

# Review





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Editor's note



Trudi Tate  
Emeritus Fellow, Editor

As always it is a pleasure to edit the annual Clare Hall Review. Warm thanks to Francé Davies, Sarah Garrison, and Andrea Schlitt in College and to Jo at Cameron Design.

Photo credits: Katie Clarke, Giorgio Divitini (rowing), Ian Olsson, Jeremy Peters, Seb Peters, Andrea Schlitt, Katherine Selby, Peter Searle, Trudi Tate, Jinxi Xu.



# President's Letter



Our much-valued Accommodation Officer Emma and I have just shown off the College's important listed

Ralph Erskine buildings to this year's Masters in Building History students, ardent enthusiasts for gems of post-war architecture.

We admired the unique stepped Common Room, the College goldfish in Erskine's elegant courtyard, a duplex flat and the President's Lodge with its gravity-defying spiral stair and cantilevering bedrooms. By extreme good fortune, an eminent architectural historian, Life Member Richard Hayes, is the current incumbent of flat number 16, a wonderful soaring space. He took surprisingly well to the influx of sixteen excited students and tutors.

The College has just received the first draft of its Conservation Management Plan, authored by one of the leading conservation architects in Britain, Fiona Lamb. This is something I've hoped to see for two





Eugene Wong in Clare Hall

Lori Passmore

decades. The Plan assesses the significance of every part of the Erskine buildings, at every scale, from the original doorhandles, the Baroque rainwater chutes, the sadly unfinished landscape to the all-enveloping aluminium roof and the parti, the ingenious composition on an artificial hillside, all fuel for a detailed negotiation with Historic England to agree the College's conservation and refurbishment strategy.

Over the summer, Helen Pennant finished her stint as College Vice-President. Our warm thanks to her for her wonderful contributions to College life. And we are delighted to welcome Professor Andrew Blake as our new Vice-President.

Slaine and I hugely enjoy hosting receptions in Erskine's Lodge for new Fellows and it was a very particular pleasure to welcome

our most recent Official Fellow, elected under Title A, Dr Shelly Singh-Gryzbom, who won the new Assistant Professor post in the renowned Department of Chemical Engineering. Shelly joins us from the University of the West Indies and Imperial College. Her work is in the fluid mechanics of heart valves. We are delighted to welcome her husband Dominik who has joined our formidable music committee. The Fellowship was delighted to elect Life Member Professor Eugene Wong into a Foundation Fellowship. Eugene has had a distinguished and varied career at the University of California, Berkeley and as Associate Director of Science and Technology Policy in the first Bush White House (1989-93). The Governing Body elected five new Research Fellows under Title C: Dr Andreas Mörkved Hellenes who joins us from Oslo and Sciences Po Paris, working in History and

Political Theory; Dr Nikolai Kazantsev in the Institute for Manufacture from Münster, Moscow, and Manchester; Dr Alexander Anderson from the University of Melbourne in Medical Sciences; Dr Chiara Azzi, from Parma, Bologna and Basel, in the Biological Sciences; and Dr Birgit Rogalla, from the University of British Columbia, in Earth Sciences.

Clare Hall's 2023 concluded spectacularly with a gift of £500,000 invested in the Endowment. Donations to the Endowment are extremely welcome. The College has a total Endowment of about £34 million but the University believes that the safety level is £60 million. Our new Bursar and Head of Finance have cleared the persistent deficit in their first year of painstaking work but all of the dividend is consumed by necessary College expenses.

The Fellowship continues its unbroken record of high distinction. Dr Lori Passmore was elected as a very young Fellow of the Royal Society and, in the same week, our Official Fellow in Materials Science, Dr Sohini Kar-Narayan, was promoted to full Professor and awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry's Peter Day Prize for 2023, its key award. The Society's commentary mentions that 60 previous winners have gone on to win the Nobel Prize. As I write this the world's press is celebrating Professor Manohar Bance's heart-warming achievement in leading the team which has enabled a girl born deaf to hear unaided. This is extraordinarily significant. The BBC reports that the therapy Manohar devised replaces faulty DNA causing the girl's type of inherited deafness.

In January Professor Barbara Sahakian and Professor Maria Grazia Spillantini were named as two of the top female scientists in the world out of 166,000 profiles. The standing of the College in the University was especially high last June as the Chancellor of the University conferred an Honorary LittD to Clare Hall's Professorial Fellow and former Vice Chancellor Stephen Toope and our supremely loyal Life Member, Lida Lopes Cardozo Kindersley, proprietor of one of the most famous stone cutting studios in the world. Most unusually, for a second year running, another College Life Member, the clinical psychologist Professor Stephen Stahl, was inducted as an Honorand in June, as Doctor of Medicine, offering unparalleled opportunities to repeat the process, ending up for tea in the cloister below the Wren Library.

The close interest of the Austrian mission in the College and its ennoblement of various Life Members has been reciprocated



Stephen Stahl

by electing the former Ambassador Dr Zimmerman to an Honorary Fellowship. He was delighted. His successor Bernhard Wrabetz made a visit to Clare Hall a priority in his first few months. Slaine and I attended the annual Tanner Lectures Board

meeting at Yale with the Vice Chancellor and Laurel Freeling where we met with the new Oxford Vice Chancellor Irene Tracey. The Board, comprising the Ivy League Presidents, was anxiously awaiting the Supreme Court decision on affirmative action which went





Alan and Slaine with Vice Chancellor

Daniel Weiss, Ashby Lecture

Jennifer Doudna, King Lecture

Amitav Ghosh, Tanner Lecture

against them. Later in the summer I was honoured to attend the inauguration of our new Vice Chancellor Debbie Prentice, formerly Provost of Princeton.

The College's programme of internationally significant lectures commenced with a fantastic talk by Nobel Laureate Jennifer Doudna, organised by Lori Passmore. The novelist and environmental commentator Amitav Ghosh gave a wonderful Tanner Lecture on *Human Values, Catastrophist and Gradualist Imaginings of the Planetary Future*. Four weeks later the Tanner Founder's Lecture, the Ashby Lecture, was delivered by the distinguished mediaeval historian Professor Daniel Weiss, the immediate past-President of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, grilled on the challenges of the job by Robert Anderson, former director of the British Museum. All three talks are discussed later in this Review. The College has very much enjoyed Professor David Caddadu's magnificent Classics of Historiography Seminars now well into their second year whilst visiting academics and home team

members have the opportunity to tell us about their research in the Tuesday evening Colloquium series orchestrated by Professor Kevin Edwards. Thursday lunchtime talks have been revived by Professor Christiane Esche-Ramshorn for which the College is most grateful.

The Visiting Fellowship scheme is extraordinarily successful and heavily competed for. The College encourages lone scholar applications but also values its long-term agreements with a small number of prestigious universities and institutions worldwide. Collaboration with the Finnish Osk Huttenen Foundation has been re-energised by the signing of a new agreement, reserving two Fellowships a year awarded in stiff competition across Finnish universities with an ingenious additional wrinkle to enable two former Fellows to return after three years for three months to renew and reinforce connections and friendships. More recently Visiting Fellow Professor Hannele Seeke has introduced the College to the President and Vice-President of Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology (LUT) in Finland

which will launch an annual internal competition for candidates for Visiting Fellowships and, very excitingly, develop a proposal for a prestigious and valuable new international prize to commence in 2026, the LUT University-Clare Hall Cambridge Prize for Scientific Solutions to Existential Climate Change Threats. A similar agreement for Visiting Fellowships has also been struck with the University of Oulu, the University of the Arctic. Of course the College Fellowship Committee and Governing Body are always the final arbiters.

Clare Hall's long-standing collaboration with the Basque government flourishes with new agreements for Visiting Fellows, returning Life Members and accompanying doctoral candidates. The Vice-President and I visited the Basque Country in September with Professor Emilio Artachio, progenitor of this highly productive scheme, to sign the agreement with the Minister of Education Jokin Bildarratz, the Vice-Minister for Universities and Research Adolfo Morais and the Director of Research Amaia Esquisabel. Vice-Minister Morais and Vice-Minister Begoña Pedrosa,

Deputy Minister of Education, made a very rapid visit to Clare Hall to discuss STEM education with Dr Ems Lord and Dr Yi Feng at the end of November – Bilbao to Cambridge and back in one day – and to discuss further research collaborations with Education Department academics invited by Clare Hall. Very productive meetings have also been held with the University of Tokyo (RCAST), the President of Fudan University Professor Jin Li with our Associate members Professors Feng Jiafeng, Wang Shouyan, close collaborators in neuroscience and psychology, and productive expeditions to the Chinese University of Hong Kong, to Macau and Shenzhen, brilliantly orchestrated by Life Member Lady Patricia Mirlees and the RIBA-China office. I gave lectures in each university and enjoyed a conference in my name in Shenzhen. Very gratifyingly the posters grew significantly in size as we progressed from one university to another. The Director of Alumni and Donor Relations, Francé Davies, and I hosted a very well attended party for alumni in the American Club in Hong Kong, a terrific networking event and we plan to repeat this event in Shanghai soon. We enjoyed a visit from forty-two of China's most distinguished architects to coincide with an exhibition of their work at the RIBA. The Director of Alumni and Donor Relations and I were royally entertained in Beijing with the Vice-President and chair of the Council of Tsinghua University and the Humanities department at Peking University, the top two universities in China.

The Art Committee continues to prosper and make its mark in Clare Hall as reported later in the Review. Fiona Blake and Dr Ann Kennedy Smith have both been very deservedly elected to Fellow Commonerships. Very sadly Helaine



Visit to Tsinghua University



New Year's Eve 2023-24 party in the President's Lodge





Watercolours of The College at Dusk by Rachael Grimm

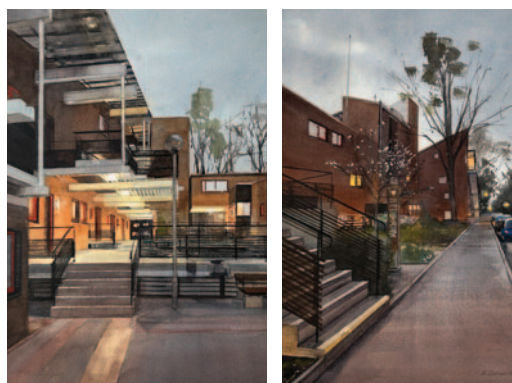
Blumenfeld has decided it is time to step down. We do send our most sincere commiserations over the passing of her partner Yorick, well known to the College.

We were finally able to christen Shelley Robzen's beautiful and technically breathtaking carrera marble sculpture at a very jolly tea party on 28 September. A second very substantial consignment of Bell collection ceramics arrived at Christmas bringing the number of pieces to some 360. The original President's Office has been restored to its full extent and lined in glass fronted cabinets so that the whole collection is visible; more are coming in November. The Collection is firmly on the map and we have many well informed visitors who can settle down with the inventory, as we race to stick identifying numbers one by one onto perspex cubes. The very grand Bell Collection Management Board met in the Lent Term to review progress and hear about the impending book of the Collection to be published by Lund Humphries, the fine art publisher owned by Nigel Farrow, fast becoming a good friend of the College. Very unexpectedly Fellow Commoner Eric Nye commissioned three really beautiful watercolour views of

the College at dusk from the New York artist Rachael Grimm and presented them to Clare Hall at a delightful evening in which Rachael unveiled her work.

Clare Hall is an epicentre for music in Cambridge with fourteen concerts advertised for this year including Charlie Draper's extraordinary and completely packed concert for the Ondes Martenot and Theremin. Many thanks again to Patrick Hemmerlé, Robert Anderson who enjoyed a riotous 80th birthday party in College for 80 guests and to Eric Nye who has brought many new connections and resources to Clare Hall music.

Clare Hall is famous across the University for its food. Students from other colleges are increasingly Machiavellian in their efforts to gain entry to our Formal Halls. We are deeply grateful to our Wilson-Vale team most particularly to the supremely resilient Sabrina Gyles and our head chef Clive Rogers. We had a superb Whitsun Feast and Sabrina and the team have delivered many more events, the quintessentially English Garden Party in the marquee, Induction lunches, Matriculation Feasts, The Tanner Ashby and King Lecture



feasts, the Christmas, Foundation and Whitsun feasts, the Wednesday dinners, the Student Formals, the terrific Student Fellow Dinners so ably staged by Yi Feng in Gillian Beer House, any number of lunches and dinners in the President's Lodge, the annual dinner for our Oxford comrades at St Cross, receptions for new Visiting Fellows, Research Fellows and Life Members.

We enjoyed our competing carol concerts, the first at St Mary Le Bow in the City led by the Rector; and very shortly thereafter the concert in College organised by Robert Anderson and Patrick Hemmerlé. As many people as could be squeezed into the Richard Eden room hugely enjoyed the College's alumni weekend talks on AI staged by Professor Andrew Blake with former graduate student Dr Srijit Seal dialling in from Harvard, Petar Velickovic of Deep Mind and Alicia Curth. On 20 July I presented the degrees to our graduands in the Senate House. The other thirty Masters and Presidents have elected me Chair of the Colleges' Committee for 2026-28, a rare honour, serving first as Deputy Chair for two years to the Master of St John's. I will



Formal Halls



Clive Rogers and members of the Wilson-Vale team

sit on the University Council if elected unopposed later this term as a Head of House and sit on and chair various of the key University and collegiate committees, daunting indeed (I was elected), but Clare Hall will be at the very epicentre of the University and many of the meetings and negotiations will happen here in the College. Next year I will be able to report on preparations for the College's 60th Anniversary in 2026. We very much look forward to this.

**Alan Short**  
President



Graduation



# Bursar's Report

After nearly two years as Bursar of our remarkable College it is only now I feel I am getting my feet under the desk. However, I am pleased to report that the College is doing well. In particular the College's financial position is stable after the challenges of the pandemic, with a small operating surplus this year.

Meanwhile the estate is looking as good as it has been for many years, with a number of spaces in the Erskine Buildings having been renovated over the last year, and our students continue to benefit from unique levels of interaction with Fellows and distinguished academics, facilitated by a stream of prestigious events, seminars and lectures.

To further improve the College, we have recently commissioned a 'conservation management plan' from a leading firm of conservation architects, which will guide us in the next stages of restoring the internationally important Grade 2\* listed



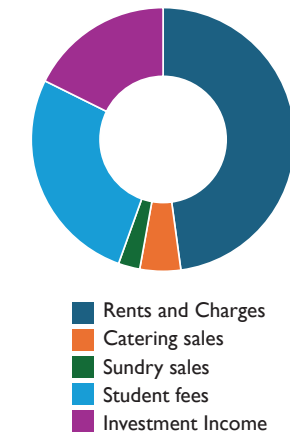
Erskine buildings to their original glory. I would like to pass on my thanks to all who have enabled this through their donations to the Ralph Erskine Buildings Restoration Fund. Donations towards this Fund remain very welcome and will be gratefully received. In reviewing the draft plan I am struck in particular by the crisp, clean lines shown in the early photographs contained within the document, from the stairs at the entrance to Clare Hall that exude the optimism of the 1960s to the simplicity and welcome of the Common Room and associated spaces. To help finalise this plan we would be particularly grateful for any photos of the College that our Life Members may have, particularly from the early years; these photos will also be of enormous value to our archives. Please send your photos to [lifemembers@clarehall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:lifemembers@clarehall.cam.ac.uk). Our intention is to reinstate many of the College's original features, together with developing the strategy for repairing the now nearly 60-year-old roof, and we plan to launch an appeal to all those who have enjoyed these remarkable spaces over the years.

## Financial Update

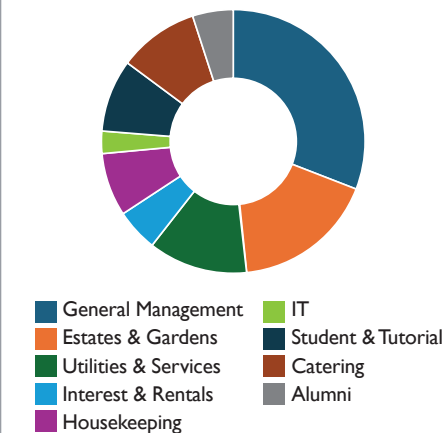
The annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 are available on the College website at: [www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/official](http://www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/official). The information in this Report is based on draft, unaudited information for the year ended 30 June 2024; the final Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2024 will be available in November 2024.

Unrestricted income has continued to grow this year, partly the result of close management of the occupancy of our

## INCOME 2023 – 24



## EXPENDITURE 2023 – 24



rooms and flats, but also reflecting the record number of students we welcomed to Clare Hall over the year. In addition, we were also able to host our first sizeable summer school since 2019, something we have continued this summer.

Unrestricted expenditure has also increased compared with last year, but only marginally so. This is despite electricity and

fuel costs nearly doubling, and continuing inflation in many areas. However, tight cost management across all departments has meant these increases have been largely absorbed.

The net position is a small cash operating surplus for 2023-24, the first for a number of years. One sign of the improving fortunes of the College has been that the loan taken on over six years ago to fund the purchase of the Keynes' bungalow at 4 Herschel Road has been finally repaid. In addition, an extremely generous donation has separately been made to the College's Endowment, which has replenished a large part of the £1 million that had to be withdrawn to allow the College to manage through the difficult pandemic period.

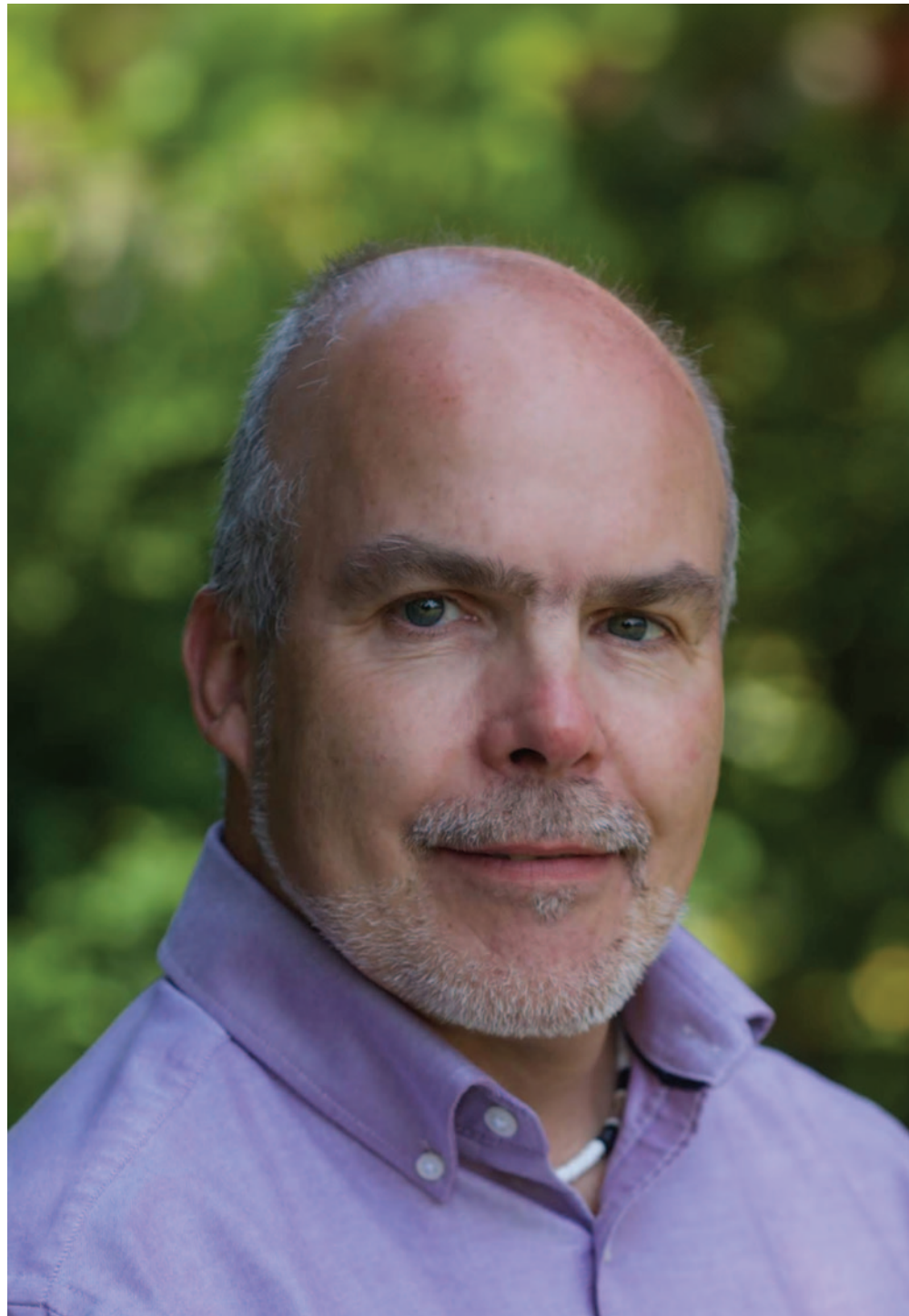
However, whilst the financial position of the College is now stable, this has only been because we continue to spend the investment income from our still modest Endowment to offset the net costs of running the College. Many other colleges in the University can rely on significantly and proportionately greater Endowments, which allow them to provide, for example, their students with still greater opportunities and to be able to maintain, restore and develop their buildings to an extent we have only been able to dream of. We rely on the continuing generosity of our Life Members and donors to do this year on year, but equally we are seeking to secure the future of Clare Hall into perpetuity through expanding our Endowment to the levels of the older colleges, which have benefitted from hundreds of years of such generosity.

**Per Reiff-Musgrove**  
Bursar



## Reflections of the Domestic Bursar

My first exposure to Clare Hall came in May 2018, when I was appointed as Interim Domestic Bursar – a position I held until March 2019. Prior to that, I had spent nearly 8 years as Domestic Bursar at Hughes Hall before taking a brief period of time away from work to support my wife (who quickly decided that she could do without my support, and urged me back).



My initial impression of Clare Hall is the one that remains with me; what a vibrant, yet incredibly friendly, community to be a part of. I am pleased to note, since my return in July 2023, that this has not changed. It is a truly special place.

My teams are responsible for the operational aspects of the College, and in supporting the entire Clare Hall community so it is able to give of its best. I am incredibly fortunate (as is Clare Hall generally) that these teams are so dedicated to the College. Much of the work they undertake is behind the scenes and goes largely undetected, but it is no less important for all that. All members of, and visitors to, the College reap the benefits of the work these teams do – from the warmth of the initial greeting at the Porters' Lodge, through the lushness of the gardens, cleanliness and upkeep of the buildings, flexibility and helpfulness of our Accommodation and Events people, to the quality of our catering. The individual Heads of Department are all outstanding, with a real can-do attitude – and absolutely lead from the front. Importantly, they are all diligent in ensuring that we get value for money with any expenditure they make.

In September 2024, we were sorry to say goodbye to George Cousins, our wonderful Head Porter, on his retirement. Our warm thanks to him for all he has done for the College. George is succeeded by the equally wonderful Donna Lavender (currently Deputy Head Porter). Donna will be supported by two outstanding Senior Porters, Louise Steels and Racheal Pinner.

In the summer of 2023, we welcomed back the China UK Development Centre, who ran a Summer School at Clare Hall. This was the first time we had accommodated a large-scale external event since Covid interrupted, and it required some re-learning of how to run such events. We also hosted the Literature Cambridge's annual summer course on Virginia Woolf, directed by Emeritus Fellow Dr Trudi Tate. Both summer schools were hugely successful and returned in summer 2024. We look forward to seeing them again in 2025.

The Air Source Heat Pump has now been installed at the Swimming Pool, and is fully operational. Other similar projects being planned (helping us towards our target of decarbonisation) are solar panels on Gillian Beer House, roof insulation to some of our older buildings, and draught-proofing to a number of windows throughout the estate. We have also engaged Avanti Architects to produce a 'Conservation Management Plan' for the College (concentrating on the Main Site buildings). Avanti has extensive expertise as

Conservation Architects – and experience of Sixties architecture (including Ralph Erskine) – and will guide us through the implementation of this Plan (noting the 2\* listed status of the buildings). The leaking roof will be a focus – funds permitting!

The building development adjacent to West Court is well on the way to completion and, thankfully, much of the disruption has eased. Clare Hall will be taking 4 of the properties – each containing 7 en-suite bedrooms – with effect from mid-September 2024. This will increase the amount of accommodation we are able to offer to our students – and will give us more options for Summer Schools.

One of the great pleasures of working at Clare Hall is in advising/guiding/supporting the students. The GSB Committee this year has been exceptional, and they have had a very full social calendar. The Spring Event in June was one of the best-attended in the Colleges history and was a fantastic night. Whilst I occasionally have to say no to some requests, I would much rather seek a way to facilitate them – and my teams are experts in finding solutions.

My greatest pleasure, however, is in the mix of people that makes up the Clare Hall community. I love the buzz I hear when I walk through the Common Room (or around the gardens when the weather allows), and in the Dining Hall at meal-times. Varied groups of highly intelligent and motivated people in conversation (some earnest, some more light-hearted) – discussing a range of topics through the lenses of different cultures and academic disciplines. This makes getting out of bed in the morning, and coming to work (if, indeed, it can even be called that), very easy indeed!

**David James**  
Domestic Bursar





## From the Vice-President

My four-year term as Vice-President of Clare Hall will shortly come to an end. Whilst the role carries some serious responsibilities, being Vice-President of the College has been a source of enjoyment as well as a pride and inspiration for me.

There's no job description as such and the College Statutes do not say much about what is expected: 'the duties of the Vice-President shall be such as are assigned to him by governing body from time to time and shall include acting as the President's deputy'.

The role is very flexible and since our President Professor Alan Short is very hard working I have not been called on often to 'act as the President's deputy'. I have enjoyed attending University sermons, honorary degree ceremonies and graduation dinners when Alan has been elsewhere on College business. It was a particular honour to introduce our King Lecture with Dr Lori

Passmore when our distinguished speaker Professor Jennifer Doudna presented her pioneering work on gene editing.

Serving as the Vice-President alongside my full-time role as Director of the Cambridge Trust has required good organisation, and I am indebted to my PA at the Trust, Helen Kirkby, and College Registrars, Tam Marshall-Watts and Louise Sheridan, for making sure I was where I needed to be when I needed to be there.

Combining the two roles enabled me to make connections. Things that I learned in one role helped to inform the other. For example, being present every day in College helped me understand the implications of policies made in the various University committees I sit on as Director of the Trust for students. I was also able to feed a College perspective into discussions about student funding within the Trust and the University. I have enjoyed being able to provide information to Clare Hall students on how to apply for funding and taking part in information and discussion sessions organised by our Senior Tutor, Dr Holly Hedgeland, to help students transition from Maters to PhD degrees.

Over the four years, I've had very many great experiences. I have particularly enjoyed attending graduations. They are such joyful occasions and I have always welcomed the opportunity to meet students' families. I also enjoyed connecting with Life Members and the Clare Hall Spanish Society's meeting in San Sebastian will always stand out for me as a fond memory. Thanks to Emilio and Luisa Artacho for keeping this group going. They meet regularly for a seminar of academic exchange, followed by a social and cultural outing.

There have also been challenges, particularly during the pandemic when it seemed that all the most meaningful aspects of College life were put on hold. I was immensely proud of the College for never closing, and grateful to the staff who kept it running by bravely fulfilling their face-to-face roles in the face of uncertainty.

I will never forget my time as Vice-President of Clare Hall. It's been a fantastic opportunity to get involved in College life and to shape the future of our wonderful institution.

### Helen Pennant

*Editor's Note: Our sincere thanks to Helen for her terrific work as Vice-President of Clare Hall. She is the first woman to fill this post.*







## Tutorial Team

**Dr Holly Hedgeland**, Senior Tutor  
**Professor Andrew Blake**, Tutor  
**Dr Jehangir Cama**, Tutor (Finance)  
**Dr Kelly Fagan Robinson**, Tutor  
**Professor Ian Farnan**, Tutor  
**Dr Wai Yi Feng**, Tutor  
**Dr Anthony Harris**, Tutor  
**Dr Su Li**, Tutor  
**Dr Ems Lord**, Tutor  
**Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes**, Tutor  
**Dr Jun Sung Park**, Tutor  
**Dr Lori Passmore**, Tutor  
**Katie Clarke**, Tutorial Administrator  
**Anne Considine**, College Nurse and Wellbeing Advisor

# From the Tutorial Office

Michaelmas Term saw Clare Hall welcome its largest ever student cohort with the addition of 144 new full-time postgraduate students and 4 studying part-time programmes, bringing total student numbers to over 300.

We were delighted to welcome the new arrivals, with the dining hall and common room both filled for the induction lunch on the first weekend of October.

High student numbers have added extra momentum to student-led events, with a large Graduate Student Body committee, ably led by Andrew McDonald, organising a packed Welcome Week and sustaining a lively calendar of student-led social and academic events throughout the year. Clare Hall Boat Club also benefitted from the large intake, which enabled the club exceptionally to put on two women's crews for this year's Bumps.

In the Tutorial team, we welcomed Dr Su Li, Dr Ems Lord and Dr Jun Sung Park as new pastoral Tutors, with Dr Jehangir Cama returning to the team as Finance Tutor. Anne Considine, our College Nurse, also extended her remit to include the new role

of Student Wellbeing Advisor. In the context of supporting our students' wellbeing, we were pleased to receive an award from the University's new Wellbeing Stimulus Fund, which will resource activities within the themes of active wellbeing and inclusive community events across Clare Hall over the coming three years.

Wider student support has been granted from the college's Financial Assistance Fund, which has seen high demand this year from those delayed in their research by the pandemic and affected by more recent international events, as well as from smaller funds for rent relief and assistance towards the writing-up period for doctoral students. On a brighter note, to date, a dozen awards have been made from the Boak Student Support Fund towards the costs of research-related travel and we look forward to supporting more students who are presenting papers at conferences as the busy summer season approaches.

We also remain grateful to our donors and benefactors for their kind support of our studentships, bursaries and awards. In collaboration with the Cambridge Trust, we offered eleven Masters studentships, including four through the Opportunities widening participation scheme. An additional seven students were offered bursaries and we continued to fund three PhD students, including our two Ivan D Jankovic PhD Studentship awardees. We very much enjoyed celebrating the success of all our studentship, bursary and award holders at the annual Awards Event in June.

We are delighted to have awarded the 2023 Salje Medals to Dr Emily Goodacre and Dr Sarah Gough for their outstanding doctoral theses. The 2023-24 academic year has seen over 50 Clare Hall students graduate so far, ably presented for their degrees by our Praelector, Dr Lucia Tantardini. We look forward to the busy May and July congregations and are pleased

to see those in the PhD cohorts most affected by the pandemic successfully completing their degrees and progressing to exciting opportunities across a range of industries and professions.

For the current Masters cohort, as I write at the beginning of the Easter Term, exams and dissertations remain ahead. We express our thanks in advance to Professor Stuart Dalziel and Dr Catherine MacKenzie as our Directors of Studies in Mathematics and Law, for helping steer those students taking classed examinations through the coming two months. Beyond the quiet period associated with this year's assessments, we keenly anticipate the end of term celebration of Clare Hall's May Week Event which has grown significantly from last year's Spring Event, thanks to the conscientious enthusiasm of the student organising committee, working in close collaboration with David James, our Domestic Bursar. In the same week, we will

also see Clare Hall Boat Club in action again the May Bumps, followed shortly by the other highlight of the college's sporting calendar: the Students XI vs President's XI cricket match.

I send my sincere thanks to the Tutorial team and to all the Clare Hall staff and members who have contributed to the rich tapestry of activities across the community over the course of the year. After the period of revival following the pandemic, it is a delight to be once again part of a thriving and integrated community of postgraduates, staff and scholars. It is a great tribute to the many Clare Hall members who have engaged so generously to sustain the college's ethos.

**Holly Hedgeland**  
 Senior Tutor





## From the **Director of Alumni and Donor Relations**

As I reflect on my first year as Director of Alumni and Donor Relations at Clare Hall, I am filled with immense gratitude for the unwavering support of our vibrant community. Your generosity and dedication have been instrumental in propelling Clare Hall toward greater heights, and I am honoured to share the tremendous impact your contributions have made over the past year.

Firstly, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to each member of the Clare Hall family – Life Members, the Fellowship, staff, students, and friends – whose commitment to our institution has been nothing short of inspiring. Your donations have not only sustained our essential functions but have also enabled us to support new ventures that will shape the future of our College.

The past year has seen significant advancements made possible by your philanthropy. Among the most notable achievements is the enhancement of our Endowment. Half of the funds that were drawn from the Endowment to provide emergency support during the pandemic

have been recovered by a significant benefaction from a member of our community. Although further support is required to continue strengthening our Endowment to its pre-pandemic level and beyond, we are delighted with the progress we are making towards this goal with your continued support. Donations towards the Endowment sustain all our operations and are used where most needed by the College. It also allows us to make essential improvements that help us, not only to provide a world-class education to our students, but to maintain our competitive edge as a College for advanced study in Cambridge.

We were very touched by the number of gifts we received towards our General Support Fund, which allows the College maximum flexibility in their use and the ability to support areas of greatest need. The College is also pleased to have received numerous donations towards Student Support, along with bursaries and studentships, which have opened up new opportunities for our students.

I am delighted to report that our community's commitment to diversity and inclusivity has been strengthened by your donations. Initiatives aimed at promoting diversity and inclusivity have gained momentum, ensuring that Clare Hall remains a place where all individuals can flourish and contribute meaningfully to society.

Furthermore, the Boat Club has seen significant growth in the number of students joining the sport at Clare Hall. We are very grateful for all the gifts we have received towards the College's Boat Club Fund, which will help provide the necessary equipment for this sport to flourish. Music at Clare Hall is also thriving

and remains a vital part of the College community. Your kind support of our Music Fund is enabling us to continue delivering a high-calibre programme and further enhance our provision.

Looking forward, the continued generosity of our supporters will be critical in achieving our long-term aspirations. The Ralph Erskine Building Restoration project and further enhancements to our infrastructure will rely on the ongoing engagement and investment of our community. Each contribution, no matter the size, is a step towards realising our collective vision for Clare Hall – a vision of academic excellence and a nurturing, comfortable and inclusive environment.

I extend my deepest gratitude once again to all who have supported Clare Hall over the past year. Your generosity has laid a strong foundation for our future endeavours. I am confident that with your continued support, we can advance and strengthen the College in all its pursuits, ensuring that Clare Hall remains a leader in higher education for generations to come. Thank you for your steadfast support and your belief in our mission.

### **Francé Davies**

Director of Alumni and Donor Relations  
at Clare Hall



*Should you wish to support Clare Hall with a gift, please scan the displayed QR code for our online donation form*





# SALJE MEDALS

Two medals are awarded by the College each year to the most outstanding PhDs: one in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and the other in the Sciences. The Salje Medals are kindly provided by former Clare Hall President, Professor Ekhard Salje.



## Emily Goodacre

Salje Medal for the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

After Clare Hall being a significant part of my life for several years, I feel honoured to receive one of this year's Salje Medals. My PhD in Education examined shared experiences in children's social play. Through three studies, I explored social processes and communication across play partners and playful activities.

These studies showed how analysing social processes and factors beyond the individual children, such as relationships and the characteristics of an activity, can help us understand shared experiences and communication. My findings emphasise how social play should be researched beyond previous attention to children's individual characteristics.

Since finishing my PhD I have started working as a researcher at a children's mental health charity, and I have also become a mum. These roles involve evaluating interventions that aim to support young people's mental health, as well as lots of playing, drawing, and sharing books at home.



## Sarah Gough

Salje Medal for the Sciences

My PhD in Cancer Immunology investigated the early stages of liver cancer. I explored how the immune system responds to senescence: a cell programme that transiently serves to flag and clear faulty cells. I demonstrated that Ror $\gamma$ t, a key regulator of one CD4 $^{+}$  subtype, Th17 cells, is more abundant within the senescent liver. This suggested

that Th17 cells are integral to clearance of pre-cancerous senescent liver cells. Future studies aim to uncover the DNA code which generates the protein presented on the outside of Th17 cells which ultimately permits immune recognition of senescent cells.

Harnessing this senescent biology would allow us to inversely crack the code of the senescence-specific protein, termed antigen, and begin engineering a preventative vaccine. Towards the end of my research, experiments started to suggest that senescent liver cells were also uniquely capable of internalising a CD4 $^{+}$  subtype. We are still unsure of the exact functionality of this observation. I am so honoured to receive a Salje Medal and I am excited to continue working in oncology during my post-doctorate at AstraZeneca.

Since finishing the PhD last year, I started a post-doctoral fellowship in the Oncology Bioscience department at AstraZeneca in collaboration with Professor Frank McCormick's laboratory at the University of California San Francisco. For the next three years, I will continue to investigate the oncogene RAS: a gene mutated in 30% of solid tumours. The protein, that sits just below the plasma membrane, is notoriously undruggable due to its smooth structure and few binding pockets for drug intervention. This poses a major challenge to academia, industry and ultimately healthcare. I'm excited to be at the intersection of all three to work on this protein and explore novel ways to intervene.

In parallel, I secured an investment to start a company Brocail; a food truck serving healthy, seasonal and sustainable meals. It has been so rewarding to see this idea come to life.

My chapter at Clare Hall has taught me a lot personally and professionally. It has been an invaluable experience and I'm so honoured to receive a Salje medal for the sciences.



## Life Members in Residence

The robust Visiting Fellow initiative at Clare Hall helps produce a resource unique among Cambridge colleges: a host of Life Members worldwide who retain their affection for the place where they once worked and studied.

Many colleges elsewhere have difficulty staying in touch with their alumni, but Clare Hall welcomes us under its wing for the rest of our lives. And many of us reciprocate that affection with loyalty of our own, supporting a variety of worthy college endeavours from the concert series to the bursaries, from the boat club to the building fund.

Some of us go even further, returning in person to enjoy the fellowship of the College and to participate in its activities as Life Members in Residence. At any time, there are several dozen of us living permanently or seasonally in reasonable proximity to the College. We all recognise each other and reconnect

over meals, at concerts, or when we see each other at lectures or events elsewhere in town. Cambridge is an especially attractive place for scholars in their retirement. No scholar ever really retires, though, and the resources of the University join with those of the College to support us in our continuing work. The College and its Life Members demonstrate a symbiotic relationship, and may it long continue so!

## Eric Nye

Fellow Commoner and Life Member

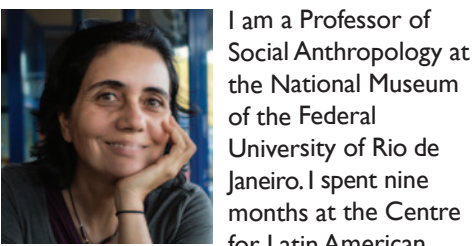




# Visiting Fellows

Some of our current Visiting Fellows write about the work they are doing at Clare Hall.

**Aparecida Vilaca**  
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF  
RIO DE JANEIRO



I am a Professor of Social Anthropology at the National Museum of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. I spent nine months at the Centre for Latin American

Studies as Simón Bolívar Professor and at Clare Hall as a Visiting Fellow.

My anthropological work focuses on the ethnology of Amazonian indigenous peoples, having spent 40 years studying the Wari' people of the Southeast Amazon, about whom I have published several books, including *Strange Enemies* (Duke UP) and *Praying and Preying: Christianity in Indigenous Amazonia* (California UP). My main interests are the social-cultural transformations that arrived with the contact with non-indigenous people.

While in Cambridge I gave lectures and seminars on indigenous perceptions of climate change and extinction, transformations of mythology with the school experience, the rights of nature, and anthropology and literature. I am working on a new book on the rights of nature. I also organised an international seminar in June 2024 entitled *Science in the Forest, Science in the Past* together with Geoffrey Lloyd, Marilyn Strathern and Willard McCarty at the Needham Research Institute. The general theme of the discussion was Regeneration.

**Geoffrey Cloud**  
ALFRED HOSPITAL AND MONASH  
UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA

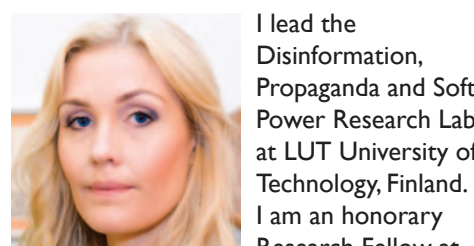


I am a clinician and academic physician, specialising in stroke medicine. During my time at Clare Hall, I have been revising the third edition of a textbook of stroke medicine with Clare Hall Professorial Fellow Hugh Markus, whilst attending a quaternary clinic at Addenbrookes specialising in a rare monogenetic cause of cerebrovascular disease called CADASIL. There is no such clinic in Australia, and I hope to develop one in collaboration with the Cambridge team on my return.

My sabbatical has also afforded time to devise a research protocol to investigate a novel treatment for common cause of haemorrhagic stroke called cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA). CAA is caused by an accumulation of a protein called amyloid beta in the small blood vessels of the brain resulting in either occlusion or rupture of the vessel. Currently, there is no disease modifying treatment for CAA besides lifestyle modification and blood pressure control. I am investigating with Clare Hall Life Member David Werring, re-purposing the use of an anti-fibrinolytic drug called tranexamic acid as a potential therapeutic.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the rich academic community and environment of Clare Hall – the opportunity to learn about new things, share ideas and think differently has been terrific.

**Professor Hannele Seeck**  
LUT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY,  
FINLAND



I lead the Disinformation, Propaganda and Soft Power Research Lab at LUT University of Technology, Finland. I am an honorary Research Fellow at the Judge Business School, Cambridge, and a Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

My research is interdisciplinary, combining social theory, political science, history and organisational studies with media and communication studies and, more recently, with computational methods. In terms of theory building, my research often has a sociological twist. I work on the global and local travel of ideas, ideologies and discourses, as well as on agency, power and governance. I have published some 100 academic and professional publications.

In my current research on ideology and propaganda, I focus on three areas: (1) theories of ideology and propaganda (2) how they have been previously researched methodologically and (3) what kinds of materials are needed to study them empirically. My interest is in ideological propaganda particularly in the context of AI, as AI systems need to be able to recognise and detect different forms of propaganda and ideological propaganda, linked, for example, to climate change and geopolitics.

**Heini Hakosalo**  
UNIVERSITY OF OULU, FINLAND



I am a Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall for a year from October 2023. I specialise in the history of modern medicine and health, with a primary interest in the ways that medical data and knowledge have been produced and made use of. At Clare Hall, I have been working on two projects: a history of infectious diseases, notably tuberculosis, and the post-war development of epidemiological research, especially birth cohort studies in Scandinavia and Britain.

I will submit my book on the history of tuberculosis control practices in twentieth-century Finland and Sweden in the summer. Longitudinal cohort studies have profoundly influenced our way of thinking about health and the course of human life. Yet they are historically quite new, being a product of the post-World War II belief in big science and science-based solutions to social and health issues. The 'style of reasoning' that characterises them was contested as unscientific in the 1950s, but has now become a self-evident way of doing human and medical sciences. My Fellowship at Clare Hall is funded by Osk. Huttunen Foundation.



## Henry Schenck

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, ALABAMA



I arrived in Cambridge in January 2024 to take part in a six-month programme at the Isaac Newton Institute on 'New equivariant

methods in algebraic and differential geometry'. My research centres on the interplay between shape (geometry) and the way we encode shape (algebra), with a strong computational component. Whilst in Cambridge, my principal focus was on a project with UK collaborators on dynamical systems: why do certain swarms of fireflies sometimes synchronize and begin flashing in unison? I also wrapped up a book project and several papers, and gave seminars in Cambridge, London, Oxford, and Swansea. My visit to Cambridge was supported by a Simons Fellowship.

A huge thank you to everyone (Students, Fellows, Staff) at Clare Hall for creating such a congenial atmosphere, where friendships flourish and collaborations thrive. I have particularly enjoyed the Boat Club (*mens sana in corpore sano* and all that); erging with a group somehow makes it less of a chore.

## Jerry Chen

BOSTON UNIVERSITY



I am a neuroscientist interested in understanding the fundamental principles for how the brain allows us to learn and behave in the world. The

way our brain is organised is influenced by our genetic makeup. Neuroscience and genomics are related areas of biology but involve different skillsets and knowledge. During my 12-month sabbatical at Clare Hall, I worked at the Wellcome Sanger Institute to learn more about genomic research so that I can incorporate the latest advances in experimental techniques into my neuroscience research.

I have piloted new projects that look at the relationship between genes and brain function across different parts of the brain and different organisms. I plan to continue with this work back in my home laboratory. I have enjoyed seeing how research is done at different institutions, meeting new friends and colleagues across different fields, and spending time around the College with my family.

## Jia Tan

CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



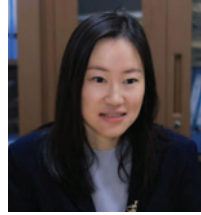
I am a scholar in the field of film, media, and digital culture. During my visiting fellowship at Clare Hall, I worked on my second book project, with funding support

from the Research Grants Council, Hong Kong. This project involves understanding digital visual effects and their cultural significance in the age of ecological crisis.

Our time of the Anthropocene is witnessing the disappearance of landscapes such as rainforest and glaciers, and the extinction or diminishing of wild animals and plants. Paradoxically, they – along with exotic landscapes, otherly worlds, unnatural weather, fantastical creatures and non-human characters – have proliferated on big and small screens with the aid of computer graphic imagery (CGI) technology. Among this global wave of cinematic spectacles, fantasy audiovisual works, or *qihuan yingshi*, have gained enormous popularity in the past two decades and are now a recognisable industry genre in China and Hong Kong. Analysing the burgeoning and digitally-enhanced representations of the non-human worlds and characters in contemporary Chinese film, television and animation, I offer a new reading of fantasy media as an aesthetic experience of the Anthropocene.

## Jin Sun

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ECONOMICS, CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMICS (CUFE), CHINA



I am a Professor of Economics and a Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall and the Faculty of Economics for one year in 2024, and the postdoc academic mentor for the University

of Cambridge. In China, I also serve as the Deputy Dean of International Institute of Green Finance, CUFE in Beijing. My research fields include green development, sustainable trade, sustainable trade finance, trade policy and regional trade cooperation. The project I am working on here is global green trade finance, which is an emerging cross-cutting frontier field across trade, finance, and economics. I study the financing of green trade, which aims to encourage international trade of environmental products and to guide industries to carry out green production. Green trade finance is a facility which supports eligible environmentally sustainable trade activities and adheres to the Green Loan Principles. It plays a vital role in reducing carbon emissions and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

I gave a lecture on this topic as a Clare Hall 'Three Slides Talk'. I have been working on my book of 'Green Trade Finance' and I have also completed writing a research project 'Study of the Effects of Green Trade Finance on Carbon Emission Reduction of Trading Enterprises under the Global Carbon Neutrality Goals'. I will present a paper based on this project in London at the China Economics Association conference. Clare Hall is an ideal place to conduct my research and to converse with other scholars.

## John Keown

KENNEDY INSTITUTE OF ETHICS, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



I have been a Visiting Fellow for Easter Term 2024. My main research project, which began before I arrived and which I will complete in 2025, concerns the

ethics of war. In particular, I am writing a scholarly but accessible book on the question whether the American War for Independence was a Just War. Despite the historical importance of that war, and the libraries of books and papers that have been written on it, there has been next to nothing written on the question whether the American Revolution met the strict conditions for waging war laid down by the Just War moral tradition, the tradition that has shaped modern international and humanitarian law.

My time at Clare Hall has kept me on schedule to complete the book by the summer of 2025, in good time for the 250th anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence in 2026.

Being a Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall has been a pleasure and a privilege. Everyone has been warmly welcoming and helpful. I have only one criticism of my time at the college: it has passed too quickly!

## Linn Holmberg

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY



I'm a Pro Futura Fellow and Associate Professor in the History of Ideas at Stockholm University. As a Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall, I have been working on a monograph,

provisionally entitled *The Dictionary Craze in Enlightenment Europe*. Inspired by current-day debates about the impact of new information technologies on cognition, reading, and learning, this book explores how people across Europe reacted to dictionaries (i.e. alphabetically organised reference works) when this genre first got its 'big break' on European book markets in the long eighteenth century.

After all, before search engines, alphabetical order was the primary information technology that made textual content searchable, while simultaneously enabling a freer, more individualised, and fragmented reading and learning behaviour. By analysing book reviews and letters to the editor in twenty learned journals and literary magazines – published in five countries between 1665 and 1789 – the book charts the intellectual debates that followed in the wake of the dictionary genre's explosive rise in popularity in this period, and above all, the fears and hopes that it raised about knowledge and learning. I could not have wished for a more inspiring environment to write in. Thank you, Clare Hall.



## Paul Smit

NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY,  
SOUTH AFRICA



I am working on the development of a Social Justice Index (SJI). I have always been fascinated by the concept of social justice. The term is used widely by

governments, political parties, employers and employees all claiming to actively support and strive to promote social justice. But what is social justice? My research focuses on identifying the different elements or indicators of social justice and to determine if it can be measured and to develop a Social Justice Index. I have identified different indicators of social justice but I have also realised that an SJI cannot be generalised and must be domain or discipline specific to enhance the practical application of such an Index.

I am investigating the development of a SJI specifically for the domain of Labour Law / Labour Relations. In the identification of the data set for a SJI, I am focusing on the development of a construct which provides a basis for measuring the SJI. To effectively measure social justice the indicators should be expressed in numerical terms, which requires the development of a coding algorithm and the allocation of specific weights to each indicator in the SJI. This research project will continue for the next 2 to 3 years, more reason for me to come back to Clare Hall and the University of Cambridge.

## Rachel Barney

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR IN ANCIENT  
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENTS OF PHILOSOPHY  
AND CLASSICS, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



I spent my two terms at Clare Hall working on two very different projects. First, in something of a frenzy, came my Tanner Lectures, delivered at UC

Berkeley in late April. These were on the subject of craft: 'big craft', as I call it, meaning not just the handicrafts but the whole range of what the Greeks called *technê* (and its modern instances too). The title of the series was 'The Authority of Craft', since I was trying to figure out not only what craft is and why it matters, but what norms govern craft practice and where their authority comes from. Investigating this took me into many areas of philosophy new to me; but as always, I talked a lot about Plato.

I then returned to a longer-term project: a monograph on Protagoras, first and greatest of the Sophists of 5th century BCE Greece. It was a great privilege to present some of this work at the Cambridge Philological Society. I have also taken as much advantage as I could of Clare Hall's own intellectual offerings, formal and informal: this has been an extraordinary six months of learning for me.

## Takeshi Kawashima

DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY, JAPAN



My current research project comprises two distinct areas. One area is the involvement of literary figures in the BBC (founded 1922) and the second is the impact of socialist ideas on postwar British theatre.

While in Cambridge, I have focused on radio drama by Ronald Knox and Reginald Berkeley for the BBC, particularly Knox's *Broadcasting the Barricades* (1926). In this work, Knox shows some sympathy for the struggle for workers' rights, despite his status as a devoted Catholic priest. Subsequently, an analysis was conducted to ascertain how such a radio drama was broadcast by the BBC, which had been attempting to shape the public sphere through radio broadcasting.

The second research topic concerns the relationship between radicalism and entertainment in postwar British theatre. The operation of British national theatre companies is contingent upon a combination of funding from the Arts Council and ticket revenues. It is therefore necessary to achieve a balance between artistic quality and entertainment. I traced how this balance has shifted over the years, analysing in particular the playwriting of John Arden that sparked labour disputes, and the work of Howard Brenton which led to legal battles.

## William Mazarella

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



As an anthropologist, I have always been fascinated by the question of how certain texts, images, gestures, or moments have the capacity to catch us. What makes the difference between mere meaning and meaning that matters – that feels urgent, decisive, transformative? And to what extent does social science, as it is taught today, have the tools to address this question?

During my time at Clare Hall I have been working on an ethnographic study of the rise and fall of a singularly flamboyant Mumbai advertising man and the agency that he ran between 1965 and 1975. Kersy Katrak was an ad legend, but he was also a published poet and a practicing occultist. His story pushes us to make sense of the relation between these different arts: mass publicity, literary aesthetics, and magical techniques. By the same token, it has required me to delve into the theosophical traditions that inspired Katrak – not simply to make sense of his particular life and times, but also to open a dialogue between conventional concepts of social theory and esoteric philosophies of charismatic action.

## Young-Hwi Yoon

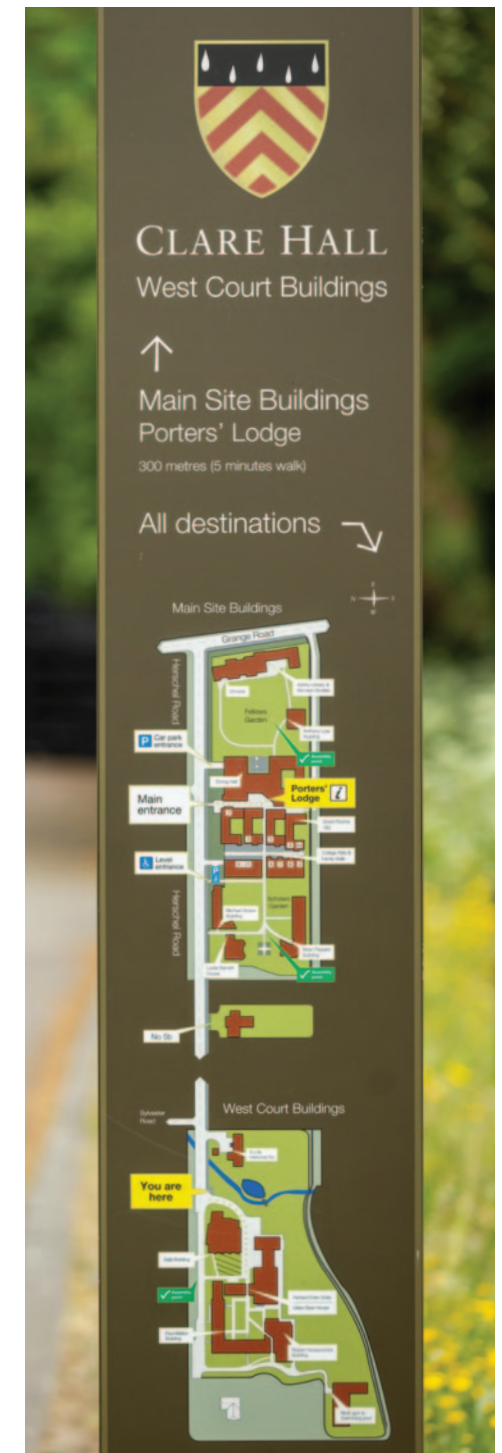
KYUNGPOOK NATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY, KOREA



I was a Visiting Fellow from August 2023 to July 2024. My research focuses on the convergence of an apocalyptic sense of crisis and the antislavery movement in the late eighteenth century. As part of this, I have written a biography of the evangelical anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce, which is now in its final stages. This book will be published in autumn 2024.

In addition to my book project, I have written several articles, drawing particularly on the rich resources at Cambridge. One article is on the impact of the trial of Joseph Knight in 1778 on the Scottish abolitionist movement; another is on the moral politics of the compromises between British antislavery politicians and West Indian planters that led to the abolition of slavery in 1833; and finally one on the abolitionist debates in the British Parliament and the politics of moral capital, 1787-1807.

During my sabbatical, Clare Hall has provided me with the ideal environment in which to work on my book and essays. This College is also the place that my children have called home and the place that has inspired them to pursue their dreams of becoming academics.







# Research Fellows

We are fortunate in having a brilliant group of Research Fellows affiliated with the College, including these scholars:

## Research Fellow

David Duncan



Music can be notated in many different ways, to serve a wide range of purposes. I am working on a research project, Score Design for

Music Reading, that explores whether conventional music notation can be redesigned so as to make it more effective for at least some of the purposes for which it is employed.

Our initial experiments suggest that simple, systematic modifications to standard notation — such as inserting vertical blank spaces to delineate informational units — can improve fluency and accuracy when performing music at sight. Our project is investigating whether these findings apply across a wide range of levels of expertise and musical repertoires. We are conducting cognitive and behavioural experiments, including eye-tracking measurements, to examine the effects of these modifications on the processes involved when musicians perform from written scores.

## Research Fellow

Christopher Jenkins



I work on developments in cross-border commercial law and the evolution of legal structures in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

My main research, drawing on India Office Records at the British Library, uncovers the story of ‘mixed’ jurisdiction courts in India and the Persian Gulf that were part-legal, part-diplomatic, and resolved cross-border disputes with judges drawn from the affected states. Designed chiefly to provide certainty and familiarity to traders (and litigants), they were later seen as vehicles for modernisation and state-building. I also consider how these questions were dealt with by the Foreign Office in the European setting. My most recent paper is entitled ‘A Very Short & Simple Treaty?’ *The Unratified Anglo-Italian Foreign Judgments Convention of 1887*. This traces the first British-led attempt to solve these issues through a treaty, which was intended to be a model for agreements with other trading partners. In the end the treaty was not ratified due to Italy’s political instability and perceived German influence — but in substance it was ahead of its time.

## Research Fellow

Freya Johnson



I am an 1851 Research Fellow in the Department of Physics. My research involves developing thin film devices of non-collinear

magnetic materials, for the purpose of energy efficient computing. To achieve this goal, I have been performing nitrogen-vacancy imaging to understand device function at the nanoscale, and using terahertz spectroscopy to understand the picosecond switching dynamics. I have recently fabricated high-quality thin films of various chemical compositions and explored the role of defects at the atomistic scale, publishing an article on this topic. My current direction is to continue work on fabricating multilayer devices that can be integrated with current silicon-based technology.

## Research Fellow

Georg Maierhofer



I am a Henslow Fellow at Clare Hall, working in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics. My research focuses on Computational Mathematics for

Partial Differential Equations (PDEs). PDEs are a central foundation of modern scientific modelling and help describe phenomena as varied as atmospheric processes and sound waves. Computational Mathematics is used to simulate nature by solving these PDEs approximately. Without such numerical techniques many of humanity’s greatest technological and scientific advances would be impossible — from supercomputers processing terabytes of data on a daily basis for weather forecasting to sophisticated numerical models predicting the movement of atoms in particle accelerators. In my work, I develop and study structure-preserving numerical methods that ensure algorithms faithfully replicate physical behaviours, like energy conservation. Additionally, I explore applications to the simulation of extreme ocean waves and the use of machine learning to refine classical methods to understand complex systems more efficiently.

## Research Fellow

Rachel Sippy



I am an epidemiologist, dedicated to improving the quality and availability of data for research, public health, and clinical practice. This includes coordination with

the agencies that collect data, such as healthcare, environmental monitoring, public health surveillance, and educational systems. I also work to harmonise data from these diverse sources, improving quality to a high standard and generating the necessary contextual information to provide data users with a powerful resource. My work demonstrates the utility of high-quality data resources for machine learning/artificial intelligence-driven prediction, health trend forecasting, and understanding the current burden of health outcomes on healthcare systems. I am experienced in using diverse data sources from South America, southeast Asia, the United States, and the United Kingdom for research and improvement of public health systems. I continue to apply my expertise in data and global health in collaborations based in low- and middle-income countries.





## ANDREW BLAKE

elected Honorary Fellow  
of Exeter College, Oxford

It was a great pleasure and privilege to be elected in May 2024 to an Honorary Fellowship at Exeter College, Oxford. It is a quarter of a century since I was last Professor of Information Engineering at Exeter, and 40 years since my PhD when I was first immersed in the world of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

AI has leapt to prominence in the last couple of years and the public discourse has been about potential for wealth creation, and social transformation, especially in healthcare and in mitigating climate change. We also hear a lot about AI threatening citizens' and artists' data rights, and disruption coming to the world of work. Those aspects are real enough but

there is another side to AI that deserves more attention: its breakthrough in understanding what intelligence actually is. Arguably that would be the business of the neurosciences, but is a tough question to tackle at the level of brain-cells. It would be like trying to get the meaning of an email message from the flipping of just a few of the billions of electronic switches inside your mobile phone.

With modern AI we saw the emergence in the 90s of automatic dictation then, in the 2000s, language translation. In the 2010s we first had robots that can see and drive cars. Now, spectacularly, we can chat with highly knowledgeable cloud-oracles like Open AI's GPT4. There are flaws in these AI systems

of course. Driving robots occasionally stray; oracles have been caught out fabricating (humans do those things too). Still AI, with its Deep Neural Networks, has bitten a substantial lump out of the mystery of intelligence. It has been a huge privilege to have a ringside seat at this unfolding of understanding, and to mix with some of the extraordinary people who brought it about.

*Editor's Note: Warm congratulations to Andrew on becoming the new Vice-President of Clare Hall in Summer 2024.*

CLARE HALL

## Postdoc Group

Clare Hall has about 40 post-doctoral members, including Research Fellows and Affiliated Postdocs.

We meet twice a term for informal events to discuss our research, find new connections and ideas, and to talk about strategies of survival in postdoc life. The events are also an occasion to give an informal introduction to college life in general, and to Clare Hall in particular, to postdocs who may be new to the Oxbridge system. We discuss the oddities of Cambridge and share tips and tricks on how to make the best of a college affiliation.

**Helene Scott-Fordsmand**  
Research Fellow  
Organiser, Postdoc Group



Clare Hall postdocs had an exchange event with the Trinity Hall Postdoc Society in Lent Term 2024. Five postdocs from each college presented their research while we enjoyed lunch



# Special Interest Groups

We are fortunate in having a number of Special Interest Groups at Clare Hall. These were created by Professor Hasok Chang a few years ago. Students and Fellows with a shared interest in the History of Science, Art, Classics, Maths, or various other subjects come together for discussions and activities. You are welcome to attend any group within or outside your professional area. Some groups meet frequently, some occasionally. Warmest thanks to the group organisers and to everyone involved.

## Art and Architecture SIG

The academic year 2023-24 saw the launching of the Art and Architecture Special Interest Group. Our programme features a mix of papers and on-site visits to artistic and architectural sites in Cambridge and beyond.

Recent highlights include a tour of the Fitzwilliam show *Black Atlantic* with Dr Vicky Avery; a tour of King's College Chapel with Professor Jean Michel Massing; a tour of Kettle's Yard with Professor Frances Spalding, two talks by MPhil students Sarah Brooke and Sheena McKeever; and most recently a talk on the British Museum exhibition *Michelangelo: The Last Decades*, by one of its curators and former Cambridge student, Grant Lewis.

This SIG currently counts some 20 members and welcomes suggestions for future events. The group is convened by Dr Lucia Tantardini, lt303@cam.ac.uk.

## Asian Studies SIG

The Asian Studies Special Interest Group held several informal meetings this past year, led by Dr Jenny Zhao together with Dr Li Tang. Members come from a range of fields, including History, Philosophy, Education, and Linguistics. The group has been rather compact in size but it has been wonderful to bring together Fellows, PhD students, Life Members, and Visiting Fellows through the activities of the SIG. Those interested in joining the mailing list should contact Jenny at jz292@cam.ac.uk.

## Classics SIG

This group is open to all those with an interest in classical Greek and Roman culture, broadly understood, and with or without expertise in classical languages. Every year we choose a general topic (this year's topic was Greek Tragedy). We usually meet for common meals, to read and discuss selections of texts relating to the chosen topic. All members are very welcome to present their research to the SIG, too, if they wish to do so. We are a relatively new, small and very friendly group, and we look forward to new members and new ideas. Please contact Dr Laura Castelli if you would like to join: lc918@cam.ac.uk.

## History and Philosophy of Science SIG

This group usually meets once a week in term time for some relevant activity followed by lunch where discussions and general life-updates continue. The group is democratic and includes different activities dependent on member interests. Our activities include presentations by group members or invited speakers, work-in-progress sessions, bring-a-book forums, museum trips and film nights. Topics range broadly. In Easter Term 2024 they included Euclidian mathematics, philosophy of understanding, history of epidemiology, narrative structures in *The Birth of the Clinic*, and more. The group is co-convened by Professor Hasok Chang and Research Fellows Helene Scott-Fordsmann and Johan Gardebo.

## History and Politics SIG

The History and Politics group was formed in October 2023 at the initiative of Andreas Morkved Hellenes, Johan Gardebo and Yoshi Kato. Our ambition was to create an informal meeting place for intellectual exchange about the evolution of political affairs in Europe and beyond – often but not exclusively in a historical perspective – and at its best the SIG succeeded in achieving precisely that. We met regularly during Michaelmas and Lent terms for evening discussions about papers in their early stages of writing, covering everything from op-eds to PhD proposals.

## Literature SIG

This group is open to anyone interested in literature of any language. In the past couple of years we have met for occasional lunches, visited the Fitzwilliam Museum, and had a brilliant introduction and discussion of the poetry of Keats, led by poet John Wilkinson (LM). The group organiser has to step down due to other commitments, so do please contact the Senior Tutor if you would like to take over as organiser for the 2024-25 academic year. Future activities might include a visit to Kettle's Yard, film screening, literary festival, and discussions of literature over lunch.



Classics SIG



Art SIG

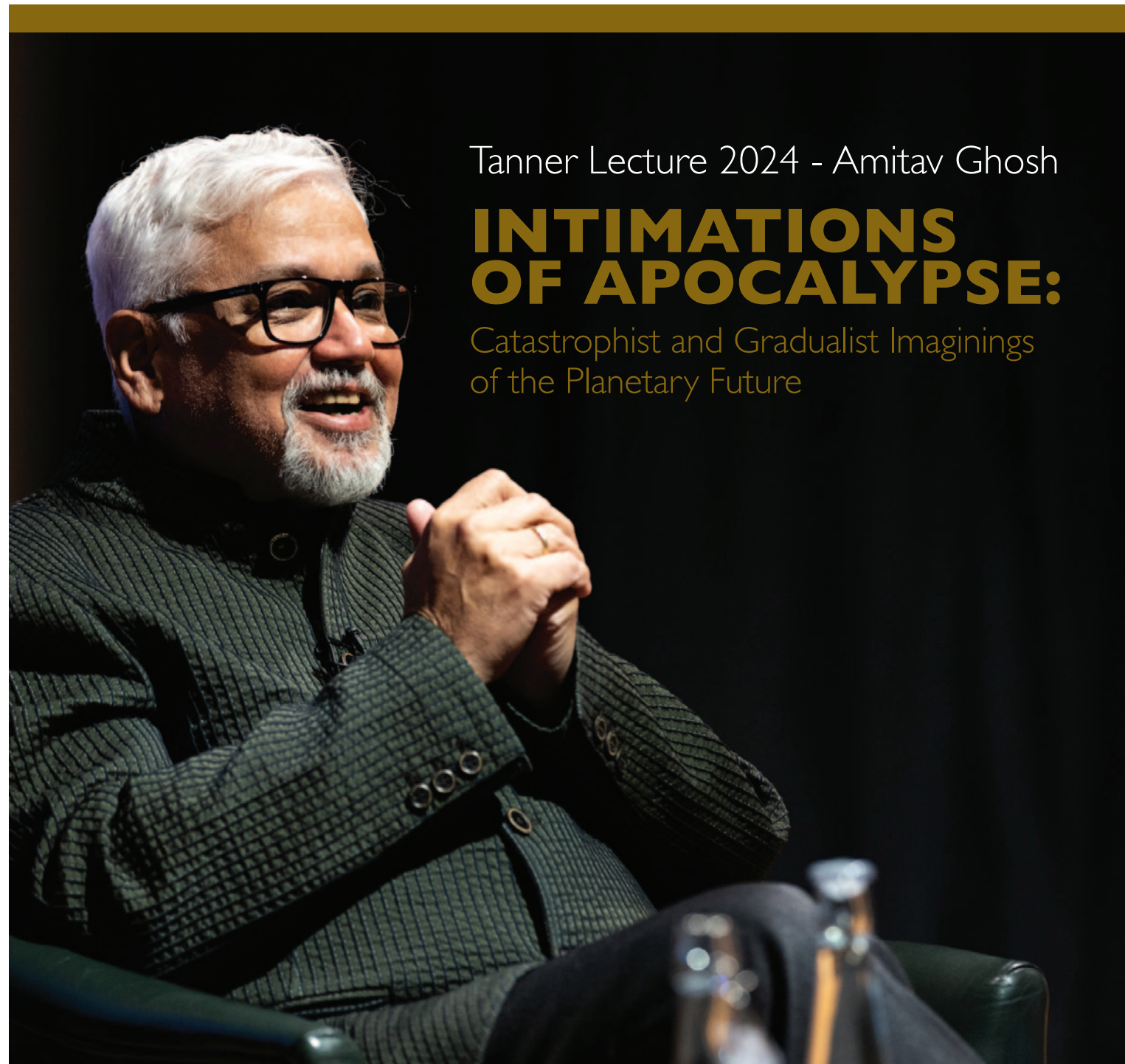


History and Politics SIG



Asian Studies SIG David Gosling, Shanshan Hu, and Jenny Zhao, June 2024. Photo by Yi Feng





Tanner Lecture 2024 - Amitav Ghosh

## INTIMATIONS OF APOCALYPSE:

Catastrophist and Gradualist Imaginings of the Planetary Future



*The world is currently in the grip of several intensifying crises: climate change, biodiversity loss, and geopolitical instability. Given the scale of the disruptions that are already being felt around the planet, it is hardly surprising that many people have come to be convinced that an apocalypse is inevitable and requires active planning and preparation.*

This trend cannot be lightly dismissed for it is being spearheaded by the founders of global technology giants, that is to say figures who are uniquely well-placed to stay abreast of all the latest information and research. In his Tanner Lecture on 5 February 2024, novelist Amitav Ghosh sought to understand the thinking behind these trends, and what it signifies for the future of humanity.

Ghosh began with an exploration of the intersection of nuclear technology, apocalyptic visions, and the convergence of theological and techno-scientific ideas. He juxtaposed the Cold War era's fear of a nuclear apocalypse with present-day concerns about diverse existential threats, and delved into the historical roots of catastrophic thinking, tracing it back to nineteenth-century eugenics and its connection to Darwinian evolution.

By highlighting the emergence of apocalyptic beliefs among the technological elites, particularly in Silicon Valley, Ghosh critiqued the efforts of billionaires to prepare for an impending apocalypse by building heavily fortified retreats, drawing attention to the broader trend of survivalism. He also examined the ideological underpinnings of Silicon Valley's elite through an exploration of concepts like transhumanism, singularitarianism, long-termism, and effective altruism.

Ghosh discussed the anxieties that drive Silicon Valley's wealthy to envision catastrophic scenarios, referred to as 'The Event'. This 'Event' is seen as a convergence of various global crises. He suggested that the cognitive elite anticipate surviving such a cataclysm by retreating into well-prepared strongholds and emerging to rebuild a cleansed world. Ghosh's narrative painted a picture of a technologically advanced and environmentally conscious elite preparing for a dystopian future, raising questions about the implications of such beliefs and actions on societal structures and the distribution of power.

Ghosh explored the reasons behind right-wing opposition to climate change mitigation efforts, framing it as a manifestation of a larger biopolitical conflict. He argued that these conflicts, rooted in contrasting ways of life and relationships between human societies and their environments, are more challenging to identify than armed conflicts. Ghosh proposed that these elites may even find an incentive to accelerate the collapse rather than prevent it. At the same time, he challenged the assumption that the ultra-wealthy can realistically insulate themselves from a global collapse, pointing out practical challenges such as transportation, loyalty, and supply chain dependence. In questioning the idea that survivalist skills of affluent nations surpass those of traditionally stigmatised populations, he argued that indigenous communities, with their reliance on tradition and proximity to nature, may actually be better equipped to adapt in a crisis. Disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, cyclones in Bangladesh, and storms in Mauritius and Cuba showed that adaptability and community ties are critical factors in facing crises, potentially rendering some affluent nations less resilient.





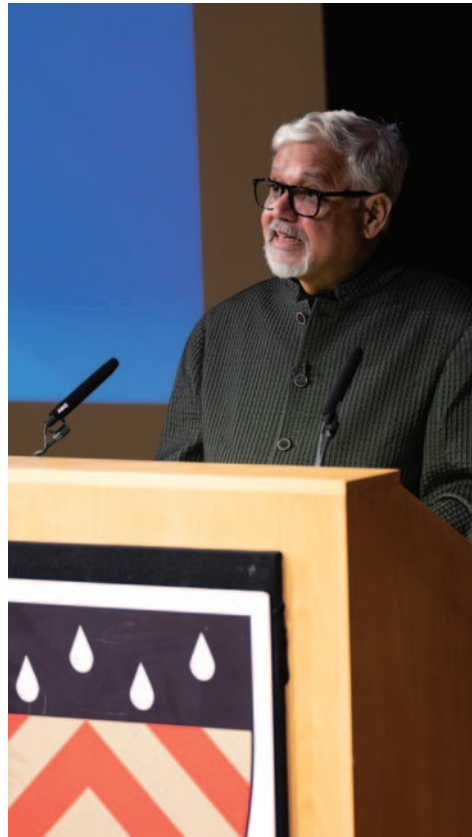
In conversation with the *Financial Times* journalist Jonathan Derbyshire, it was suggested that current catastrophist thinking is fuelled by science fiction, film, and a feedback loop that emphasises technological solutions to the ‘polycrisis’. The discussion touched on the failure of literary forms to address climate change adequately and the historical roots of apocalyptic thinking, connecting it to Protestantism and its continuity in the Silicon Valley techno-elite’s visions.

Ghosh expressed concern about eugenic undertones in the desire to create an enhanced species through technological interventions. Despite acknowledging the urgency of climate action, Ghosh critiqued the tone-policing within the climate discourse and closed by contemplating a gradual overturning of progress teleologies, implying that the Global South may have advantages in resilience.

In the lively Q&A, Ghosh suggested that the climate crisis is essentially one of localism and that the left has become divorced from local concerns; that TEK (traditional ecological knowledge) and its harvesting is just another extractive practice; that the idea of a ‘Cognitive Elite’ is infantile versus the vast libraries of more interesting traditional knowledge; that the pandemic has destabilised global systems and accelerated the geopolitical crisis; and that it is prosperity that leads some people in Bangladesh, for example, to migrate, because aspiration is born of prosperity.

#### **Johnny Cornwell**

Director  
Science and Human Dimension Project  
Clare Hall







## Daniel Weiss

### Ashby Lecture, 6 March 2024

'Attacking the work of Leonardo da Vinci, Sandro Botticelli, Vincent van Gogh, or Francis John Williamson is intended to capture our attention because we care deeply about museums and what they contain.' Daniel Weiss, former Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, conveyed this sentiment very powerfully in his rich and engaging Ashby Lecture on 6 March 2024.

'Museums have become compelling targets precisely because they matter to us so much.' His words resonate with recent incidents close to home, such as the attack on a 1914 portrait of Lord Balfour by Philip Alexius de László, at Trinity College, Cambridge. A protester from the group Palestine Action damaged the painting with red spray paint and slashed it as a protest against the 1917 Balfour Declaration and the current war in Gaza.

Indeed, museums and their collections, along with any cultural heritage, tangible or intangible, connect and communicate through their collections. As Weiss argues, 'understanding what museums do today really does require us to reflect on why it is that human beings have been drawn inexorably and always to connecting to the material world in ways to define their own identities, to tell stories, and to establish their relationship to others in the world'.

Weiss discussed the historical development of museums which, although he believes dates back to antiquity, largely owes its current form to the Enlightenment in eighteenth-century Europe, which led to the establishment of institutes such as the British Museum and



the Louvre. He talked about the civic role of museums, their governance and funding. 'If you are to be a high-functioning, ethical institution with a civic ambition, who's going to pay for it?'

For example, funding from British Petroleum for the British Museum, or the Sackler family, as has been the case for many museums and galleries around the world, is nowadays seen as controversial. Where do museums draw the line? How does their leadership decide on clarity regarding the institute's values and ensure full transparency to maintain the public's trust? It is crucial to be able to withstand financial challenges and therefore enough funding is needed to run museums in an independent and resilient way.

The concept for the funding of the Metropolitan Museum 'was a civic one ... a democratising one'. It would be there to serve all of the population. This aim of course concerns every museum: how to connect with people, provide them with engaging and elevating experiences that delight, provoke thought, and bring people and communities together to contemplate but also to debate ideas. Weiss calls museums today, with at least 35,000 museums of many kinds in the US alone, 'an enormously successful social experiment... everywhere'. The museum has changed from a repository of art to an 'essential part of society', an inclusive sanctuary as well as a meeting place for 'collective, institutional and community identity'.

However, museums increasingly tell uncomfortable truths, just as universities have to do in their teaching and research. Weiss argues: 'Our job is to get the ideas out there, let them live, have them get debated, and protect the people who are presenting them.' He showed the compelling example of Jean Baptiste Carpeaux's powerful sculpture of an enslaved woman which carries the inscription *Why Born Enslaved!* (modelled 1863, carved 1873, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/824469> ).

The sculpture was the focus of a small exhibition at the Met in 2021, and as Weiss explains, presents 'a work that was at once poignant and powerful as an expression of human suffering wrought by slavery, while also presenting an objectified image of violence against women'. The exhibition included a wall where visitors could leave comments that were used to inform the museum's curators, engage the public and to initiate further discussion. Weiss emphasised the crucial importance of engaging with local and/or ethnic communities when exhibiting works that require dialogue and collaboration through, for example, participatory research.

Weiss made it clear that museums have to 'engage in ethical collecting', following robust guidelines. He showed the example of a \$4 million purchase of a late Hellenistic gold coffin. When during the famous annual Met Gala, Kim Kardashian was photographed next to the spectacular coffin, the image went viral on social media. This global exposure led to the revelation that the coffin was looted. Weiss confirms that the Met should have found out, and clearly needs to raise the bar when making acquisitions applying 'the highest possible standards of review and due diligence'. The coffin was returned to the Egyptian Government and hence to the Egyptian people. As museums have a duty to protect global cultural heritage, restitution should be looked at in the context of what happened in the past, the validity of historical legal laws, and of course, the wellbeing of the objects themselves. Crucial is the question about who is ultimately making the decisions on this, as the goal is 'to strike a balance between inclusivity and focus, between representing the world's richness and depth while also offering compelling narratives and experiences', and, as Weiss states: 'This requires ongoing dialogue, reflection, and adaptation to remain relevant and impactful in a rapidly changing world.'

**Erma Hermans**  
Professorial Fellow



## King Lecture 2023

### JENNIFER DOUDNA: THE STORY OF CRISPR

Jennifer Doudna has been running an academic lab for almost 30 years, and in her own words, 'it's always been about curiosity driven science'. Professor Doudna is a Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, and Professor of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Structural Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. She is most well-known for her discovery of CRISPR, the game-changing technology enabling efficient and precise gene editing. But it was her interest in evolution and RNA biology that brought her to this discovery.



It was an unpredictable trajectory, one that started with an interest in fundamental biology, that resulted in a technology with immense clinical potential.

Doudna began by highlighting what allowed CRISPR to be developed in the first place: opportunity, serendipity and collaboration. Opportunity arose with the observations by a colleague, Jill Banfield, that microbes have a number of curious repetitive genomic elements potentially involving RNA. Serendipity and collaboration came into play when Doudna met Emmanuelle Charpentier at a conference in 2011, where they came up with an idea that would be the basis for understanding CRISPR and would enable its use as a technology.

CRISPR is essentially a bacterial immune system. Just like in humans, there is a constant battle between viruses, called bacteriophages, and their hosts, bacteria. When a phage infects a bacterium, it injects its DNA into the host to take over the host machinery and force the cell to produce viral proteins to make more phage. But this is detrimental to the bacterium, and so some bacteria have evolved CRISPR to counteract this attack. It does so by inserting small pieces of viral DNA into the bacterial genome which is then used to recognise virus in the future and destroy it before it has a chance to take over. That destruction is guided by RNA, the intermediate between DNA and the protein machines of the cell. Because RNA is an intermediary, it can complement DNA, and therefore act to recognise target viral DNA for destruction by a protein called Cas9.

Doudna and Charpentier realised that this CRISPR system could in theory be applied to target any DNA, even DNA in a human cell. Because it uses RNA as a guide, it

should be able to recognise a target site of interest and bring Cas9 to cut that DNA. This is exactly what they demonstrated, showing for the first time that CRISPR is programmable and can be engineered to target any DNA of interest.

Because of its ease of use and programmability, this technology is now being widely applied not just for gene disruption, but also as a diagnostic tool, a way to specifically turn on and off genes, and to precisely edit single nucleotides. It is also proving to be powerful not only for research applications, but also clinical and agricultural uses.

But as Doudna stressed, she and her colleagues realised early on that this powerful technology carries with it not just potential benefit but also risk. The description of monkey embryos with CRISPR modified genomes in a paper published in 2014 was an eye-opening moment for Doudna, when she realised that this could likewise work in humans and allow us to 'rewrite our own code of life'. This has enormous ethical implications and Doudna has been closely involved in discussions about whether heritable changes in humans should be done.

There are less ethical concerns about nonheritable, or somatic, genome engineering, which can provide new therapeutic avenues for patients with genetic conditions. Doudna described the heart-warming case of a young woman who is now cured of sickle cell disease after taking part in the early-stage clinical trial of a CRISPR treatment. It was a wonderful demonstration of how curiosity led research can lead to a therapy that really has changed someone's life.



Doudna closed by looking to the future of CRISPR. She highlighted the need to deliver CRISPR therapy *in vivo*, as an injection directly into the patient rather than by editing cells and then reintroducing them to the patient. Doudna and others are now engineering new strategies, including programmable viral delivery agents to target specific cells. In addition, further effort is needed to make CRISPR therapies more widely available and more affordable. Finally, CRISPR is also being used to edit microbiomes, communities of microbes like the ones in the gut, to impact human health and to reduce livestock emissions.

Overall, it was a highly engaging look at the history of CRISPR and its future prospects. It was a beautiful illustration of the importance of fundamental research, without clear immediate impacts, just for the sake of curiosity. That freedom to explore is what enabled CRISPR and is now changing lives and the world as a whole.

**Madeline A. Lancaster**  
Official Fellow





This was the eighth piece Liz had composed for the Quartet's repertoire. At their concert on 14 October 2004, the Quartet included another modern piece, *More Fools than Wine* written in 2005 by Jonathan Rathbone.

Equally, we were delighted that the accomplished Continuum Choir gave a performance on 16 March in Clare College Chapel in our Intimate Engagements series which was based on the seven liturgical verses of the Latin hymn *Vexilla Regis*, written by lesser-known Iberian composers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. This concert, too, included a contemporary commission, by the Cambridge-based Carlos Rodriguez Otero. In 1676, the German composer, Heinrich, Ignaz Franz Biber wrote a series of remarkable pieces, the *Rosary Sonatas*, for solo violin and continuo. One of the series, *Sorrowful Sonatas and Scordatura Meditations*, was performed on 28 October by Daniel Piro accompanied on the chamber organ by James McVinnie.

Close to Easter, the Fitzwilliam Quartet played Haydn's *The Seven Last Words from the Cross*, with intervening meditations spoken by the Rev. Geoffrey Howard. Song recitals were provided on 10 January by the baritone Morgan Pearse of *Die Schöne Müllerin*, and on 29 June by Grace Davidson, who sang some much-loved works by English composers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Unusual concerts broadened the range of our programme when Henry Tozer's performance on 25 November included popular songs of Cole Porter, Gershwin and Ella Fitzgerald, while on 27 April a performance of electronic instruments, on the Theramin and Ondes Martenot, was expertly played by Charlie Draper.

Our Musician-in-Residence, Patrick Hemmerlé, gave a number of concerts throughout the year. Particularly well-received was his programme of transcriptions for piano of operatic excerpts by Liszt (Wagner's *Liebestod*, and Mozart's *Don Giovanni*), Pabst (Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*) and Grainger (Strauss' *Rosenkavalier*).

The Clare Hall Choir, with about twenty regular members, flourishes under its director, Ben de Souza, having played at various College functions and with choirs of other Cambridge colleges (most recently with Darwin). A new member of the Committee is Eric Nye, a former Visiting Fellow from Wyoming, now a Fellow Commoner resident in Cambridge. He has generously supported a number of our musical initiatives. It is important to say that for several years, our Intimate Engagements concerts has depended on a number of supporters providing continuing finance for the series to explore musical experiences. In addition to Intimate Engagements and the Fitzwilliam Quartet programmes, other concerts are now referred to as being part of the Herschel Series. This refers to the address in which the college is situated, Herschel Road, which was probably named after the remarkable mathematician and natural philosopher, Sir John Herschel, but possibly after his father, William Herschel, the musician and astronomer who discovered the planet Uranus.

Next year will be the 50th anniversary of the death of the Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich and it is hoped that his music will be well represented in our programmes. This year, the Fitzwilliam Quartet, which held a close relationship with the composer in its early years, performed his *Fourth Quartet* to our audience's warm approval.

**Robert G W Anderson**  
Chair, Music Committee

## MUSIC IN CLARE HALL

When the Music Committee (which meets bi-monthly) discussed the general content of the year's programme, it came to the view that in addition to including well-known and popular classical works, concerts should include contemporary compositions, and pieces from composers who had been unfairly neglected in recent times. Thus, on 19 May 2024, we were pleased that the Fitzwilliam String Quartet, our Quartet-in-Residence, had included in their programme the first performance of Liz Dilot Johnson's *Dragon Moon Quartet*, with the composer in attendance.





# CLARE HALL CHOIR

Choir Rehearsal in Clare Chapel

The Clare Hall Choir continues to go from strength to strength. The year 2022-23 saw the biggest membership to date, with approximately 20 regular singers.

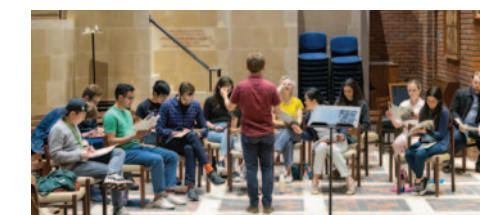
Amongst that group were a number of music students and Fellows, and a member of a reputable Cambridge college chapel choir, as well as many keen first-time singers. This new membership led to more challenging repertoire than previously. Although performances were few last year, we took the opportunity to make some recordings in Robinson Chapel. With the help of some keen student photographers and the choir director's audio equipment we committed to tape four pieces, two of which have already made their way on to the college YouTube channel – Billy Joel's *And So It Goes* (arranged by Audrey Snyder), and Jeffrey Funk's arrangement of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*.

The year 2023-24 got off to a flying start as another influx of new singers, along with many returning members, prepared for a first ever collaboration with the chapel choir of Clare College: a joint evensong in Clare Chapel in November. The music list for this service included Parry's *Crossing the Bar*, a *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* by Walmisley, and John Taverner's *Song for Athene*. Our annual Christmas Feast performance drew many compliments, as *Ding Dong, Merrily on High!* rang out through the dining hall. The Lent Term brought two more firsts for the choir as we sang our first ever solo chapel service, covering for Robinson Choir in March 2024. Then, just a week later, the choir engaged with an organisation outside of the university for the first time, as

St Botolph's Church, Trumpington Street welcomed us for a joint evensong service.

It seems that the reputation of the choir, both within Clare Hall and outside, continues to grow. This is in no small part thanks to the fabulous singers, our ever-loyal accompanist Marcus Cox, and the College community for their continued support. It really is a highlight of my week.

**Ben de Souza**  
Choir Director





# WORLD PREMIERE OF *CRUZ*



Carlos Otero

The remarkable musical culture of Clare Hall continued this year when several choral pieces received their world premieres at the Intimate Engagements concert by Continuum Choir in March held at Clare College Chapel.

Two were transcriptions from the Lugo Choirbook of liturgical music for Lent from northern Spain, made by the composer, conductor, musicologist, and soloist, Carlos Rodríguez Otero. But the highlight was his original composition, *Cruz: A Triptych-Motet to the Holy Cross*, commissioned by Clare Hall and the choir.

The *Cambridge Independent* reviewer applauded: “‘Cruz’ in itself is a spellbinding composition, of which Clare Hall’s rapt audience was aware, and in ‘Continuum’ had found its perfect exponents ... This was the premiere of a motet which in future deserves to be incorporated as one among equals in the liturgies regularly performed throughout Lent.’ The piece has since been accepted by a major publisher for inclusion in their series of Cathedral Music. This was not the first time Clare Hall has commissioned music. Pieces were composed for the retirement of President Ekhard Salje in 2008 and for the college’s 50th anniversary in 2016. Further developments in this area are anticipated.



Continuum Choir 2024

## MUSIC ANGELS AND SUPPORTERS

We are immensely grateful for the support of our Music Angels and Supporters whose generosity enables Clare Hall to offer an outstanding programme of music for our community:

### MUSIC ANGELS

Ms Anna Ahuja  
Professor Howard and  
Mrs Diana Colquhoun  
Professor Yale and Mrs Kitty Ferguson  
Sir Martin and Lady Barbara Harris  
Dame Caroline Humphrey and  
Lord Martin Rees  
Mrs Gillian Moore and Dr Michael Nedo  
Professors Eric Nye and Carol Frost  
Lady Charlotte Pippard  
Professors Andrew and Nancy Ramage  
Professor Ekhard and Dr Lisa Salje  
Professor Andrew Wernick and  
Heather Jon Maroney  
Mrs Joanna and Mr Michael Womack

### SUPPORTERS

Professor Dorothy Bray  
Mr Edward and Mrs Susan Coales  
Dr Robert Duvall  
Dr Birgitte Ginge  
Dr Anthony Harris  
Professor Ieuan Hughes  
Mr Matthew Jones  
Professor Georgia Mouroutsou  
Professor Karl-Wilhelm Niebuhr  
Professor Roy Rotheim  
Dr Atsuko Todoroki  
Dr Michael Trower  
Professor Guy Welbon  
Drs Volker Wille and Aiping Mu







Tess Recordon, *The Valley*, 2023

## Art, Energy and Surprise

Many people find art bewildering. Especially today when it cartwheels through all kinds of media and takes many forms, being fiercely political one minute and quietly aesthetic the next.

At the time of writing, even the Art Market seems hesitant and shockingly high prices can fall dramatically to ensure a sale. Then, too, there are dramatic changes in the size of art. The sculptor Giacometti famously claimed that, when returning to Paris from Geneva after the end of the Second World War, he carried with him all his recent

work in six matchboxes. Other artists need gargantuan spaces. When Ai Weiwei and Antony Gormley were offered individual retrospectives by the Royal Academy of Arts, in London, both opted for an entire floor of this grand and roomy institution. Another complication is the recurrent use in exhibitions of time-based media – videos and films – which incur in the viewer a sense of guilt and failure, if commitments elsewhere make it impossible to see them through to the end.

But at Clare Hall, fear not, for you will mostly encounter ‘flat art’ – that is, works of art that stay close to the wall, such as paintings, drawings, prints or photographs. You can walk past them without giving them more than a glance and they wait patiently for your return. As our curators discover, once a work of art is hung on a wall it springs into conversation with the onlooker and asserts its own presence. And because Clare Hall has no designated gallery, our exhibitions take place in the main building, in the common-room and in the internal courtyard. Both these spaces are in daily use and often host multiple comings and goings. Exhibitions are chosen that will respect the multi-purpose nature of these spaces, yet which will also succeed in becoming part of College life and its conversations.

The diversity of what we offer is evident in this account of exhibitions mounted during the academic year 2023-24. First up was an assemblage of Tess Recordon’s brilliantly colourful paintings. Although living happily at Grantchester, Recordon has a driving need to see and study other artists’ work and so makes pilgrimages to other countries and their museums. Before starting work on this show, she had begun to feel that her habitual avenues of inspiration had dried up.

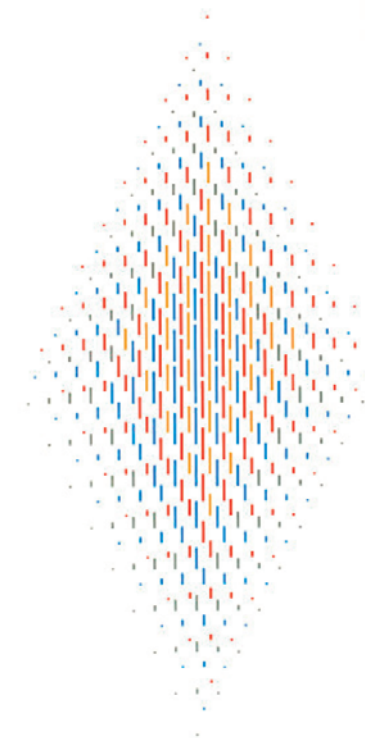
So she turned to books and online sources to get back in touch with some of the great artists she had learnt from in the past. And then she made three trips: to the Munch Museums of Oslo and Bergen; to Paris’s Museum of Modern Art, home to, among many others, the great colourists, Robert and Sonia Delaunay; finally, she travelled America’s East Coast, visiting New York, Philadelphia and Boston, to refamiliarise herself with the massive achievement of the American Abstract Expressionists and their ground-breaking techniques.

The landscapes she exhibited were far removed from the English landscape tradition. These were reimagined spaces she had visited but not specific views. They did not rely on sketches or photographs, but testified to her memory of things seen, to her creative process, and they became her own contribution to the Northern European Romantic landscape tradition. It was wonderful to hear that they had won the admiration of a former Clare Hall President, David Ibbetson, who is more usually circumspect about his views on art.

Our second exhibition, showing the art of Kathleen Hyndman, which opened in November 2023, owed much to Martin Kemp, the world-famous authority on Leonardo da Vinci. His interest in the relationship between science and art meant he had quickly discerned the importance of her work, when her first saw it at the Zuleika Gallery in Woodstock, even though little or no mention of her name had been made in narratives on art in recent years. Having visited Clare Hall to deliver a lecture on Leonardo, at the time of Francis Wells’ show ‘Leonardo and the Heart’, Kemp contacted us, suggesting we look at Hyndman’s art as a possible subject for a future exhibition.



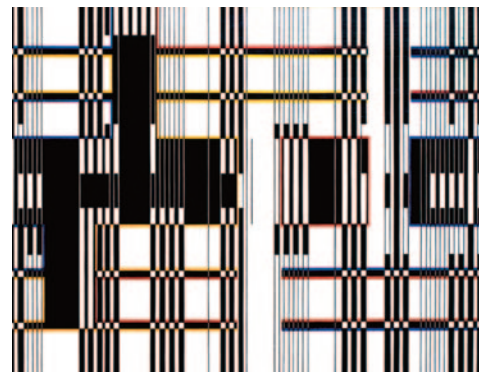
Kathleen Hyndman (1928-2022)



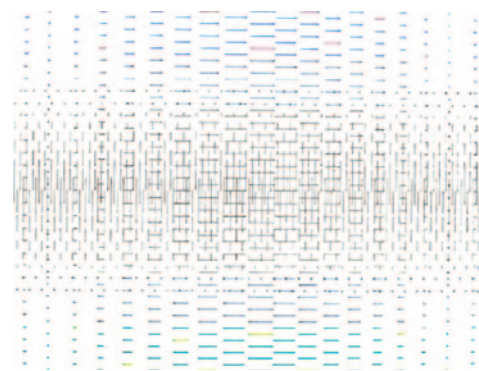
Kathleen Hyndman, *Colour Triple Shift*, 1998



When Fiona Blake and myself, in our roles as Secretary and Chair of the Art Committee, went across to Oxfordshire in the summer of 2023 to see Hyndman's work, we were helped Kathleen's husband and daughter, and by Lizzie Collins, the Director of the Zuleika Gallery. Sadly Hyndman had died the year before. We encountered pictures often dazzling in their display of boldness and finesse. Mathematical sequences, including Fibonacci numbers, and geometry became a means of distributing motifs, shapes and colours. We also included in the selection some early work of urban or war-damaged places and again found in them the same delight in the beauty of precision.



Kathleen Hyndman, 'Counterpoint', 1973



Kathleen Hyndman, *Not Quite Reflections*, c.1999-2000

Later, in the catalogue we devised to accompany this exhibition, we not only included an essay by Martin Kemp on the role of mathematics in Hyndman's art, but also an appreciation by the internationally renowned sculptor, Nigel Hall, RA, who had also come late to her art. He wrote: 'Every work is filled with vibrancy, rhythm and a delight in the world. They seem to express a perfect synthesis of head, heart and eye. How wonderful to have this late introduction to such a profound body of work.'

It seemed rather shocking to one of Clare Hall's Life Members that after the elegance and precision of Hyndman's Constructivism, our next exhibition focused on the slightly alarming antics of a group of cooks.



William Balthazar Rose, *Did He Eat Too Much?*



William Balthazar Rose, *A Cupcake Gift*, 2023

Devised by William Balthazar Rose, the artist, these figures did indeed look a dangerous lot, charging around in chef's uniform, including the tall white cylindrical hat, clutching cleavers, knives and rolling pins. But the narrative they set up eventually suggested the world of everyman. It was partly humorous, tinged with pity as well as fear, and became the locus for discovering the human condition. It spoke to students, some of whom loved it. Its dark humour proved stimulating. It also attracted a fulsome review in *Varsity* and stayed up an extra two weeks. After it finished and was taken down, the common room and internal courtyard felt rather dull and flat.



William Balthazar Rose, *Times of Change*

It is surprising how much energy comes into the College through and from these exhibitions. For some time now in art historical circles it has been fashionable to talk about the agency of art, implying that it has a powering impact that effects more than the eye. The Jamie Lau exhibition, '8 Portraits', which opened in May, was an exhibition of photographs, each showing a single individual figure, Chinese by birth or heritage, enjoying an aspect of the British landscape that had become important to them. One was a Chinese vicar in the Church of England, another a Chinese TV chef. Each explained his or her own story in the wall text accompanying each photograph. This series of photographs by Lau had been shown in the British Library in 2022, as a complement to the exhibition 'Chinese and British', which looked at the various ways in which the Chinese-British in this country have contributed to the British way of life. What was telling about this exhibition and Lau's '8 Portraits' was that stories were not being delivered to us through the mediation of the Western gaze but came direct from the thoughts and knowledge of Chinese individuals and communities.

All last year's exhibitions at Clare Hall created a sense of new energy and surprise. This is a College open to the unexpected. At the time of writing, we are waiting for the arrival of watercolours by Lu Zhongjian, an artist well-known in Southern China. There is much for us to learn from traditional Chinese art.

**Frances Spalding**  
Chair of the Clare Hall Art Committee

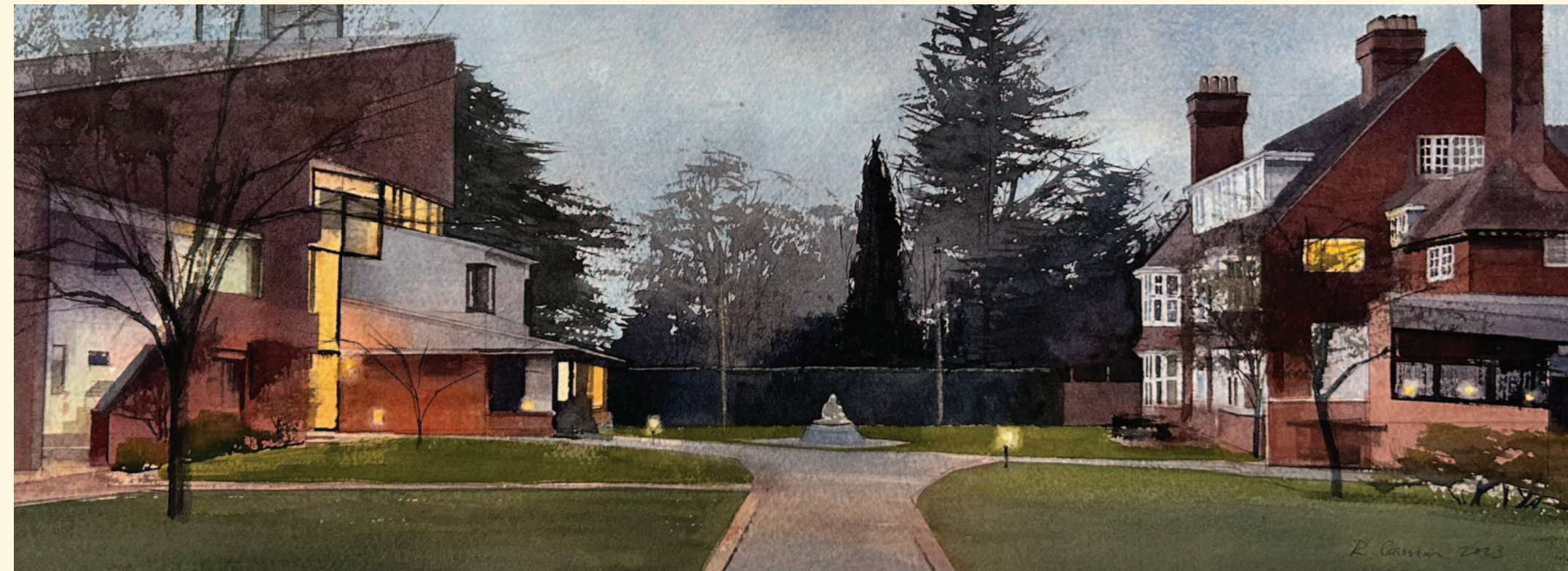


Lu Zhongjian: *Fragrances of the Scholar's Desk*, 2023. Brush painting on rice paper



Left and above: Jamie Lau talking about his '8 Portraits' at the preview to his Clare Hall exhibition





## UNVEILING OF WATERCOLOUR PAINTINGS OF CLARE HALL



On 10 January 2024, three watercolour paintings of Clare Hall were unveiled in the President's Lodge, followed by Formal Hall in the evening. The paintings are by Rachael Grimm, an award-winning watercolourist from New York and wife of a former Visiting Fellow. They depict scenes of Herschel Road, the Scholars' Garden, and Family Walk.

The paintings were commissioned by Fellow Commoner Eric Nye, who presented the unveiling alongside Rachael Grimm.

It was a warm and well-attended evening, with guests greatly appreciating Grimm's work.

If you would like to order prints of Rachael Grimm's paintings, please contact the Porters directly, either in person at the Lodge or by email at [porters@clarehall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:porters@clarehall.cam.ac.uk). Items are only available for collection in person at the Porters' Lodge at Clare Hall.







Nora Crook's paper

## A PLACE TO THINK ABOUT COLERIDGE

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, one of the foremost poets, philosophers, theologians, and literary critics of British Romanticism, was born in Ottery St Mary on 21 October 1772. Exactly 250 years later, the *Friends of Coleridge* opened a year of celebration, unveiling a magnificent life-size statue in his birthplace.

In Cambridge from April to July 2023, Coleridge's alma mater Jesus College curated an exhibition exploring his undergraduate poetry and politics. Bookending this year of celebrations was Clare Hall's own commemoration: **Coleridge at 250: Celebrations and Reflections**.

Home to such Coleridge enthusiasts as Elinor Shaffer, Eric Nye, and Maximiliaan van Woudenberg, Clare Hall is an ideal place to think about the impact and influence of this remarkable writer and thinker. On 19 October 2023 the spirit of Coleridge permeated the Richard Eden Suite with stimulating talks and birthday treats.

Today, the joint publication of *Lyrical Ballads* by Coleridge and Wordsworth in 1798 is seen as the beginning of Romanticism in English literature. When Wordsworth settled at Dove Cottage in Grasmere, Coleridge was a frequent guest. It was a delightful privilege to have our first speaker, the curator of the *Wordsworth Trust* Jeff Cowton, join us via Zoom from Dove Cottage, showing us the very places and spaces where Coleridge and Wordsworth discussed poetry. Our group was regaled by Coleridge artifacts, manuscripts of poetry – even a copy of Coleridge's Last Will.

Our speakers explored the multifaceted nature of Coleridge's verse during, and immediately after, his studies at Cambridge in the 1790s. Stephen Bygrave's paper examined Coleridge's compositions in light of Pittite repression, engaging all delegates into a lengthy discussion. Chris Townsend investigated Coleridge's conception of poetic making, with particular attention to Coleridge's sonnet 'Composed on a Journey Homeward', stimulating some wonderful ruminations worthy of Coleridge's own abstruse musings. And Maximiliaan van Woudenberg showed how some of Coleridge's poems were adapted to music and performed in late-eighteenth century Cambridge at the Black Bear Inn (the inn's former yard is now Market Passage). That Coleridge could not suffer bad singing is evident from his witty 'Couplet on Singing in Church:'

*If sounds like these thro' Heaven's high  
Temples swell,  
I muse, what sort of Noise Folks make in Hell!*

Our afternoon session commenced with renowned P. B. Shelley scholar Nora Crook enthralling us about Shelley's admiration of Coleridge's English translation of Schiller's *Wallenstein*. The curator of the Coleridge Exhibition at Jesus College, Mathelinda Nabugodi, highlighted some of the fascinating items exhibited, including an unpublished letter about Coleridge's brief stint as a dragoon.

Finally, it was time for Coleridge's Birthday Cake, deliciously provided by the fabulous staff at Clare Hall – the Albatross, in a thematic nod to Coleridge's famous poem, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. Our final speaker of the day, Ruth Abbott, kindly organised an excursion to the Old Library at St John's College to hear and



Lunch at Clare Hall. From left to right: Roger Paulin, Graham Jefcoate, Chris Townsend, Maximiliaan van Woudenberg, Stephen Bygrave, Ruth Abbott, Mathelinda Nabugodi, Sarah McGuigan. Photograph by Nora Crook.

view the subject of her talk: a rare pamphlet of Coleridge's 'Christabel' annotated by the poet himself!

Bad weather on the following day could not dampen the Coleridgean appetite for a unique tour of the Jesus College Archive and Old Library. Kindly organised especially for our delegates by archivist Robin Payne and Keeper of the Old Library Michael Edwards, we saw, touched, and browsed records documenting Coleridge's undergraduate life, as well as the actual books borrowed and read by Coleridge in the very place where he spent much of his undergraduate time. A wonderful experience!

Clare Hall's celebrations and reflections of *Coleridge at 250* were an enormous success, one that is indebted to the kind generosity of St John's and Jesus Colleges,

and to staff at Clare Hall, especially our Registrar at the time, Tam Marshall-Watts. Thanks to everyone for making it all happen.

**Maximiliaan van Woudenberg**





# THE MIDSUMMER CRICKET FROLIC



All Photos by Peter Nixon



Come midsummer, the Cricket Club was delighted to hear that Kailen Patel and Alex Ferreira had been selected to play for Varsity, an unprecedented honour for Clare Hall.

Delight was tinged with dismay for Club President Ben Ray, counting on this star pair to avenge the defeat the Students suffered in last year's Grand Midsummer Challenge Match.

We were lucky to get in a game at all this year. An unusually wet springtime had done for scheduled matches if not the customary sociable nets on Mondays, while – minor

detail – construction at Leckhampton put our customarily cake-filled pavilion out of use as well as a sizeable chunk of the pitch.

All obstacles put aside, what a match it was! As happy and closely contested occasion as any down the years: come-again old-timers and never-before newcomers mixing it as gaily as the clouds and sunlight in the sky above. To cap it all, Desmond Lam, he of the iconic Trophy the match is played for, came all the way from Macau to play.

The President's strong line-up batted first and old midsummer hands Josh Matthews, Jehangir Cama and Sam Strong once more bounded their way to undefeated maximums – retiring at between 25 and 30 – while Sam Martensz crafted his sinistra way to double figures.

Egged on by the infectious cheer-leading of wicket-keeper Chris Hendry, the Students remained undismayed. All-rounder Martin Bauer had drafted in his brother Anton from Germany and, both in the field and later at bat, the Terrific Twins performed as well as any missing Blues might have done. Chris, inspired by his own war-cries, eventually threw down his gauntlets to take 2-2 as a bowler – rookie Simon Coleman being unable to atone for the dismissal of Skipper Sam – while Holly Hedgeland, unaccountably cross-dressing as a Student, made some nifty stops on the – truncated, fenced-off – boundary.

Even more wonderfully, newcomer Padmini Rajouri, playing for the first time ever, had returnee all-rounder Ram Rawat caught off her bowling, so repeating the feat of miracle-worker Nadia Thanthwari-Jauhari in the 2022 Match. Not to be outdone, Nadia herself reappeared suddenly to clean bowl last batter Binu Joseph.

After the customary luscious tea in its temporary tent, 117 looked an insurmountable total for a side with a long tail, especially when a smarting Lawrence Hamilton, determined to do with ball what he had left undone with bat, took two early crucial wickets. Worse followed when an unruffled Peter Swann was run out. It was then that Anton swept in to avenge his brother and join old pro 'Unni' Unnikrishnan and the irrepressible Chris in a runfest that took the score from 33 to 99.

Great was the joy and expectation on the boundary when only three sixes were required to level the scores. Alas for the excited onlookers, they had reckoned without the guile of Presidential skipper Sam, who had kept back a couple of star bowlers to be in at the death. These put a stranglehold on the hapless tail-enders, between them unable to muster no more than one wide, Simar Mann alone of them denied a chance to bat.

Proper semblance of order was brought to the whole proceeding by the professional umpiring of reimbursed hitter Ian Strachan and imperturbable Lizzie Conder, perennial guest from sister college Clare along with the revered Mark Smith. Thanks to impeccable Niall Taylor of the Cav we can reliably report the scores as: President's XI 117-7 v Students' XI 100-6.

At the ensuing Dinner, President Ben shone a ray on the day's highlights, singling out newcomers Anton and Padmini for their outstanding performances and saluting Kathreen Ruckstuhl's return to The Match after nine years. He then dispensed a sundry array of mugs and rubber ducks to those less – or more – fortunate than himself.



To conclude the formalities, Desmond Lam, not out on the day, was handily on hand to present his own prized Trophy to winning skipper Sam, a decisive moment providing retiring President Ben – thanked by John Drew for his three-year stint – with good reason to stay on for one more challenging year.

Stellar Stats: Jehangir Cama 30 n.o. & 2-21; Sam Strong 30 n.o.; Josh Matthews 29 n.o.; Unnikrishnan V.B. 27 n.o.; Anton Bauer 25 n.o.; Chris Hendry 22 & 2-2; Lawrence Hamilton 2-10; Martin Bauer 2-15.

## Twelfth Player



# More than History: A Seminar on Historiography



Seminar Group

The Betty Behrens Seminar on Classics of Historiography was established in September 2022 and opened with a recollection of Behrens by Gillian Sutherland (Newnham College) and a speech on Gibbon's *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* by David Womersley (Oxford).

In 2023-24 we heard talks by these eminent scholars.

### MICHAELMAS TERM 2023

- Fernando Cervantes** (Bristol) on Bartolomé de Las Casas, *Apologética historia sumaria* (1552-59)
- Cally J.-B. Hammond** (Gonville and Caius College) on Julius Caesar, *De bello Gallico* (ca. 58-49 BC)
- Rosalind Love** (Robinson College) on Bede, *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* (731)
- June Purvis** (Portsmouth) on Sylvia Pankhurst, *The Suffragette Movement* (1931) and Christabel Pankhurst, *Unshackled* (1959)

### LENT TERM 2024

- Amira K. Bennison** (Magdalene College) on Ibn Khaldun, *Muqaddimah* (1377)
- Robert Black** (Leeds) on Francesco Guicciardini, *History of Italy* (1537-40)
- Paul Cartledge** (Clare College) on Herodotus of Halicarnassus, *Histories* (V c. BC)
- Karen O'Brien** (Durham) on Catherine Macaulay, *The History of England from the Accession of James I to that of the Brunswick Line* (1763-83)

### EASTER TERM 2024

- Paul Seaward** (The History of Parliament Trust, London) on Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, *The History of the Rebellion* (1702-04)
- Tessa Rajak** (Reading) on Flavius Josephus, *The Jewish War* (ca. 75)
- Michael Nylan** (UC Berkeley) on Fu Sheng, *Documents [Shū]* (ca. 221 BC)
- Brian Young** (Oxford) on John Burrow, *A History of Histories* (2007).

We hope that the Betty Behrens Seminar will be part of Clare Hall's life for many years to come.

**Davide Cadeddu**  
Associate



## Virginia Woolf AT CLARE HALL



We were pleased to host a summer course on Virginia Woolf and Childhood, directed by Emeritus Fellow Dr Trudi Tate for Literature Cambridge. Twenty-six enthusiastic readers of Woolf came from all over the world for an intensive week of lectures, tutorials, talks, a play, a recital, and visits to Trinity College and King's College. Thanks to the College staff for the excellent buffet suppers and friendly support. Literature Cambridge will be back in Clare Hall in July 2025 for a summer course on Virginia Woolf: Writing Life. [www.literaturecambridge.co.uk](http://www.literaturecambridge.co.uk)





# GRADUATION 2024



Photos by Jeremy Peters



From the  
**GSB President**

The Graduate Student Body (GSB) faced a tall task heading into the 2023-24 academic year: welcoming the largest incoming cohort of Clare Hall students in college history. How could we empower, support, and ultimately help 300 new and returning students – from all corners of the world, from a variety of academic disciplines, each with a unique story, motivation, and purpose – feel at home in Cambridge?

The answer is: Teamwork.



GSB Committee 2023-24

From front, moving clockwise:

- Andrew McDonald, President
- Simeon Hatzopoulos, Treasurer
- Mingchun Xu, Fellow-Student Interaction Officer
- Ana Isakovic, Green Officer
- Yash Sharma, External Officer
- Sam Morley, Arts & Music Officer
- Maxen Williams, Punt Admiral
- Jinxi Xu, Punt Admiral
- Sarah Brooke, Arts & Music Officer
- Efthymia Kostaki, Sports Officer
- Emma Tuberty-Vaughan, Secretary
- Isabel Conze, Welfare Officer

Not pictured are:

- Lauren Adams, Vice-President
- Kyra Ungerleider and Clara Riégis, Social Officers
- Kailen Patel, External Officer
- Manjari Thakur, Equalities Officer
- Alex Goodenbour, Welfare Officer
- Leah Pitman, Family Officer

Supported by GSB Vice-President Lauren Adams, GSB Treasurer Simeon Hatzopoulos, GSB Secretary Emma Tuberty-Vaughan, and a full committee with a healthy mix of MPhil and PhD students elected in October, I feel confident in saying we’ve made 2023-24 a year to remember here in Clare Hall.

We kicked off the academic year with an action-packed Fresher’s Fortnight, including a neon-themed, glowstick-supplied Welcome Party in the ALB; a movie night featuring *Oxford Blues* in collaboration with the Clare Hall Boat Club; field trips to the University Sports Fair and Cambridge Students’ Union Fresher’s Fair; a Grange Road Bar Crawl in collaboration with Robinson, Selwyn, Newnham, Corpus Christi, and Wolfson; an introduction to the allotment, yoga, and mindfulness in college; an open door night encouraging students to get to know their housemates; and a botanical cocktail night in the ALB.

Playing off the internet meme *How often do you think of the Roman Empire?*, GSB Social Officers Kyra Ungerleider and Clara Riégis kept energy levels high in College with a sold-out Toga BOP (Big Organised Party) in mid-October, scoring rave reviews among the other postgraduate colleges and cementing Clare Hall’s place on the Cambridge social scene in the process.

On a more academic note, GSB Fellow-Student Interaction Officer Mingchun Xu organised a SIG (Special Interest Group) Kickoff in the ALB, inspiring new students and fellows to join SIGs ranging from Art and Architecture to AI and Computer Science, thereby setting the scene for a strong revival of 3 Slide Talks later in the year.

The academic strength and spirit of Clare Hall carried further. A team of five brave



Summer BBQ







students put themselves forward to represent Clare Hall on University Challenge, the BBC's signature television quiz programme, receiving an invitation to interview on behalf of the college for the first time in recent memory. While the team was ultimately not selected for filming, the GSB commends their courage and feels Clare Hall is well-positioned to compete in future years as a melting pot of diverse postgraduate knowledge.

Without a doubt, two highlights of Michaelmas Term owe credit to Sabrina Gyles and Clive Rogers' leadership of an incredible kitchen staff – the Halloween and Christmas Student Formals sold out almost instantly with a one-guest cap. Both meals were outstanding. We were honoured to host the Cambridge University Brass Band and student band Colonel Spanky's Love Ensemble at our Christmas Formal – it turns out that the Clare Hall dining hall makes for an excellent dancefloor once the tables and chairs are cleared.

We enjoyed two wine tasting workshops in Michaelmas Term, led by Wine Steward

Anthony Harris and visiting PhD student Maximilian Kiss.

Following the winter break, the GSB reignited its social torch with a throwback-themed Welcome (Back) Party, awarding prizes for best-dressed and playing a different decade of music every hour. Our GSB Arts and Music Officers Sarah Brooke and Sam Morley hosted a sold-out paint and sip session, mixing pinot with Picasso, then jumped over this high bar by hosting Clare Jazz in the ALB for a sold-out inaugural *Clare Squared* live jazz gig. If that wasn't enough, the two planned a Mother's Day BOP together with the GSB Social Officers, inviting the recently-formed and incredibly-talented student band *Locked In*, platforming an up-and-coming act on the Cambridge music scene before it was cool. GSB Sports Officer Efthymia Kostaki helped students power through the winter blues by coordinating a joint Clare-Clare Hall football team, a joint Selwyn-Clare Hall basketball team, a Clare Hall volleyball team, alongside regular yoga, pilates, and therapy boxing sessions coordinated in collaboration

with the tutorial office and with GSB Green Officer Ana Isakovic.

GSB Welfare Officers Isabel Conze and Alex Goodenbour worked hand-in-hand with GSB Equalities Officer Manjari Thakur to organise stellar Black History Month and LGBTQ+ History Month movie nights, setting the scene for an engaging speaker series on overcoming inequalities in the spring and summer months.

Sabrina and Clive once again outdid themselves in decorating for and delivering our Lent Term student formals, celebrating Lunar New Year in February and offering a family-style Italian menu in March. Student band *Hot Content* provided post-formal entertainment at the former, while student band *Pegasus Quartet* and student-run *Churchill Casino* teamed up for entertainment at the latter.

Closing out Lent Term, GSB Green Officer Ana Isakovic organised the first annual Cambridge Allotment Summit, hosting students from colleges across Cambridge for an evening to exchange best practices



and to plan collaborations for years ahead. Ana was proud to share that the 2023 allotment season ended with a bountiful harvest, supplying fresh produce grown in our own back yard for an allotment dinner party. As I write, the 2024 allotment season is off to a healthy start.

Clare Hall strengthened ties with peer colleges in the form of numerous dining swaps over the course of the year – here in Cambridge and with our sister college St Cross in Oxford – thanks to the commitment of our GSB External Officers Yash Sharma and Kailen Patel. Our students had the chance to attend formals at Murray Edwards, Emmanuel, Robinson, Jesus, Christ's, Churchill, and Sidney Sussex, the latter of these offering photo opportunities with owls on a Harry Potter-themed evening. Hosting these colleges in return, however, was of course a friendly reminder to ourselves and our guests that nothing compares to Clare Hall's food.

Easter Term, known for its hectic schedule of exams and dissertation deadlines, was a bit quieter for the GSB. An open-mic night in the ALB here, a Eurovision watch party in the ALB there. An Easter Egg hunt, friendly to all ages, organised by our GSB Family Officer Leah Pitman. A serene punting session on the River Cam in our very own

*John Benstead*, faithfully maintained by GSB Punt Admirals Maxen Williams and Jinxi Xu. The two termly student formals – a fully vegan Earth Day Formal and a Pride Formal – made for well-attended study breaks.

Capping off the GSB's work in mid-June was the annual Clare Hall Spring Event, an end-of-year party to remember. Featuring a Venetian Carnival theme, we secured the student hip-hop group *Quasar* and an encore performance from *Hot Content* as our headline acts, supported by *Locked In*, *Pegasus* String Quartet, and student DJ *Lorna Bo*. Top-notch food from Clive and Sabrina's team was complemented by a pizza truck, veggie and vegan snack truck, ice cream cart, and chocolate fountain – and that's not to mention the wide variety of drinks. With tickets starting at only £55, our aim was to give Clare Hall a taste of a May Ball at a more student-friendly price point.

As I come to the end of my term as GSB President and reflect upon the year that's passed, I am overwhelmed by love for the College I was elected to serve. I'm thankful to have had this opportunity; I know I have grown both personally and professionally within the role over the past twelve months. I look forward to handing the baton of leadership to our next GSB President, knowing the transformative experience it brings.

Clare Hall may indeed be a *place to think*. But for me, and hopefully for my fellow students, the GSB has made that *place* into a *home*.

**Andrew McDonald**  
GSB President 2023-24

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**Punt Admirals**  
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## THE CLARE HALL SPRING EVENT







Under the guidance of club members, coaches, and College Fellows, our rowers were well prepared for Lent Bumps. However, with increasingly dangerous rowing conditions our W2 (first CHBC W2 boat since 2008) was robbed of the chance to compete in this year's Lent bumps by the cancellation of the getting-on-race. Despite the challenging conditions, each day was eventful and filled with excitement, with W1 ultimately bumping every day to finish +4, and M1 showcasing their strong endurance to finish -2. Even more, our women's team made history by earning blades for the first time in Lent Bumps! This was particularly exciting as our women's team was able to race for the first time with their brand-new blades, purchased with funds raised from their recent Ergathon.

Our members continued to train hard and gain racing experience throughout the Easter Term and the lead-up to May Bumps. One of the most memorable moments this year was our training camp on the stunning Lake Bled in magnificent Slovenia, where we were fortunate to spend a week during the Easter break hosted by wonderful Clare Hall life members Suzana Ograjensek and David Crawley. From them, we learned not only a great deal about rowing but also much about CHBC's history. Additionally, the W1's win at Newnham Head and the 99's Spring Regatta, demonstrated our small postgrad club was ready.

As the pinnacle of the rowing calendar, May Bumps draws numerous spectators, and CHBC were delighted to welcome College members, family, and friends to the first annual May Bumps Riverside Picnic. We had a marquee on Ditton Meadows, with seating, Pimm's, and light refreshments. We were thrilled to see the wider college community, including family, friends, and returning alumni, cheering on our crews

as they aimed for blades. Bumps Week brought countless successes for Clare Hall: the M1 crew achieved blades by bumping every day, while W1 and W2 each managed to gain three bumps and one row-over by the end of the competition.

Participating in rowing at Clare Hall has given numerous students and Fellows unforgettable experiences. Our club is celebrated for its close-knit community of individuals who eagerly seize every chance to row on the Cam. With a commitment to fostering a friendly and inclusive atmosphere, we welcome students and Fellows to start rowing and develop their skills in the sport. This year, we've had a record number of members, and we are now setting our sights on competing beyond the Cam. We hope to see you in a boat or on the bank very soon!

**Oscar O'Hara**  
Club President 2023-24, on behalf of the CHBC Committee



Photos by Giorgio Divitini



Clare Hall Boat Club had an amazing start to the new season with our annual induction at the boathouse. It was all sun and smiles as we tempted a record-breaking 54 novices – a third of all our freshers!

This enthusiasm translated into impressive showings in the first novice race of the year: Emma Sprints, where the women competed in Dalmatian costumes alongside Cruella de Vil and the men took the overall win as The Minions (a unique take on CHBC colours).

In December, we launched the Clare Hall Alumni Boat Club, inviting former rowers and coxes to stay connected through regular updates and events, fostering the unique spirit of the club. The inaugural event featured an alumni crew racing alongside our Senior Men and Novice Women in the Fairbairn Cup, followed by a dinner in the Richard Eden Suite. From 11 am on

Saturday 2 December until 11 am on Sunday 3 December 2023, CHBC ran a 24-hour Ergathon. 38 Boat Club members participated and collectively erged 310km, the distance from Cambridge to Amsterdam! While the Boat Club aimed to raise £5,000 to purchase new blades for the women's crews, they far surpassed that, raising a total of over £7,000. Thanks to our donors and to everyone involved. The money enables us to get high-spec Concept-2 blades for our women's crews, a new GPS-enabled cox box, as well as crew development that keeps our crews competitive among the higher ranks of college rowing.



# ROWING CAMP AT LAKE BLEĐ

Life Members David Crawley and Suzana Ograjensek, both former Research Fellows, were pleasantly surprised to find themselves hosting the Clare Hall Boat Club for a training camp at Lake Bled in Slovenia. Here they talk with Rachel Sippy about this remarkable place and the unexpected Clare Hall reconnection.



**David:** It's been 20 years since I joined Clare Hall as a Research Fellow and my training season for the Olympics in Athens ended. A US national lightweight rower and I joined forces and prepared College members to participate in May Bumps. Most had never rowed; some had never engaged in serious training. I promised that rowing would result in a 'newer sexier you'; we assembled a crew and within 3 months, at least one had shed 30 pounds.

**Suzana:** David and I met at Clare Hall as Research Fellows in 2004. I liked to sit with the boat club members listening to their tales about how on their first session a giant (David is 2m 5cm), clad in rowing lycra showed them how to erg, concluding with 'You never give up on an erg; if you do, you go running with me. And I hate running.' Which apparently worked like a charm.

About a decade later, we were in the US with our first-born and discussing where to create our European holiday base. I am from Slovenia, and we settled on Bled, where we had got married. In David's words, 'it is a place where I can go for a holiday for 30 years in a row and still have things to do'.

**David:** Lake Bled, with a castle mounted atop a cliff rising vertically from the lake, a baroque church on an island in its centre and snow-capped mountains all around has a magical, fairytale feel. This version of paradise has hosted the Rowing World Cup more times than any other venue. The lake is almost exactly Olympic-competition length, relatively free from wind, and has few waves. The first time I sculled on this lake it was an almost spiritual feeling: I knew that I wanted other rowers to come and row here too.

**Suzana:** After an extensive search we found a perfect house on the quieter side of the lake, a 6-minute walk to the Olympic Rowing Centre. It used to belong to Karel Žust, a Slovene rowing national in the 1990s. We later found out that the whole lakeside was a rowers' hill. The Slovene two-time Olympic medalist Sadik Mujkić had grown up in the railway house, and the Slivnik family lived on the lower side. Dad Slivnik was the inspired coach who built the team of local boys to the Olympic standard; his son Jernej now runs Slovenia Rowing and the rowing facilities. The Bled Rowing Club advertisement says simply, 'The best rowing conditions in the world.' David's idea was immediately to bring his old rowing crew from Magdalene, where he rowed as a postgraduate student; they have been coming since 2018. We expanded the house to 12 bedrooms while preserving the large open spaces where a group could socialise, similar to common rooms in Oxbridge.



**Rachel:** The CHBC had never gone on a training camp but it was a goal for us to organise one this year. One of our rowers from 2022-23, Zarja Hude, is from Slovenia and said it would make a great training site. Claire Coffey, the CHBC Social Chair, organised the boat rentals with the Lake Bled Olympic Rowing Centre, having no idea of the Clare Hall connection.

**Suzana:** One day in January, an organiser at the Bled rowing club mentioned that a Cambridge club was coming ... Clare Hall! We were amazed by the CHBC website; I quickly emailed Claire and Oscar. It was such a pleasure to host and spend time with the members of the rowing club and we are so glad that the rowing camp was a success. We will be rooting for you at the Bumps! Having visited the College again lately, we are thrilled to find it as we remember, the friendly, stimulating environment where excellent minds can socialise and exchange ideas.

**Rachel:** It was such a happy circumstance to be hosted by Life Members, and especially CHBC alumni. I won't call it a coincidence because it seems like it was meant to be. David and Suzana were very kind hosts and all 20 CHBC members had an incredible trip. We're looking forward to making this an annual tradition.

**David Crawley, Suzana Ograjensek and Rachel Sippy**



## Clare Hall BURSARIES



We are proud to introduce some of this year's outstanding bursary holders. Our grateful thanks to all our donors.

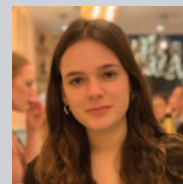
### Kieran Brooker



I am writing an MPhil dissertation in the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic on 'The Bedan Influence on Reginald of Durham's *Libellus de admirandis beati Cuthberti virtutibus*', exploring what literary

theory can reveal about Bede's standing and reception in twelfth-century Durham. My studies are funded by a Cambridge Masters and Clare Hall Boak Studentship.

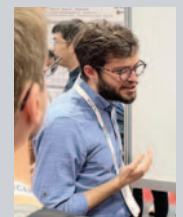
### Josie Edwards



I am from North London. My MPhil dissertation in the Faculty of English is on the work of poet-theorist Veronica Forrest-Thomson and her theory

that parts of poetry are 'semi-meaningful'. My studies are funded by a Cambridge Masters and Clare Hall Boak Studentship.

### Alihan Huyuk



I am doing a PhD at the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics. Thanks to the Boak award, I was able to attend the International Conference

on Representation Learning in Vienna, Austria. There, I presented my work on quantitatively defining what it means to have expertise in a field. These definitions help integrate expert knowledge more effectively into machine learning models.

### Efthymia Kostaki



I am from Athens, Greece. My PhD research at the Judge Business School aims to improve the operational efficiency of clinical trials. I am interested in

inequalities arising in clinical research, particularly the underrepresentation of certain groups in clinical trials. I have received support from the Clare Hall Mellon and Coales Bursaries.

### Sandra Liwanowska



I am doing an MPhil in the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science with support from the Mellon Bursary. My research on 17th and 18th-century intellectual history and the history of

earth sciences explores our relationship with nature, difference and the self in the past. Additionally, I am working on a project to promote education in the History of Science in my home country, Poland.

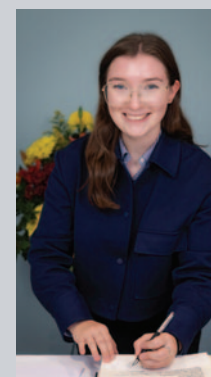
### Kevin Antonio McInerney



I am a recipient of the Cambridge Opportunity Masters and Clare Hall Blakes Fund Studentship.

I am writing an MPhil dissertation in the Faculty of English on Eros in the works of Vladimir Nabokov, by way of Georges Bataille's theories of Eroticism. My work explores how literature allows us to experience sovereign moments at the limits of experience.

### Sheena McKeever



I am doing an MPhil in the History of Art. My dissertation, 'Surgical Operations: Deconstructing Charles Estienne's Anatomical Woodcut Illustrations in *La dissection* (1546)', explores how visual analogies contributed to pre-modern

knowledge about the human body. At Clare Hall, I participated in History of Art, History and Philosophy of Science, and Classics Special Interest Groups. I am from Toronto, Canada and my studies have been supported by a Clare Hall Mellon Bursary.

### Annabelle Schmidt



I am writing a PhD in Theology and Religious Studies. My dissertation studies the theology of desire in the writings of C. S. Lewis and the metaphysical commitments that underlie and shape it. I

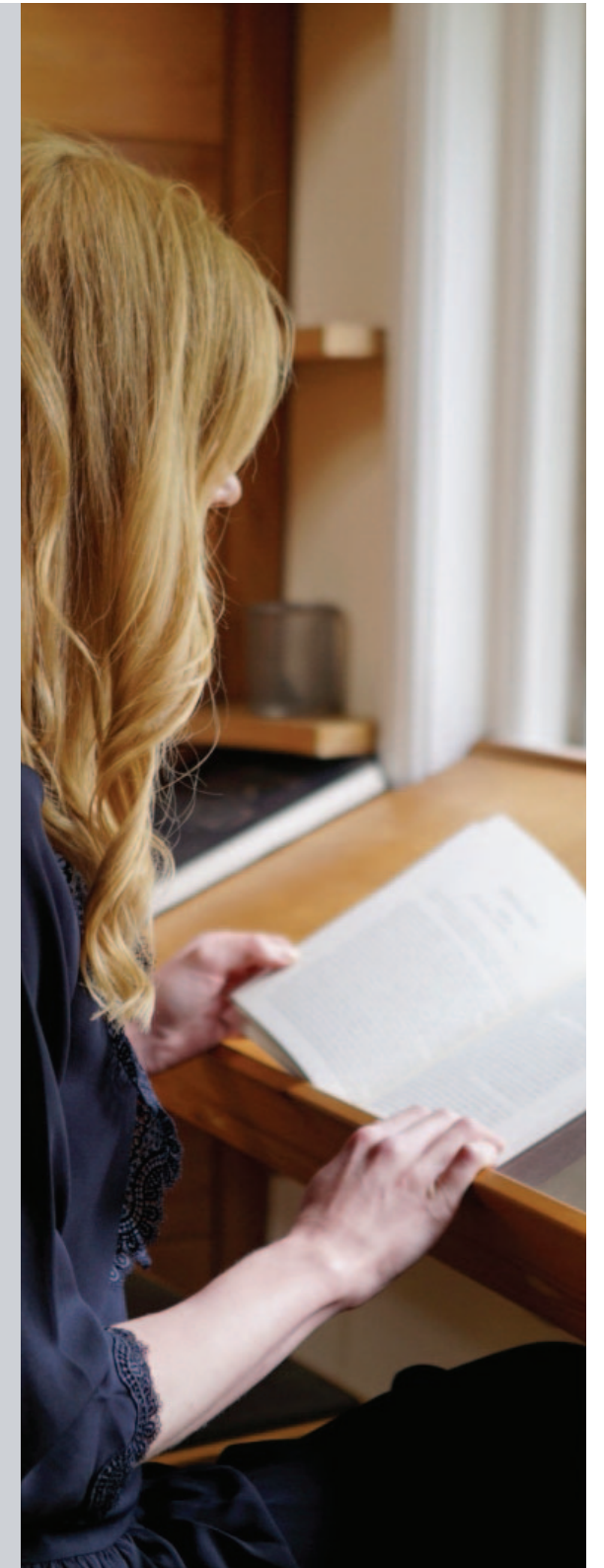
explore in how far desire is a category that can help to describe the relationship between experience and knowledge, and the spiritual surplus in human experience. My studies are supported by the Clare Hall Seung Jun Lee Bursary.

### Lermae Youngs



I am doing an MPhil in Sociology. My dissertation is on 'Intersectionality in Feminist and Anti-Racist Activism: The Radical Imaginations of Black Queer Womxn and Non-Binary People'. I am from Ipswich and received the

Opportunity Studentship with the Clare Hall Pippard Fund.







## MINDFULNESS AT CLARE HALL

In these mindfulness sessions our aim is to enjoy the taste of tranquillity. This year we met weekly during term in the relaxed setting of the King Room.

There were eighteen members of our WhatsApp group but just a few came each time, for as long as they chose. Participants are from all corners of the world and of the Clare Hall community: local and Visiting Fellows, Research Fellows, young students and the retired. Professor Aparecida Vilça from Brazil kindly led the meditation several times.

Members came from a variety of traditions or none; they aimed to cope better with stress, to try new forms of meditation, and in one case to ease the long hours of a Ramadan fast. One student messaged: 'It's honestly something I look forward to every week ... it helps me check-in with myself. These sessions have really made me feel at home in Cambridge.' Another wrote of the help they offered in coping a 'roller coaster of emotions' on moving from home. 'They have not only given me perspective but also have been an anchor to my thoughts in a warm and comforting space.'

The Dalai Lama remarked of the term mindfulness 'But my mind is too full already!' In French and Spanish 'in full awareness' is the preferred term. We are mindful when we are aware of our surroundings, of others, of the here and now, not in thrall to ever-

darting thoughts. Meditation is a concentration practice that cultivates mindfulness. The ensuing state of ease, calm and focus can spill over, arising not just during meditation but at other times of day and night. Our various forms of meditation included developing focus through use of a mantra, by attending to an object, by awareness of our breath. We followed ancient meditations that cultivate friendly feelings and gratitude. We started with ten-minute guided meditations and moved on to longer sessions, as preferred. Tranquillity can arise from even brief immersion in silence and the present moment. In meditation the aim is not to empty the mind but rather to become a detached witness of our own thoughts instead of being carried along by them. We can more easily choose the thoughts that shape our moods and so cultivate peace of mind.

Among the topics we explored is our tendency to eat inattentively. Mindful eating helps us enjoy our food and eat for wellbeing. Until discomfort arises, we often lose connection with our bodies. A scanning meditation cultivates body awareness and relaxation. Physical exercise is invaluable but is not always possible. Meditation helps build inner strength that can be drawn on for such challenging occasions as exams, interviews, and ill health. Emergencies can be better weathered with practiced calm and focus. If you are interested to join, please get in touch via the email address below.

I have been very fortunate to share these sessions with the thoughtful and lovable members of this group, and to cultivate with them my own deficient awareness!

**Elizabeth Garnsey**  
Emeritus Fellow  
ewg11@cam.ac.uk



## JADE CUTTLE NEW GENERATION THINKER

Congratulations to Clare Hall PhD student Jade Cuttle who has been chosen as one of ten New Generation Thinkers, supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the BBC.

Every year, a nationwide search is held for the best new Arts and Humanities academics with ideas that will resonate with a wider audience on BBC radio. From hundreds of applications, these ten New Generation Thinkers represent some of the best early career researchers in the country. They will be given the opportunity to share their pioneering research with BBC Radio 4 listeners, as well as being provided with unique access to training and support from AHRC and the BBC.

Jade's current work is called *Scriptocurrency: The New Language of Black British Nature Poets*. Jade is an award-winning writer and AHRC-funded researcher in English at Clare Hall, studying the coinings of British nature poets of colour. Applying her experience in metal detecting and mudlarking to the field of literature, she unearths evidence of shared currency and an overlooked tradition.

She is writing a book called *Silthood*, a term she coined to explore ancient connections to the earth. Supervised by Robert Macfarlane, her research precedes the publication of *Nature Matters: New Poetries by Black and Asian Writers of the Diaspora*.



# Donors 2023-24

We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and organisations for their generosity during the 2023-24 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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Evan Zimroth  
Kostas Ziovas  
Zhi-Yi Zuo  
Milena Zychlinsky Scharff

*\*Recently deceased*



# News of Members

We are pleased to share the following news from our Members and Friends. You are welcome to get in touch with your own achievements. Please email [lifemembers@clarehall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:lifemembers@clarehall.cam.ac.uk)



Mark Dickens



John Drew play



Marno van der Maas, Emily Goodacre, and Lente

## Abbreviations:

EF - Emeritus Fellow, HF - Honorary Fellow,  
FF - Foundation Fellow, OF - Official Fellow  
RF - Research Fellow, VF - Visiting Fellow



Michael Nedo and Gillian Moore

IVWLab, the architecture practice of **Wesam Al Asali** (MPhil 2016; PhD 2021), based in Syria and Spain, has won the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture. The award is under the patronage of UNESCO and recognises the contributions of five architects who exemplify principles of sustainable development and a participatory architectural approach to societal needs across the globe. IVWLab 'experiments with local materials and explores the complex relationships between the Middle East's built and natural environments to develop collaborative projects and training opportunities that prioritize the exchange of traditional knowledge at all levels.'

Edward J. Dent: *A Life of Words and Music* (Boydell Press, 2023) by **Karen Arrandale** (1976) was nominated one of *The Spectator* books of the year. Karen published a chapter on Vaughan Williams in Cambridge to *Vaughan Williams in Context*, ed. Julian Onderdonk and Ceri Owen (CUP, 2024).

**Pierre-Yves Brandt** (VF 2011) has published *Introduction à la psychologie de la religion* (Labor et Fides, 2023).

**David Chernushenko** (MPhil 1987) has published *Burning Souls*, a thriller about climate change set partly in Clare Hall. David will give a reading from his novel in College on 11 October 2024.

**Riddhi Dasgupta** (PhD 2008), who is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of the law firm Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, addressed world leaders assembled by the British Parliament and the U.S. Congress.

**Jessica Milner Davis** (VF 2011) has contributed 'Re-evaluating Comic Stereotypes: Dirty but Essential?' to a book on humour and morality published by Tampere University Press in Finland. Open access: <https://edition.fi/tup/catalog/book/moral-dimensions-of-humour>

**Mark Dickens** (PhD 2003, RF 2009-11) was an invited speaker at a conference on Mani in Cambridge, organized by the International Association of Manichaean Studies and sponsored by the Ancient India and Iran Trust in Cambridge. He gave a paper on 'Christianity around the Tarim Basin prior to 1500'.

**Nicola Dimitri** (LM) has co-authored *Artificial Intelligence: Economic Perspectives and Models* (2024).

**Norman Doe** (VF 2022) has been elected a Fellow of the British Academy and was appointed as honorary King's Counsel in January 2024.

**John Drew** (PhD 1974), familiar to some as Twelfth Man in the Clare Hall Cricket XI, produced a cricket play, *Râs Mela*, in Vadodara, India, and published a book of essays, *Bangla File*, in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

**Benjamin Garcia-Paez** (VF 2024) has written four articles during his time at Clare Hall, including 'Environmental Problems "out there" are Problems "in here"'; 'Externalities Market and Environmental Regulation'; 'The Productivity Puzzle of the Mexican Economy'; and 'De-industrialisation and Re-industrialisation Conundrum in Latin America'.

**Emilia Wilton-Godberfforde** (RF 2012-15) has been elected a Fellow in French and Tutor at Corpus Christi College.

Congratulations to **Emily Goodacre** (PhD 2022) and **Marno van der Maas** (PhD 2021) on the birth of their daughter Lente.

**Jonathan Hart** (VF 1994) has published *Poèmes de Paris* (Paris, 2024).

**Richard Hill** (VF 1997) is Emeritus Professor at Victoria University of Wellington/Te Herenga Waka, New Zealand. His coauthored book *Secret History: State Surveillance in New Zealand, 1900–1956* (Auckland University Press, 2023) was launched by the New Zealand Minister of Security Services who acknowledged the damage caused to citizens' lives and careers by past surveillance practices.

**Leslie Howsam** (VF 2012) has published *Eliza Orme's Ambitions: Politics and the Law in Victorian London* (2024). Free to download at <https://www.openbookpublishers.com/books/10.11647/obp.0392>

**Dirk Kaesler** (VF 2018) has published *Lügen und Scham. Deutsche Leben* (2023)

Congratulations to **Sohini Kar-Narayan** (PF) and **Jenhangir Cama** (OF) for winning the 2024 IOM3 Materials World Medal.

**Nikolai Kazantsev** (Affiliated Postdoc) continues the investigation of the lessons of the recent Covid-19 pandemic, sharing insights with the Cabinet Office Briefing Rooms (COBRA) about how the UK could quickly scale up emergency production to respond to demand shocks. Nikolai published an article in *The Manufacturer* (May 2024) on the importance of ethical practices in supply chains.

**Rina Lai** (PhD 2016) was recently interviewed by the Radio Television of Hong Kong alongside the former Chief Information Officer of the Hong Kong Government on issues related to educational technology, future of education, and Artificial Intelligence.

**Rose Lai** (VF 2010) has co-authored *When Housing Markets Meet Shadow Banking: Bubbles, Mortgages, Securitization, and Fintech* (2024).

**Angela Leighton** (VF 2005) has published her sixth volume of poetry, *Something, I Forget* (Carcenet, 2023).

**Miriam Levin** (VF 2012) has published 'What Were World's Fairs for? Catalysts for Trade-Based Urban Development in the Second Industrial Revolution', in the *Journal of Urban History*, 47, 6 (2021).

**Alessandro Lomi** (VF 2012) professor at the University of Italian Switzerland, Lugano was nominated Associate Editor of the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* (Series A - Statistics and Society).

**Emma-Louise Lord** (RF and Tutor) was appointed Chair of the Mathematical Association. The MA is one of the oldest subject associations in the world and it has a long-established association with the University.

Congratulations to **Gillian Moore** (Friend and LM) on being awarded the Decoration of Honour in Gold for Services to the Republic of Austria, in recognition of her support of Michael Nedo's *Wiener Ausgabe*, the edition of Wittgenstein's writings that Michael has been producing over the past five decades. The event took place in the Austrian Embassy in London and was attended by Clare Hallers Alan Short and Slaine Campbell, Robert Anderson, Andrew Blake and Fiona Blake, and Julia Hedgecoe.

**Professor Joshua Mostow** (VF 2023) has been honoured with the Order of the Rising Sun by the Government of Japan (2024). He has published *Hyakunin'shu: Reading the Hundred Poets in Late Edo Japan* (2024).

**Matthew Neville** (PhD 2019) received a University Sports Award in 2023 for his Outstanding Contribution to the Ice Hockey Club.



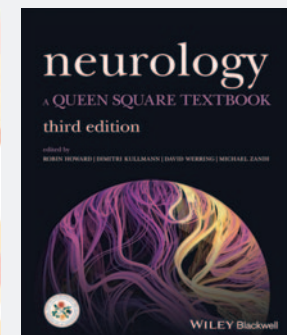
Wesam Al Asali



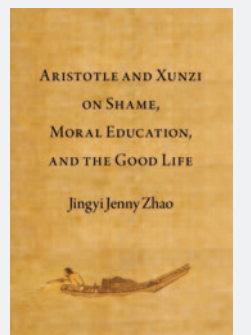
Leslie Howsam



Javier Sebastian



David Werring



Jingyi Zhao



**Anna Oakes** (MPhil 2019) is currently pursuing a master's in journalism at Columbia University, focusing on stories around immigration and the environment. She has also been reporting on the campus anti-war protests and police arrests at Columbia for *Rolling Stone*, *The Nation*, and the Spanish magazine CTXT.

**Heikki Patomaki** (VF 2019) published *Debating the War in Ukraine: Counterfactual Histories and Future Possibilities* is co-written with Tuomas Forsberg in the form of a classic dialogue (Routledge 2023). Heikki also published *World Statehood: The Future of World Politics* (Springer 2023).

**Adrian du Plessis** (Fellow Commoner) was honoured with a Fiftieth Anniversary celebration since he initiated Cambridge publishing for learners of English. What started as a one-man-band now employs more than 1,000 people. The 2023 Annual Accounts report that Cambridge English is now the market leader in all segments in which it operates. The *Cambridge Dictionary* website is the most popular in the world with 415 million users in 2022, consulting 2.3 billion pages.

**Summer Qassim** (PhD 2023) has published 'Avatar, Personified: Split Personhood on an Ethical Online Support Group', *Journal of Ethnographic Theory*, 14, 1 (2024), 191-204.

**Nancy Ramage** (VF 2008) published an article, 'The Giustiniani Pottery: After the Antique', in a new book, *In the Grecian Style: Emulating Greek Vases in 19th Century Ceramics and the Arts* (2023).

**Margaret Rose** (VF 1985) published *Art, Music, and Humour in Theodor Mintrop's Album for Minna* in 2023.

**Javier Fernández Sebastián** (VF 2008) has published *Key Metaphors for History. Mirrors of Time* (2024).

**Henry Schenck** (VF 2024) has been elected a 2023 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

**James Simeon** (VF 2018) has been promoted to full professor at York University, Toronto. He has published *Dynamics of Governance: A Public Policy eCasebook* (2024) and a second edition of *Case Studies in Public Management and Administration*.

**Frederik Vervae** (VF 2023) has published *Reform, Revolution, Reaction: A Short History of Rome from the Origins of the Social War to the Dictatorship of Sulla* (2023).

**David Werring** (VF) has edited and contributed to *Neurology: A Queen Square Textbook*, 3rd Edition (2024). He has been appointed as a National Institute for Health and Care Research Senior Investigator in 2024. In 2024 he took up the role of President of the British and Irish Association of Stroke Physicians.

**John Wilkinson** (VF 2023) has now retired from the University of Chicago and is living in Cambridge. He has published a book of poetry, *Fugue State* (2023), and an absentee memoir, *Colours Nailed to the Mast* (2024).

**Keri Wong** (RF 2018) was awarded an ESRC Policy Fellowship to be seconded to the Home Office Crime Analysis Unit to facilitate knowledge transfer from research



to policy. Congratulations to Keri on her wedding in July 2024, which took place at Newnham College and Clare Hall.

**Yomna Zentani** (MPhil 2019) has co-authored 'The Place of Alternative Dispute Resolution in the New Cypriot Justice System', *International Journal of Procedural Law*, 13 (2023).

**Jingyi Zhao** (RF) has published *Aristotle and Xunzi on Shame, Moral Education, and the Good Life* (2024). It's the first major work to use philosophers from both the ancient Greek and early Chinese traditions to study the emotions.

**Michael Zimmermann** (HF) has been appointed Chair for Diplomacy (I) at Andr ssy University Budapest, a German-language university, funded by Austria, Baden-W rttemberg, Bavaria, and Hungary. He will teach a seminar on diplomatic tradecraft.

Keeping in touch with Clare Hall



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In Memoriam

We are sorry to report the deaths of these College members in the past year.

**David Brading** (OF 1995-2003, EF 2003-24)

**David Burrell** (Associate 1989)

**Margaret Deith** (Associate 1983-88)

**Howard Dintzis** (VF)

**Julian Evans** (PhD 1994-2003)

**David Gardner** (VF 1979, HF 2003-24)

**Philip Hefner** (VF 1977-78)

**Elizabeth Kincaid-Ehlers** (Associate 1981-82)

**Ken Kuntz** (VF 1992)

**David Kunzle** (VF 1992)

**Ruth Morse** (RF 1984-86)

**Tony Morse** (VF 1984-85)

**Jon Pither** (FF 2015-23)

**Robert Segal** (VF 2001)

**Malachy Taylor** (MPhil 1988-89)

We are also sad to report the deaths of these College members in 2022 and 2023.

**Ronald Armstrong** (VF 1984)

**James Clayton** (VF 2002)

**John Downie** (VF 1988-89)

**George Dvorak** (VF 1975-76)

**Colin Gibson** (VF 1992-93)

**Patricia Hart** (Friend)

**Roman Jackiw** (VF 1973)

**Douglas Kelbaugh** (VF 2017)

**Ninon Leader** (RF 1966)

**Howell Lloyd** (Associate 1982)

**Burton Macdonald** (VF 2000)

**Edward Pollock** (Associate 1985)

**Marion Ross** (VF 1978)

**Carl Schneider** (VF 1995)

**Robert Seamark** (VF 1992)



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