Associate Professor of History, and Tutor and Fellow in History, Brasenose College, Oxford. He has published Unearthing Powers: Religious and Political Change in World History (2019).


Marcella Pellegrino Sutcliffe (Postdoc 2014-16) is a Visiting Fellow at UCL, Institute of Education, International Centre for Historical Research in Education. She also runs Residential Writing Retreats for academics in North Yorkshire. http://www.chapelgarth-estate.co.uk/conferences.


Trudi Tate (Assistant Senior-Tutor) has created a series of international online courses on Virgina Woolf and other literary topics for Literature Cambridge.

Ithamar Theodor (VF 2007-08) has published The Fifth Veda in Hinduism: Philosophy, Poetry and Devotion in the Bhagavata Purana (2016) and Dharma and Holacha: Comparative Studies in Hindu and Jewish Philosophy and Religion (2018) and has been appointed Chair of the Department of Mysticism and Spirituality, Bar-Ilan University.


Erio Tosatti (Royal Society and NATO Fellow 1972-73) is currently Professor Emeritus of SISSA Trieste, and Chairman of Scientific Programmes of ICTP Trieste. He was awarded the Enrico Fermi Prize of the Italian Physical Society (2018) and elected as a Foreign Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (2019). Erio writes: ‘Almost a year to or in Cambridge literally the best time of my life.’


Andromachi Tsoloni (VF 2006-07) won the Office for National Statistics Research Excellence Award for her work on burglary security devices.

Eva-Maria Thüne (Bologna 2017) has published Gerette, Berichte von Kinderversorgung und Auswanderung nach Großbritannien (Rescued Accounts of the Kindertransport and Migration to Great Britain) in 2019.

Linda Volgstra (VF 1989) is now Curators’ Professor of English Emerita at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Her research over several decades includes co-compiling a database of 10,000 records, Scientific and Medical Writings in Old and Middle English (eVCT), and organising Thormodk and Kibe’s Inscript of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin into 33,000 records of manuscript witnesses to Latin texts (eTK).

The Korean edition of Peter Wadham’s (EF) book, A Farewell to Ice, won the Excellent Academic Book prize from KPIPA (Publication Industry Promotion Agency of Korea). In 2020 Peter is a Visiting Professor at the Politecnico di Torino.

Mark Walters (VF 2004-05) was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Law, Queen’s University, Canada.

Jan Erik Weber (RF 1986) was appointed Professor of Oceanography, University of Oslo, in 1979 and was elected a Member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters in 1988. He is now Professor Emeritus at the Department of Geosciences, University of Oslo.

Reinhard Würzner (PhD 1993) is coordinator of a Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Joint Doctorate Programme, CORVOS, within Horizon 2020 in which 15 PhD students are funded at 10 European universities (www.corvos.eu). He also coordinates the HOROS programme (www.HOROS.at).

Yoshishita Yamada (VF 1994) is currently Vice-President and Special Appointed Professor at Osaka University of Tourism and Emeritus Professor at Wakayama University, and has published Knowledge Work and Leisure Activities (2018).

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Editor’s Note

It is a pleasure to return as Editor of the Review. Warm thanks to all who have helped, and to Cameron Graphics for their marvellous design.

Thanks to Tobias Baldauf, John Barrow, Ian Olsson, Jeremy Peters, and Fu Xiang Quah for photos.

Cover photos: Tobias Baldauf

Trudi Tate
Official Fellow
Editor
In Memoriam: Peter Dronke

Peter Dronke came to Cambridge in 1964, when he was appointed as a Lecturer in medieval Latin in the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages. He became one of the first Fellows of Clare Hall when it was founded in 1966. His wife Ursula, a distinguished Old Norse scholar who had left a Fellowship at Somerville College in Oxford to come to Cambridge with him, was elected a Research Fellow at the same time. Together they played an important part in realising the College’s original ambitions to become a centre for international contacts and inter-disciplinary exchange, and a friendly social base for graduate students and senior academics.

Peter was born in Germany in 1934, but he was brought up in New Zealand, where his parents had taken refuge from Nazism in 1939. He took a BA and MA at Wellington, and then came to the UK, to take a second BA at Merton College, Oxford. He thus became part of the group of astonishingly talented New Zealand medievalists who occupied dominant positions in the UK: Kenneth Sisam, Joe Trapp, Douglas Gray, J.A. W. Bennett. Peter’s abilities were demonstrated in his election to a Junior Research Fellowship at Merton College without taking a PhD; instead, with sublime confidence, he embarked immediately on the piece of work that was to make his name, a two-volume study of Medieval Latin and the Rise of European Love-Lyric (Clarendon Press, 1965–6).

Overturning C. S. Lewis’s rather quixotic claim that romantic love was ‘invented’ in twelfth-century Provence, Peter identified it as a fundamental human experience, observable in world literatures that were untouched by medieval Europe. Volume 2 followed this breathtaking tour of other civilisations with a detailed study of the background to twelfth-century love-lyric, and editions of some of its most original productions (some of which he had uncovered during a ‘gap year’ in Rome, studying manuscripts daily in the Vatican Library). This first work was followed by The Medieval Lyric, which likewise ranged freely through poems in eleven languages, and remains the classic work in the field.

Peter’s Cambridge lectures showed a similar range, dealing with French, Italian, and Middle English literature as well as Latin. He and Ursula started an informal discussion group, co-hosted with Derek Brewer, which became a focal point for graduate students and visiting scholars working on medieval literary topics in European languages as well as English and Latin. Clare Hall also benefited largely from his breadth of outlook and zest for social interaction. In 1971, for example, he and Ursula jointly organised a conference on myth at Clare Hall, to which they invited distinguished anthropologists (Edmund Leach, Audrey Richards, Jack Goody), and classicists (Reinhold Merkelbach) as well as literary scholars.

The consequent clash of mind-sets was revelatory to young graduate students like myself. The Dronke home at 6 Parker Street was a venue where one could meet leading European medievalists in an informal setting, relaxing over superb food and wine (Peter was an excellent cook and a connoisseur of wine). Many of these visiting Europeans became Visiting Fellows at Clare Hall: Paul Gerhard Schmidt, Giovanni Orlandi, Edouard Jeanneau, Dieter Mehl, come to mind. Visitors like these provided daily intellectual stimulus to local scholars and graduate students.

Peter’s priority was always his research, as is proved by the impressive stream of books that poured forth over the years, including Poetic Individuality, Fabula (on the use of myth in medieval Platonism), Women Writers of the Middle Ages, Dante and Medieval Latin Traditions, editions of Hildegard of Bingen and John Scotus Eriugena (to name but a few). He also devised and edited a History of Twelfth-Century Philosophy, the area where he was probably most at home; the title of the festschrift devoted to him in 2001, Poetry and Philosophy in the Middle Ages, captures the dominant motives of his work. His distinction was recognized nationally by a Fellowship of the British Academy, and in Cambridge by Readership and then a personal chair; but when he retired he was not replaced and the medieval Latin post was transferred to another subject. A tragedy for those who recognise the centrality of Latin to any study of the Middle Ages.

Jill Mann
Research Fellow 1968-71

Ernst Peter Michael Dronke, scholar of medieval Latin literature, born 30 May 1934; died 19 April 2020.
In Memoriam:
Sæbjørg Walaker Nordeide

Visiting Fellow Sæbjørg Walaker Nordeide died on 6 March 2020 in Bergen, Norway. Sæbjørg was Professor of Archaeology at the University of Bergen and at Clare Hall she was working on novel landscape perspectives upon the Christianisation of Norway.

A graduate of the University of Oslo, Sæbjørg was especially well known for her excavation of the Bishop’s Palace in Nidaros/Trondheim and her writings on the Viking Age, urbanisation and Christianisation. Her expertise and achievements were very broad with interdisciplinarity to the fore; her collaborators included historians, botanists, zoologists, geographers, architects, theologians, geophysicists and metallurgists. Her studies of the process of Christianisation were based in two prestigious national Centres of Excellence in Bergen, which also led to her participation in international EU research projects directed partly from Cambridge.

She was involved in the production of more than 30 authored and edited books, and around 150 articles and archived reports. Admired as an excellent administrator, lecturer and supervisor, Sæbjørg was elected to Membership of the Academia Europaea in 2018.

Feeling an obligation to communicate her research findings to a wider public, she contributed to 15 TV and 60 radio programmes and over 40 newspaper articles. She greatly enjoyed playing accordion for the Norwegian folk music group, Litt tå kvart, and was delighted at managing to regularly complete the Stoltzekleiven – the arduous 800 step uphill track which constitutes ‘the world’s steepest race’.

Sæbjørg’s arrival at Clare Hall in September 2019 had been delayed in order that she could undergo chemotherapy. The disease that finally claimed her also ended prematurely her six-month stay in Cambridge. She loved Cambridge and was immensely appreciative of Clare Hall and what it stood for in terms of friendship and scholarship. She was a generous and caring person who was considerate towards colleagues and students alike. Sadly, restrictions imposed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic prevented many of her family and friends from attending her funeral. She is survived by her sons Kjartan and Øystein Nordeide Kielland and her husband Bjørn Åge Tømmerås.

Kevin Edwards
Please ensure we have your correct contact details to inform you of forthcoming events. You can update your details with us online - [www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/update-your-details](http://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/update-your-details) or contact the Development Office on [development@clarehall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@clarehall.cam.ac.uk) / +44 (01223) 332368

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