

Murray Edwards
College
University of Cambridge

Annual Report and
New Hall Society Review
2020

Contents

Annual Report

Introduction.....4

Academic excellence

Attracting academically outstanding students.....6

Excellence in education8

Library and archives.....10

Student life

Gateway Programme.....12

Supporting the postgraduate community.....14

Music.....16

News from the JCR.....17

News from the MCR.....18

Sports review.....19

Creating a vibrant environment

Rewilding a garden.....20

New Hall Art Collection.....22

Environmental sustainability.....24

Financial stability

Your support matters.....25

Financial report.....26

The Fellowship

The Fellowship.....28

News from the Fellowship.....31

Improving coordination of care for people with rare diseases.....34

An art, an ark, an archive.....37

New Hall Society Review

Who are the New Hall Society

Committee?.....40

Chairman's report.....41

Alumnae update

What does 'diversity' mean to the New Hall Society?.....42

What's the point of diversity without inclusion?43

Reflections on furthering gender equality.....45

Why diversity and inclusion are so important to me.....48

Disability work – both endlessly rewarding and hopelessly frustrating..51

The evolving equality agenda.....54

Reflections on publishing difficulties for writers of colour.....58

Alumnae news

News from our alumnae.....62

Year representatives.....95

Regional representatives.....96

Obituaries.....97

The New Hall Society

Alumnae benefits.....103

New Hall Society AGM.....104

Nomination form.....105

Acknowledgements.....106

Like many of you, I suspect, it is hard to remember the months just before the Covid-19 pandemic. Looking back to last October though, the academic year began in its usual way, with students arriving or returning with enthusiasm. There were several memorable events between then and March. We held the Jo Cox Memorial Lecture, jointly with the Department of Sociology (where Jo studied at Cambridge), with the retiring Speaker of the House of Commons giving a passionate speech about the issues Jo cared about.

In early March, to mark International Women's Day in College, postgraduate students spoke about key issues for women in their own countries. Once again, a group of female school students joined us to perform a piece about the women they admired. This year, underlining our commitment to widening participation, the students came from a school in Dukinfield, Cheshire. Finally, just before lockdown, the Dome provided a wonderful setting for a stunning performance of *The Bower of Bliss* by feminist artist Linda Sterling, including music, dance and visual staging.

Easter Term ended sadly for us and for our students as they made their way home, with a few exceptions for those who stayed with us in College throughout lockdown. We were concerned, in particular, for our

finalists who were gearing themselves up for final exams and the joyful times in Cambridge afterwards. They left us with sadness. We were also sorry to see our Masters students leave, making their time with us so short, and for PhD students for whom laboratories were closed or field work suspended. We then, of course, embarked on a very different mode of teaching, with students following lectures and supervisions online. Our Fellows rose to the new challenge magnificently.

As I write this now, our student community is returning and a new group of 126 Freshers is arriving: our biggest intake ever. Our matriculations in the Dome have to be done in small socially-distanced groups, with three separate sessions each for undergraduates and post-graduates. The whole College team has worked hard to make this a memorable occasion despite the lack of matriculation dinners. The challenge was similar in the summer when our finalists had to receive their degrees in absentia. All being well, there will be formal events in the Senate House next July for them, with appropriate Latin, as they can't receive their degrees twice!

Typically, each year I see Freshers in groups of 15 or so in the President's Lodge, but this year these meetings are online. In articulating their hopes and dreams, I've



Barbara Stocking with students from All Saints Catholic College Dukinfield who performed at the celebration of International Women's Day.

heard many of them say, "I want to find out who I am, what my values are, what I want to do with my life". Others say "I want to be independent, and make my own way" – with a surprising number saying, as part of this, that they want to learn to cook! Usually one or two give these sorts of responses but they have been more common this year. Lockdown has perhaps given them time for reflection, but also a yearning to grow and

learn with other like-minded students. That bodes well for their ability to get the best out of Cambridge, and we can be proud of their approach.

Meanwhile, we strive to balance the freedoms our students want and deserve with the need and responsibility to keep everyone as safe as we can. I hope that by the time we reach the end of this academic year everyone will be able to enjoy their freedoms in full.

Dame Barbara Stocking,
President

Attracting academically outstanding students

Since joining the College a little over a year ago, my first six months were much as I expected: settling in, visiting schools, hosting outreach events, and assessing applications submitted in October 2019. Our long-standing Schools Liaison/Admissions Officer, Catherine Rowley, moved to a new role in Admissions at Peterhouse and we were delighted to appoint an alumna, Rea Duxbury, as her replacement. However, as for all of us, since March 2020 things have

been anything but normal, with the impact of the global pandemic keenly felt by potential applicants, offer holders and their supporters, as well as the staff working in University admissions.

Fortunately, the initial assessment part of the admissions process was completed by mid-January. We were also still able to hold our popular event for offer holders, providing an opportunity to meet current students and staff, and experience what it might be like to join the College community. Soon after this, with disruption and closure of schools in the UK and overseas, the situation for our offer holders became much more challenging; we kept in touch to provide as much information as possible until we received examination results and could confirm places. A total of 126 new undergraduates joined the College in the autumn – a record number – and we very much look forward to them continuing their academic journey with us.

Outreach activities have also been affected by the pandemic. Although we were able to visit schools and welcome students to College until early March, our plans for in-person events from mid-March onwards had to be modified. We successfully adapted many events to online formats,

“ A total of 126 new undergraduates joined the College in the autumn – a record number – and we very much look forward to them continuing their academic journey with us. ”



Potential students were welcomed at College until lockdown in March 2020.

including a conference for science teachers, our Low Participation Neighbourhood summer school and our STEP summer school for female mathematicians, while remaining mindful of the different technologies, resources and home learning environments accessible to students.

Our *She Talks Science* webinar series proved highly popular. As part of the University-wide Open Days we produced online content, including well-received videos of students, staff and a College Tour, and held virtual Q&A sessions. This allowed us to extend our reach to a global scale, engaging with students as far away as the USA and Malaysia, as well as those in the UK.

I am grateful to the whole College community, and in particular to members of the Admissions team, for their support during what has been the most unusual Admissions period in recent memory. Looking forward, we expect that the pandemic will continue to affect our events and processes for many more months, and the full impact of the educational disruption faced by potential applicants may only become evident in the coming years. We will continue to strive to ensure all students have the knowledge, confidence and support to apply to top ranking universities, and to welcome those with outstanding academic potential to the College, irrespective of their background.

Dr Susan Haines,
Admissions Tutor

Excellence in education

This has been a year like none other. Over the course of Lent Term, the growing scale of Covid-19 became apparent, slowly at first and then very quickly. On 18 March, the University announced its intention to deliver all teaching and assessment online for Easter Term, and students were asked to leave Cambridge, where possible. On 31 March the University published outline arrangements for alternative assessments, to be delivered in place of the scheduled in-person examinations, and we have been on a steep learning curve ever since.

For the first time ever, students attended lectures and supervisions remotely, and undertook newly designed assessments online. I would like to pay tribute to the hugely impressive response of our students, College staff and University colleagues, who worked tirelessly to keep the College community safe and to ensure that the core function of the College – the academic excellence of our students – continued under these extraordinary circumstances.

Most of our students were able to leave Cambridge relatively quickly but for a small minority, travelling home was difficult or delayed, and they had to adapt to College in lockdown. Tutors, staff and fellow students all worked hard to support those who remained in residence, and to reassure students who were trying to study remotely. We all got used to online

meetings, supervisions and lectures, and rapidly got to grips with online resources for learning. In many ways, online teaching worked well, and we were all obliged to think about the essence of a supervision in order to reproduce it online. For some subjects this transition was more natural and enabled creative responses; for others it was much more challenging. In addition, academics had to revisit the purpose and scope of assessment in ways that will, over time, prove to be extremely valuable. It has been hard work but the commitment of colleagues has been inspiring.

We are not yet in a position to summarise the academic performance of our students as we have done previously in the Annual Report: suffice to say, we are extremely proud of our 2020 graduates, who studied hard under very difficult circumstances to get the degrees they deserved. We were especially pleased to run a mass online graduation event, complete with speeches, gowns, Latin, and video messages from the College staff. Thanks to Dr Geoffrey Maguire who had an unusual first year as Praelector, as well as to the IT, Events and Communications staff who helped out with this. We look forward to reuniting with our new graduates and celebrating their achievements in person as soon as we can.

Overall, the absence of most of our students and staff during Easter Term was a



hugely sad prospect for College. Time and again students reported difficulties with concentration and sustaining the high level of work required of them; they missed the support of their friends and College staff; some had to manage difficult situations at home when they needed to focus on their studies. We have been reminded in the most poignant way of the support the College provides in its mission of educational excellence.

As I write this, College is preparing for students to return for Michaelmas Term: we will be very pleased to see them; but clearly it will be very different from what we have all known before.

Dr Kate Peters,
Senior Tutor (2019-20)

ABOVE: The Praelector (Dr Geoff McGuire) led a virtual graduation ceremony for graduands in June 2020. Clockwise from top left: Dr Kate Peters, Jo Cobb (Head Gardener), the Praelector, Dr Evelaila Peseran, the President, Teri Byrne (Catering Operations Manager).

**A note from our new Senior Tutor,
Dr Michele Gemelos:**

“Since joining the College in June 2020, I have been working closely with staff, Fellows, student representatives and my colleagues across the University to address the significant educational and pastoral challenges associated with Covid-19. Ensuring the College continues to promote high-quality teaching, dynamic learning and effective welfare support for all our students is foremost in our minds as we make our way through the coming academic year and beyond.”

Library and archives

The arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic in March saw libraries across the University close their doors and switch to providing library services virtually, via email, phone and Microsoft Teams. Library staff quickly adapted to the new ways of remote working in a number of ways:

- Helping students locate electronic versions of print books
- Liaising with library colleagues in faculty libraries to purchase electronic versions of books where possible
- Providing scans of relevant book chapters in our collection where electronic copies couldn't be sourced
- Keeping students and Fellows updated with electronic resources that some publishers made freely available

“ Students were able to join library staff for mindfulness, craft activities, quizzes, virtual yoga and pre-recorded wellbeing walks. ”

- Moving the library's wellbeing activities online via Microsoft Teams. Students were able to join library staff for mindfulness, craft activities, quizzes, virtual yoga and pre-recorded wellbeing walks of the College and surrounding Cambridge area.

The Librarian was a member of the University book returns task force during summer 2020, enabling all University students to return books, from all University libraries to their respective College libraries. Books were then shipped to the UL returns centre for sending onto the relevant faculty libraries.

This summer saw a lot of changes to the library and IT Resource Centre as library staff prepared for the return of students. Covid-19 regulations were implemented to ensure safe and hygienic work practices for both students and library staff during Michaelmas Term. Library staff implemented zero contact services: 'Click and Collect' and 'Scan and Deliver' to provide library items and scans of book chapters for personal use only. 'Book to Browse' and 'Book to Study' slots have also been put in place to enable students to visit and work in the library. With the library only opening for reduced hours, the IT Resource Centre remains 24/7 access allowing students to collect their printing and 'Click and Collect' items. The IT



During Easter Term and lockdown, students were supported by the library team to find alternative electronic resources.

Helpdesk also moved into the IT Resource Centre to provide face-to-face support for students by appointment only.

Face-to-face induction tours of the library and IT Resource Centre were given to incoming freshers. Tours were either by household or groups of six in line with Government Covid-19 guidelines. Library staff wore clear face shields to ensure all students could hear the tour. Our new

Senior Library Assistant, Valerie, also produced a series of bitesize videos on the library, IT Resource Centre, zero contact services, book to browse and study, the wellbeing programme and the library/IT staff, for students not able to attend a face-to-face induction.

Lisa Hutchins, the Archivist and Records Manager is working with the IT Manager on implementing an interim electronic records management system as part of the IT Mobility project.

Kirsty Preest,
Librarian

Gateway Programme



Our unique Gateway Programme, enabling students to optimise academic and career opportunities, was popular again this year across all year groups.

Dr Juan Block has taken over as Arts and Humanities Director of Studies and spent a considerable amount of time developing new content for the first year Arts and Humanities Academic Skills sessions.

Increasing engagement with postgraduate students has always been challenging. The diverse nature of the group and their interests, and the fact that many postgraduates work and live away from College means attending an evening session is not as easy as it is for those in College.

“ In spite of the challenges thrown up by the pandemic, a small number of alumnae were able to offer internship.



“My Gateway” sessions encouraged the postgraduates to develop their own learning objectives for the duration of their time in Cambridge, to set personal success criteria, and to consider how they will assess their performance against these objectives. This is particularly useful for postgraduates on one year courses to maximise their opportunities during a short time.

The Programme also piloted a new session entitled “Communicating Your Research” covering key skills and resources to enable a researcher to advance their research and future careers, which received positive feedback.

Unfortunately, Gateway Challenges Awards were not possible this year due to the consequences of the Covid-19 but it is likely that as many as 100 students would have been eligible, and plans to take this into account at the end of this year are in place.

We were however able to award a small number of Gateway Leavers Awards to final year and postgraduate students graduating in 2020. We hope that these awards will help these students with their next steps in this particularly challenging year.

Although we had a good number of applications for our Internship Initiative and Work Placement schemes, many



Students attended over 50 sessions provided in the Gateway Programme.

of the planned opportunities could not go ahead. However, a small number of organisations were able to offer online internships and several others offered students a variety of online discussion and meeting opportunities, for which we and the students were very grateful.

We will celebrate 10 years of the Gateway Programme at Murray Edwards College in a number of creative ways over the next year, and hope that many of you will be able to engage with us to join the celebration. We also look forward to publishing the findings of a survey, *10 Years of Gateway*, using feedback from participants telling us how Gateway has helped them over the course of their careers to date.

Around 40 alumnae were involved with the Programme this year, along with a number of Fellows and others connected to the College. In spite of the challenges thrown up by the pandemic, a small number of alumnae were able to offer internship opportunities and others enabled Gateway to offer online careers coaching and advice to finalists to help them to plan for their futures in these very uncertain times.

Gateway continues to develop and evolve to meet the needs of students, and this year we will be going online for the majority of Michaelmas Term. We hope that as well as the many challenges that this will pose, it will also offer new opportunities to engage alumnae from much further afield.

Dr Kathy Kingstone,
Tutor for Student Development

Supporting the postgraduate community

The 2019/20 academic year started like any other: we admitted a new cohort of around 80 students, who joined our talented postgraduate community of 200 women. Perhaps encouragingly, we noted an increase in the number of students applying to take further study in subjects that are geared towards engagement with the current global issues of climate change and sustainable economics. In light of this, it was a particularly active year for green initiatives from the postgraduate student body, including regular newsletters

and changes to improve food waste management in College. Among the other events held this year, the MCR organised a very successful fundraising Formal for breast cancer research, and another Postgraduate Research Symposium, which spanned over two days and saw 16 students volunteer to present their own research to each other and the Fellowship.

As many of us personally experienced, plans for events were disrupted after March when the country went into lockdown. With over 36 nationalities represented in our postgraduate student body, it took a massive effort from the Tutorial team, College Tutors, student volunteers and College staff to support the postgraduates in staying connected with us – whether they went home or remained in College. Despite this challenge, quick thinking led to a number of virtual events taking place including remote Netflix parties, an online information event for offer holders and a virtual graduation celebration.

We know there is still much uncertainty ahead and we remain committed to supporting and nurturing all our students. Volunteers among the Fellows, staff and students will continue to provide support for self-isolating students, and the College

“ We know there is still much uncertainty ahead and we remain committed to supporting and nurturing all our students. ”



Graduate students enjoying Apple Day in the gardens in October 2020.

has a number of online activities planned for the coming year. The majority of our postgraduates do not live on-site, so regular online activities will be key to providing a way for them to engage fully with the College community. In addition, our Gateway Programme, which has been redeveloped with specific postgraduate sessions on professional relationships and career building, will be delivered to students online.

We recognise the challenges our postgraduates face following the disruption to their research, learning and lives. Accordingly, this year the College committed to co-funding, along with the University, many applications for financial hardship for postgraduate students hit by the cost of relocating and disruption to their studies. Looking forward, the College is eager to further cement the support for our postgraduates in terms of funded studentships, accommodation provision, and a memorable environment.

Dr Emma Cahill,
Executive Graduate Tutor

Music



Inter Alios choir members waiting in a Dome 'turret' before singing Grace for dinner.

We started the year with great ambitions: the launch of an exciting performance award and a tour for the *Inter Alios* choir, but both were postponed due to tragic circumstances.

Both projects were in conjunction with the Thomas Harris International Piano Foundation, established by Judy Harris (New Hall 1976) to support musicians' early-career development. Sadly, Judy passed away at the end of July – a desperately tragic loss to both the Foundation and the College. It deeply saddens me that the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic prevented Judy from hearing our student musicians in her local church, as she had so enthusiastically

arranged, although we were delighted to host a concert on behalf of the Foundation in January.

We were able to run a recital series in Michaelmas and Lent Terms. There were many impressive performances from our student musicians, and two *Purcell 360 Festival* events featuring contemporary and jazz reinterpretations of Henry Purcell's music. We also welcomed Christina McMaster for a lecture and recital on the music of Ruth Crawford-Seeger.

For most Cambridge Colleges, the chapel is a musical hub, and inextricably entwined with the Anglican choral tradition. New Hall was built with no such structure, and Murray Edwards College, unencumbered by history and progressive by nature, has an opportunity to innovate. *Music & Words* is our version of choral evensong, featuring poetry from around the world, music from Nina Simone to Edward Elgar, and talks that are pertinent to whoever cares to listen. The series featured several talks about neurology, a presentation by PhD student Debbie Yeboah on Ghana's Year of Return, and an all-female programme for International Women's Day.

Dr Ewan Campbell,
Director of Music

News from the JCR

There is so much news to share from the JCR from the past academic year!

The preceding JCR Committee did some amazing work, leaving a legacy which we aim to build on this year. Achievements include securing the provision of free emergency period products in College toilets, trialling the use of composting bins in Pearl House, and the first formal engagement with student representatives about rent. Last year, Pride History Month was celebrated by raising the rainbow flag on the first and last days of Pride, and this year we ran a Pride Month social media campaign on the new Medwards JCR Instagram page (@medwardsjcr).

An online Easter Term certainly was a challenge for us all, and despite the circumstances I'm really proud of what we achieved. We focused on staying connected

“ We focused on staying connected and keeping up the Medwards community spirit. ”



JCR members in the 'nest' built by gardeners in early spring 2020.

and keeping up the Medwards community spirit. To do this, the Committee hosted online events, which included film nights, a 'Great Medwards Bake Off,' and the very popular Zoom pub quizzes, which saw a turnout of over 100!

In addition, we formed two new Committee roles – a Trans and Non-Binary Officer and a Social Media Officer – to be elected in Michaelmas Term. The JCR was also keen to support the Black Lives Matter movement by donating £100 to both the Stephen Lawrence Foundation and Target Oxbridge.

Freya Watson,
JCR President 2020-2021

News from the MCR



The MCR is a cornerstone of the postgraduate community, providing support, mentorship, conversation and life-long friendships – and without doubt, this year's MCR Committee has gone above and beyond when it comes to creativity and commitment to their roles.

During the 2019-20 academic year we hosted a number of in-person and online events including: movie nights, green-themed documentary viewings, the hugely popular 'craft-er-noon' welfare sessions, post-Formal Hall drinks and cheese, photo competitions and much more.

Other highlights for the year include: the implementation of recycling bins, student leadership on sustainability, efforts towards ensuring an inclusive and positive experience for international students,

students of colour and students from other under-represented backgrounds, themed Formals in the Dome, a completely new MCR website, and an increased social media presence that more effectively engages current and prospective students.

As a new cohort arrives in College amidst a world full of uncertainty, at least one thing remains constant: the support the MCR community provides. The collective strength stemming from our diversity and friendship is something we know we can all rely on.

We wish a warm welcome to new students and a loving farewell to our graduating members.

Akhila Denduluri,
MCR President, 2019-20

Sports review

Throughout the 2019-20 academic year, Murray Edwards students have successfully competed and achieved stunning results in many different sporting events and activities, and the College has continued to support a range of students by creating an inclusive and competitive atmosphere.

I would like to say a huge 'congratulations' to any students who have represented the University or the College this year, and also a 'thank you' to all those who have shown their support! We did brilliantly as a College in this year's inter-collegiate Cuppers events in the Michaelmas and Lent Terms, which are also a source of some friendly social competition with other Colleges.

Despite the challenges which this year has thrown at us, the spirit and determination

“ College has continued to support a range of students by creating an inclusive and competitive atmosphere. ”



with which our sports teams and individual athletes have pushed through are truly commendable – whether it be by participating in (virtual) events or fundraising for a good cause.

The JCR also remains committed to maintaining and developing the College gym, which is at the heart of College's on-site sports facilities.

I am sure that the coming year will be an opportunity for yet more sporting success and participation, so bring it on!

Pippa Wonders,
JCR Sports Officer, 2020-21

Rewilding a garden

For the past year I have been reading about ‘rewilding’ projects worldwide. As part of this I have visited sites like Knepp, the Great Fen and Wicken Fen, drawing and painting about what I have found and experienced there. A big part of rewilding is the grazing and browsing of herbivores and, of course, their predators which no longer live in this country. Rewilding using herbivores like cattle, deer, pigs and ponies creates an environment so diverse and dynamic that extraordinary results in biodiversity can be seen in only a few decades. It also results in carbon capture in the soil and other benefits to counteract continuing changes in the global climate. It is such an optimistic message, and the perfect antidote to the gloom of Covid-19.

“ For several years the College has been undertaking ‘urban’ forestry and developing areas to support wildlife and biodiversity. ”

For several years the College has been undertaking ‘urban’ forestry, especially on the Huntingdon Road side of the site, and developing areas to support wildlife and biodiversity. Now that we have a track record in this area, we are able to share our experience and influence action beyond our walls.

You may have seen some of the social media and press coverage about the wonderful transformation of the famous Back Lawn at King’s College into a wildflower meadow this past spring and summer. That project will bloom again next spring, and we have created a special project with the King’s Head Gardener (Steve Coghill) for their next harvest in 2021. Some of you might know (from past reports) that I have some shire horses and they will graze on the King’s lower field next year. As a wonderful addition, with the support of the Shire Horse Society, a team of professional shires will cut, turn and cart the hay from the Back Lawn in 2021. Next year, I will provide photographs with the College gardening team taking part – wearing traditional agricultural smocks of course. I can’t wait!

Jo Cobb,
Head Gardener



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Jo and her horse, Alice. Flora and fauna in the wilder parts of the garden. Shire horses at Stow cum Quy and a Lizard Orchid on Devils Dyke, Newmarket.





New Hall Art Collection

Towards the end of 2019 I was thrilled to take part in a panel discussion organised by Phaidon and the Association for Women in the Arts (AWITA) at Sotheby's to celebrate the launch of *Great Women Artists*, the most extensive book of women artists ever published. Featuring more than 400 artists from more than 50 countries and spanning 500 years, we were proud to count 30 artists from the Collection in this comprehensive book.

Moving into 2020 the Collection had a tremendously busy start. We collaborated with the University Library to support *The Rising Tide* exhibition about the history of women at the University. *Nudity, Nakedness and the Female Body in Art* was led by students and included a talk by the art historian and writer Frances Borzello,

followed by a life drawing class that saw abstract projections cast upon the models.

International Women's Day was our biggest yet and involved a packed day of student-led talks, discussions and screenings. We opened *Femfolio*, an exhibition that brings together the work of 20 women influential during the feminist art movement in 1970s America. Commissioned in 2007 by the Brodsky Center at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, *Femfolio* presents a variety of feminist voices and styles. *Femfolio* was generously donated to the Collection by Marjorie Martay, founder of ArtW, an organisation committed to promoting women in creative disciplines.

A highlight of the year was the sensational *Bower of Bliss* performance by the



LEFT TO RIGHT: *In Spinster Salt's Collection* by Lubaina Himid, on display at the Heong Gallery 'We are Here' exhibition. A dancer in the performance of Linder's *Bower of Bliss*. *Identity* by Emma Amos, in Femfolio.



leading artist Linder Sterling, created in collaboration with Kettle's Yard as part of Linder's first UK retrospective *Linderism*. It was a mesmerising collage of dance, costumes, props, sound and music that was at once celebratory and sombre. Student Lilian Wang (MEC 2018) and the *Inter Alios* choir took part in the performance. Organised on the cusp of the lockdown, this collective moment shared by so many felt like a fleeting moment of togetherness.

The closure of our spaces meant we opened online. We collaborated on events with the Heong Gallery at Downing College as part of *We Are Here*, an exhibition telling the story of women in art in Cambridge Colleges. The exhibition featured two of our art works; *Extase* (1986) by Mary Kelly and Lubaina Himid's *In Spinster Salt's Collection* (1989). We also contributed an essay on the history of the Collection to their beautiful exhibition catalogue which can also be read online.

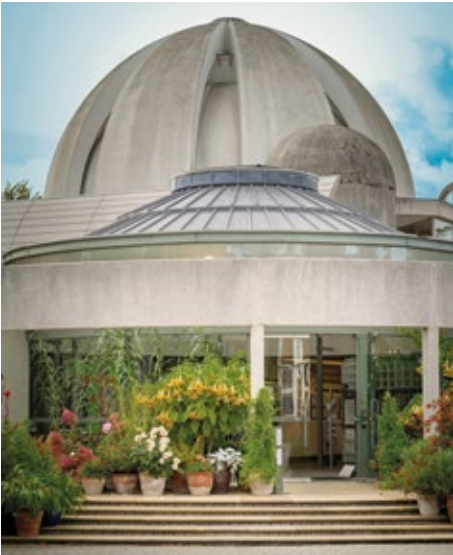
Black Feminist Artists event took place online in August, led by two History of Art students Anastasia Kolomiets and Alayo Akinkugbe, who discussed the work of Faith Ringgold, Emma Amos, Lubaina Himid and Maud Sulter. Organised by the MCR, we were delighted with how many people participated. The talk was recorded and can now be viewed on the [MEC YouTube channel](#).

The Collection has been steadily growing and we were honoured to acquire works by Chloe Ho, Jacqueline Morreau and Maeve Gilmore. As soon as we are able to welcome visitors, we look forward to sharing our future plans with you.

To sign up to our newsletter visit: www.art.newhall.cam.ac.uk

Harriet Loffler,
Curator, New Hall Art Collection

Environmental sustainability



MARTIN BOND PHOTOGRAPHY

College wins GOLD Green Impact Award second year in a row

Green Impact is the University's environmental accreditation scheme, which encourages and supports Colleges and departments across the University to reduce their environmental impact and improve sustainability. Teri Byrne, Catering Operations Manager, commented: "I'm absolutely thrilled we've won another Gold Award. The team is totally committed to improving sustainability within the College and I'm just so pleased their hard work has paid off."

The Green Impact auditors spoke very positively about the work that's taking place throughout the College: "It was great how they had managed to get the whole College in the spirit of sustainability, for example through allowing anyone to forage fruit from the orchard and sharing recipes cooked at formal dinners." The auditors were particularly impressed with how we have managed to make sustainability a core element of people's roles within the College, and our commitment to involving both the College community and the local community in all things environmental. Many congratulations to all those who contributed to this impressive achievement!

Do environmental food labels influence consumer choice?

This year we worked with third year Land Economy student, Sophie, to include environmental labels on the food options available in the Dome. The food labels were designed to make the environmental impacts of food consumption salient at the point of purchase, attaching the indirect consequences of eating in the Dome to diners.

For more about the project visit:
www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk/news/do-environmental-food-labels-influence-consumer-choice

Your support matters

Thank you to all alumnae and friends of the College who have given exceptionally generously in the last 12 months. As noted in the report from the Bursar, the last six months of the financial year which ended in June were very difficult. From April onwards, however, many of you responded without hesitation to give financial support to our students. In many cases this was an extra gift on top of those already planned or being made. In such tough times for everyone, we are incredibly grateful to our alumnae community for such a strong demonstration of your loyalty and doing what you can for our students and their needs.

“ We know that some of you are also facing your own difficulties, financially and personally, so we are especially grateful to everyone who was able to give at this time. ”

Every gift matters. Collectively 160 donors have given £360,000 since April 2020 and the average gift was just £128. This generosity has provided safety, comfort and financial security for today's students. Here are some of the important items you have helped put in place:

- Bursaries and emergency funds for students in unexpected need
- Safe transport for students arriving into quarantine
- Extra kitchens so that we can create household 'bubbles' of students
- Marquees in the gardens (with heating!) for safe social spaces
- Most important of all, support for the essential costs of teaching and keeping the College open and safe

Your gifts have helped the College get through a very difficult period caused by the loss of rental and conference income over the summer. We know that some of you are also facing your own difficulties, financially and personally, so we are especially grateful to everyone who was able to give at this time. Your contributions are not unnoticed by the students, who send their collective thanks to you all.

Fiona Duffy,
Director of Development

Financial report

The financial year was, of course, overshadowed by the global pandemic, the immediate effects of which was students leaving residence. The College lost income across all residential, conferencing and catering activities. There was also a sharp fall in investment values in March.

The College reacted swiftly and implemented a series of special measures to combat significant income losses. This action, along with job retention scheme government support, increased income from academic fees, the considerable generosity of College alumnae and other benefactors, and resilient investment asset performance meant that the College's overall financial position improved upon the previous financial year. Total net assets are £106.6m (2019 - £105.1m). The final annual result in terms of income and expenditure was a small deficit.

“ The final annual result in terms of income and expenditure was a small deficit. ”

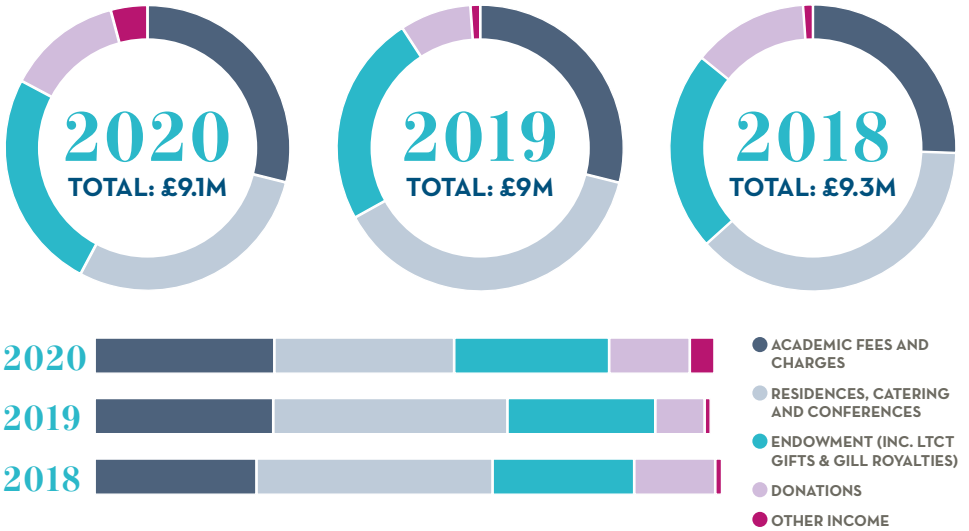
Weathering the initial financial brunt and conserving our valuable resources will help meet the likely continuing challenges and uncertainty ahead. Resources will be needed to adapt to different ways of working, to build on previous technology investment to deliver educational and operational aspects of the College's activities.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, the College increased the number of communal kitchen spaces in Pearl House – essential for creating household groups for the start of the new academic year. Repairs were also concluded on the library roof, happily less intrusively than as at first been thought necessary. The iconic Dome roof and turrets were cleaned, with minor repairs needed there also. Despite the challenges of Covid-19, the College continues to remain ambitious, and to consider options on how to increase its physical footprint, and grow its contribution to strategic developments at both College and University level.

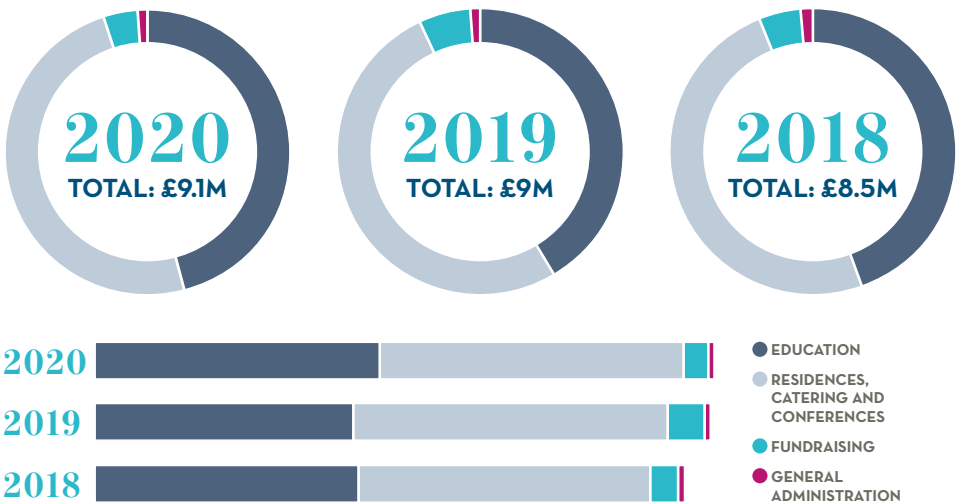
This year, perhaps more than any other, has shown the deep commitment many alumnae and benefactors have to the College. The College remains extremely grateful to all for that commitment, and which has proved invaluable during this testing time.

Rob Hopwood,
Bursar

INCOME



EXPENDITURE



The Fellowship

PRESIDENT

Stocking Barbara CBE DBE MA MS

FELLOWS

1992

Filippucci Paola MPHIL PHD

1994

Sinnatamby Ruchi MA MB BCHIR

1995

Henson Frances MA PHD VETMB MRCVS

1998

Lyne Raphael MA PHD
PROFESSORIAL FELLOW

2001

Bennett Wendy MA PHD
PROFESSORIAL FELLOW

2004

Turenne Sophie MA PHD

2006

Mellor Leo MA PHD

Callery Liz MA PHD

2007

Piotrowski Alex PHD

Hadeler Oliver PHD

Pesaran Evaleila MSC PHD

2009

Mundy Nick MA VETMB PHD

Peters Martha Kate MAA PHD

2010

Preest Kirstie DIPILM MCLIP

2011

Davey Emanuela PHD

Polonsky Rachel MA DPHIL

2012

Lee Charlotte MPHIL PHD

Bavidge Jenny MA PHD

2013

Leow Rachel PHD

Duffy Fiona MA

2014

Bulley Simon MA BMBCH

Watson Aleksandra DPHIL MBIOCHEM

2015

Tucker Paul DPHIL PROFESSORIAL FELLOW

Matthews Gareth MA PHD MBS

Delap Lucy PHD

Willey Hannah PHD

Murray Odette LL.M

Maguire Geoff MA MLITT PHD

2016

Krieger Holly PHD MS

Williams Sarah PHD MSCI

Hamlett Lydia MA PHD

Alexopoulou Dora PHD MSC

Rahman Taufiq PHD MPHARM MSC

2017

Jones Nicola MA BMBCH

Block Juan MA PHD

Less Robert MA PHD

2018**Khukhro** Ana PHD**Ushiyama** Rin MPHIL PHD**Stevenson** Gavin MPHIL**Cahill** Emma PHD MSC**Pérez Niño** Helena PHD MSC**Davies Wykes** Megan PHD MENG MA**Cope** Thomas MA MB BCHIR MRCP
MCLINRES PHD**Hopwood** Robert MBA FFCA**Hearn** Tim PHD**Lindenthal** Thies PHD**Collier** Nigel MSC PHD PROFESSORIAL FELLOW**2019****Kingstone** Kathy DPHIL**Turner** Julia MA PHD**Corfield Carr** Holly MA PHD**Wills** Clair MA DPHIL PROFESSORIAL FELLOW**Usher-Smith** Juliet MA PHD MB BCHIR MPHIL**Haines** Susan MA MSC PHD**Thompson** Robert MSC PHD**Wilkinson** Claire MA PHD**Morris** Stephen MSC PHD
PROFESSORIAL FELLOW**2020****Herzog** Michael PHD**Griffin** Miranda MPHIL PHD**Knowles** Helena MSC PHD**Gemelos** Michele MPHIL DPHIL PGCE**Bulat** Luana MPHIL**Sleiman** Hana MA**HONORARY FELLOWS****1973****Musgrave** Thea MUSD CBE**1996****Bell Burnell** Jocelyn
PHD (HON) SCD FRS DBE**1997****Rawson** Jessica LITTD FBA DBE**Bacon** Jennifer Helen MA (HON) DSC CB**2000****Fukuda** Haruko MA (HON) DSC OBE**2002****Shirley** Stephanie CH DBE (HON) SCD**2003****Hambling** Maggi CBE**King** Julia MA FRENG DBE**2007****Thomas** Jean MA SCD DBE FRS FMEDSCI**2008****Lonsdale** Anne MA CBE**MacGregor** Joanna FTCL
FRAMHON FRSA OBE**2010****Stocking** Barbara DBE MA MS**2013****Rego** Paula DBE (HON) LITTD**2015****Husain** Mishal BA LL.M**Rees** Helen OBE MB BCHIR MA MRCP
DCH DRCOG**2016****Cooper** Eileen OBE RA FRCA HON FRCA
DIPAD MA**Cole** Margaret BA (HON) LLD**2018****Courtice** Polly MA LVO DBE**Wilkinson** Patricia MA MBE



2019

Garfield Liv MA

2020

Lawrence Doreen BARONESS LAWRENCE OF CLARENDON OBE (HON) LL D

EMERITUS FELLOWS

1995

Lynden-Bell Ruth MA PHD SCD FR S

Pretty Kate MA PHD

Womack Joanna MA

1997

Ryan Kiernan MA PHD

2005

Hardie Philip MA MPHIL PHD

Wilson Penelope MA DPHIL

2006

Hinde Joan MA SCD PHD

Lloyd Rosemary MA PHD LITTD

Rubery Jill MA PHD

2007

Venkitaraman Ashok Ramakrishnan
MA MB BS PHD

2009

Ardavan Houshang PHD

Harris Hatty MA PHD

2010

Bulkin Bernie PHD

Wright Nicholas MA

2012

Glen Heather MA PHD

2014

Hiley Robin MA PHD

Strietman Elsa MA

2016

Saxton Owen MA PHD

2018

Coakley Sarah MA THM PHD

Guthrie John PHD

Roland Martin BM BCH MA CBE

2019

Horrell Sara PHD

Huang Chris MA PHD MD SCD

2020

Drayson Liz MA PHD

BYE FELLOWS

Turner Angelina PHD

Gray Roger MBBS LRCP FRCS MA

Schechter Sarah MA

Pearcey Sarah MBCHIR

Tobin Amy MA PHD

Campbell Ewan MPHIL PHD

Cieslik Katarzyna MA MSC PHD

Azvet Riaze MSC

Abel Sarah MPHIL PHD

Ong Min-Yen MA PHD

Mcevoy Sean MA PGCE

Thomas Sherine MSC PHD

Molnar Daniel MPHIL PHD

Shorthouse David DPHIL

Fairclough Thomas LLM PHD

Gurdur Bröo Didem MSC PHD

Mack Stefanie PHD

Huhn Gianna MSC

Barford Anna MA PHD

Donker Teije Hidde MSC PHD

News from the Fellowship

Departing Fellows

The College was sad to bid farewell to a number of Fellows this academic year, including: Dr Neha Agrawal (Postdoctoral Bye Fellow), Dr Jill Armstrong (Bye Fellow), Dr Jeff Barda (Junior Research Fellow), Dr Laura Carter (Junior Research Fellow), Dr David Chisnall (Postdoctoral Bye Fellow), Dr Elizabeth Drayson (Fellow in French), Dr Therese Herling (Research Fellow), Dr Leo Jurascheck (Bye Fellow), Dr Marta Magalhaes (Fellow in Anthropology), Dr Pieter Magusin (Fellow in Chemistry), Dr Flavia Mancini (Bye Fellow), Dr Emily Mitchell (Research Fellow in Earth Sciences), Dr Natasha Pairaudeau (Bye Fellow), Dr Mike Pivnenko (Fellow in Engineering), Professor John Spencer (Bye Fellow), Dr Harika Tankasala (Postdoctoral Bye Fellow), Dr Tim Vaughan-Lane (Bye Fellow).

Fellows' news and achievements

We continue to be inspired by the range and quality of our Fellows' research. Here are some of their achievements over the past year.

Professor Nigel Collier (Professorial Fellow in Linguistics) writes: "I was elected this year to be Professor of Natural Language Processing in the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and

Linguistics. Together with my research partners at McGill University I obtained funding to support research into the responsible development of AI technologies for automated global epidemic alerting".

Dr Elizabeth Drayson (Emeritus Fellow) has been very active giving conference papers and with media activity. Dr Drayson presented '*Why medieval Spain matters: the great Spanish identity debate*' at the conference of the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland in April, and '*Nasrid Granada: the case for Spain's cross-cultural identity*' at a meeting of the COST Islamic Legacy 1350-1750 project in Madrid. In addition, Dr Drayson was a panellist on BBC Radio 4's programme *Beyond Belief* on religion in Spain and participated in a roundtable at Casa Árabe in Madrid with Egyptian film director Khaled Youssef to discuss his proposed new film on Al-Andalus. There were also interviews: for Salam Plan Against Islamophobia on the subject of Muslim Spain in January and for an Al-Jazeera documentary on a polemical book, *When we were Arabs* by Professor Emilio González Ferrín.

Dr Hatty Harris (Emeritus Fellow) has published *A Cumbrian Friendly Society: The Free and Independent United Order of Mechanics 1879-1951*, in *Transactions* ▶▶



of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society CW3, 19, 2019, 195-210.

Dr Chris Huang (Emeritus Fellow) remains research active and secured funding for a European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) to develop diagnostic systems for the clinical diagnosis of Covid-19 in Africa. He has also continued to publish, including *Basic Physiology for Anaesthetists. 2/e*, Cambridge

“ Dr Chris Huang secured funding for a European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) to develop diagnostic systems for the clinical diagnosis of Covid-19 in Africa. ”

University Press, *Optogenetics: An Emerging Approach to Cardiac Electrophysiology* Frontiers in Physiology, and *Keynes and Aidley's Nerve and Muscle 5/e* (Cambridge University Press). Dr Haung produced an additional 16 original, seven review and three contributory articles on clinical and experimental cellular electrophysiology, membrane biophysics and protein structure. Dr Huang remains an Advisor to Biomarin Biopharmaceuticals in the USA.

Dr Holly Krieger (Fellow in Mathematics). In June 2020, Dr Krieger was awarded a prestigious Whitehead Prize, the major prize for junior mathematicians in the UK given by the London Mathematical Society. She ended 2019 with a *Mahler Lectureship* and undertook a six-week lecture tour of Australian universities. She has continued to publish widely and featured in several more videos on the popular *Numberphile* YouTube Channel, explaining complex mathematical problems in simple ways.

Ms Kirstie Preest (Librarian) was awarded Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (SHFEA) in December.

Dr Ruchi Sinnatamby (Fellow in Medicine) was again in demand as an invited conference speaker, and delivered *Challenges and Advances in Breast Imaging*

at the Helsinki Breast Imaging Conference Helsinki and *Radiology Burnout: a shared responsibility* at the International Cambridge Conference on Breast Cancer Imaging. Dr Sinnatamby also published *Unprovoked venous thromboembolism in women over 40: is screening for occult malignancy with mammography and abdominopelvic CT of benefit?* (Healy NA, Daley FC, Sinnatamby R) Clin Radiol. 2020; 75(10):7 57-762.

Professor Dame Jean Thomas

(Honorary Fellow). Dame Jean was awarded the President's Medal of the Royal Society of Biology in 2020 and continued in her roles as Chancellor of Swansea University and Trustee of The Wolfson Foundation.

Professor Paul Tucker (Professorial Fellow in Engineering) has published *Hierarchical Zonal Industrial Turbulence and Geometry Modelling Framework in Progress in Hybrid RANS-LES Modelling: Notes on Numerical Fluid Mechanics and Multidisciplinary Design* (vol 143 Springer) and *Hierarchical turbulence and geometry modelling of aeroengine flows* (Wang Z-N., Tyacke J.C., Ma Y. and Tucker P.G) in ERCOFTAC Bulletin (120: 14-19). Additionally, Professor Tucker gave a Plenary Lecture at the CM4P Conference in July 2019, titled *Multi-scale and multi-*

physics challenges for future aircraft: a hierarchical approach.

Dr Rin Ushiyama (Research Fellow in Sociology) writes: "I co-organised the conference *'Memories in Transit: Transnational Memory, Commemoration, and Identity across Modern Regimes of Displacement and Dispersion'* at the Centre for the Study of Global Human Movement, University of Cambridge. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the conference has been postponed to 2021, but we successfully held a Zoom webinar on the original dates of the conference to mark the occasion. I also gave invited lectures at the University of York and Risho University (Japan). I published *'Discursive opportunities and the transnational diffusion of ideas: "brainwashing" and "mind control" in Japan after the Aum Affair'* in the *British Journal of Sociology* 70(5): 1730-1753, and *'Reactions to legal challenges by Aum Shinrikyō and its successor organisations'* in *How Minority Religions React to the Law: Case Studies and Theoretical Applications*. Routledge Inform Series on Minority Religions and Spiritual Movements (Richardson, J.T. & Barker, E. eds).

Professor Clair Wills (Professorial Fellow in English) was elected a Fellow of The British Academy in 2020.

Improving coordination of care for people with rare diseases

This year **Prof. Stephen Morris**, Professorial Fellow in Health Services Research, has been leading a project funded by the National Institute for Health Research Health Services and Delivery Research programme to investigate how care for people with rare conditions is coordinated in the UK. The study is called the ‘COordiNated Care Of Rare Diseases’ (CONCORD) study. We asked Steve about the aims of his study and what he is hoping to achieve.

Patients affected by rare diseases often require treatment from different specialists. This can require making several visits to different hospitals, which may be inconvenient and costly for patients and families. Also, for most people with rare diseases the majority of their care is provided nearer to home by their local GP. Receiving care from different doctors can cause problems because coordination between them is frequently not very good – communication and sharing of information is often poor, and many doctors have limited knowledge about rare conditions. In 2013 the UK government published the UK Strategy for Rare Diseases which said that care for people with rare diseases needs to be better coordinated. Unfortunately the strategy was not very clear about what coordination means, and we know from our research that there is limited information about what is currently happening in the UK.

The aims of CONCORD are to provide evidence about how care is currently coordinated for people with rare diseases, and to improve understanding about what care coordination should entail. There are several elements to the study:



Professor Stephen Morris is leading research to improve care for patients with rare conditions.

- A review of previous studies to find out what “coordinated care” means.
- A national survey of people affected by rare diseases (patients, carers and health professionals) to ask how care is coordinated in the UK.
- Included in this survey, questions asking people about how they would prefer their care to be coordinated (a discrete choice experiment).
- Developing a way of classifying the different ways that care of rare diseases might be coordinated (a taxonomy).
- A cost analysis to calculate how much different ways of coordinating care might cost to set-up and run.

Based on our research we think that coordination means: working together across multiple aspects of care to help everyone involved in a patient’s care to avoid repetition and achieve shared goals. We recommend that care must be coordinated throughout a person’s whole life, across all parts of the health and care system. We also suggest that coordination needs to be based around the family, to consider the whole person, to be based on research, and that people must have equal access to coordination regardless of their diagnosis or where they live.

Our survey involved over 1400 patients affected by rare diseases and their carers and health professionals, focusing on three specific aspects of care coordination: ▶▶



The CONCORD stand at the 2019 British Association for Community Child Health conference. Researcher on the project, Dr. Holly Walton, is encouraging conference participants to take part in our survey.



1. Do patients have access to a care coordinator to help with organising care?
2. Do they have access to a specialist centre that enables them to see a number of experts in their condition?
3. Do they have a care plan describing the care and support they need?

Over three-quarters of patients and carers reported they did not have a care coordinator; fewer than half had access to a specialist centre or had a care plan.

“ The results of this study have the potential to improve the lives of millions of people. ”

Respondents reported they valued access to clinical expertise at a specialist centre and sharing of health records between health professionals very highly. We are using the findings of the study to make recommendations about how care should be coordinated for people affected by rare diseases in the UK. We are also mindful that the ways in which patients and families interact with health professionals is changing as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and we are accounting for this in our recommendations.

The results of this study have the potential to improve the lives of millions of people, and we have massive support from patient organisations and charities. While, by definition, each rare disease affects a small number of people – fewer than five in 10,000 of the population – there are between 6,000 and 8,000 rare diseases, and combined they affect over 30 million people across Europe and 3.5 million people in the UK. CONCORD shows that poor care coordination is a problem affecting the vast majority of them.

An art, an ark, an archive

My current research looks at site-specific art practice in the context of site-specific extinction or extirpation. Tracking bison as they appear (and disappear) in the manuscripts of modernist poets, wading through blue ice caves and melt ponds in twentieth-century visual art and reading the mudlogs of oil rigs, I have been (remotely) exploring (remote) sites of writing – caves, mines and boreholes – as archives of human making and unmaking.

Last summer, I set off with Dr Michael Malay from the University of Bristol, whose work looks at faceless animals facing extinction, to the western shore of Windermere where researchers at the Freshwater Biological Association are caring for an ‘ark’ of juvenile freshwater pearl mussels. In the hatchery, I watched the newest mussels jostle under the microscope. At only one millimetre

“ How long will it be until an April where there is no leaf? No tree? No beetle, even? ”



Dr Holly Corfield Carr
One Leaved Ash.

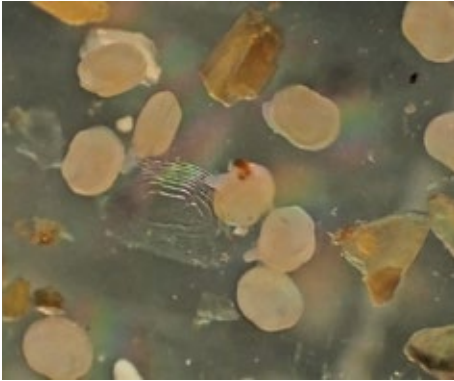
and one day old, their shells and flesh are still translucent and, as I switched between magnification levels, the baby mussels looked like they might be either grains of sand or beads of glass, as if it were possible for them to exist in both states either side of such a transformation as sand sintering into glass, glass splintering into sand.

Acting as water filters, freshwater pearl mussels are critical markers and makers of a river’s health, capable of living for hundreds of years without ageing and, at the same time, extremely vulnerable to changes in their environment meaning that, in the UK’s rivers, they are simultaneously almost immortal and almost extinct.

Over the winter, I began writing a sequence of new poems thinking through extinction, extraction and conservation in light of Gaston Bachelard’s description of



RIGHT AND BELOW: Dr Corfield Carr's work reflects her examination of freshwater pearl mussels, explored under a microscope.



the mussel's shell as a self-made and self-making 'animal cave'. The first of these poems, 'A man, an animal, a lamina', published in *Poetry London* in September 2020, adapts its title from Bachelard's reassurance that '[a] man, an animal, an almond, all find maximum repose in a shell'. Following this, my poem 'Merrymakers in a Mussel Shell', published in *Poetry (Chicago)* in November, responds to the sixteenth-century engraving of the same name by the Flemish printmaker Pieter van der Heyden in which the allegorical 'ship of fools' cruises about the ocean in a massive mussel shell.

As spring approached, I was commissioned to write a pair of poems for the ash tree growing outside the entrance to the Hayward Gallery as part of the exhibition *Among the Trees*, which opened in March 2020. The two poems were installed as

signage, one at the tree's crown, one in the understorey, with one poem posing a series of questions – 'How long will it be until April' when the first leaves appear? – and the other posing as an answer. Days later, we entered lockdown and April came and went and spring and summer and autumn and, if the tree was in leaf, I didn't see it.

Due to the aggressive spread of fungal disease and the ash borer beetle, this tree which has a lifespan of centuries is also currently at risk of extinction. How long will it be until an April where there is no leaf? No tree? No beetle, even? No bison, no mussel? No April like any April we know? Some say as soon as thirty or forty years, the same length of time it takes for a seed to grow to an ash in full flower.

Holly Corfield Carr is an Early-Career Research Fellow in English and a writer.

1970 ALUMNAE GRADUATING IN 1973



New Hall Society Review 2020

Who are the New Hall Society Committee?



Chair: Dr Tessa Kilvington-Shaw 1970
Retired technical journalist



Olga Kouri 1991
Legal Advisor



**Vice Chair:
Dr Camilla Cheung** 2001
General Practitioner



Edna Murphy 1978
Senior Manager,
Higher Education



Dr Kate Campbell 1970
Retired Lecturer



Johanna Roodt 2009
Language and yoga
teacher, and life and
career coach



Fiona Duffy
Director of Development



Dr Owen Saxton
Emeritus Fellow in Physics



Dr Paola Filippucci 1985
Fellow in Social
Anthropology and
Deputy Senior Tutor



Dr Elizabeth Waldram
1955 Emeritus Research
Associate in Astrophysics



Dr Fran Henson 1985
Fellow in Veterinary
Medicine



Philippa Walters 2006
Director, Prime Services at
Barclays Investment Bank



Ingrid Iversen 1980
Archaeologist



Dr Mengmeng Wang 2006
Founder and CEO of
Camvision Education





Amarpreet Kaur 2016
PhD in Sociology,
Christ's College



Sylvie Watts 1980
Board member and
business consultant

To say 2020 has been challenging would be a major understatement. I doubt if anyone within the wider Murray Edwards College and New Hall Society community has been unaffected directly or indirectly by Covid-19. We will all have had our own individual challenges and/or changes. Although much of the news we have received for the *Review* reflects the positive, and 'make the best of it' attitude of so many of our number, we must not forget the difficulties faced by many others due to illness (physical and

 **We must not forget the difficulties faced by many others due to illness (physical and mental), bereavement, loss of job, career, opportunities to travel for pleasure or to see family.** 

mental), bereavement, loss of job, career, opportunities to travel for pleasure or to see family, challenging relationships and loneliness to name but a few.

However, we are a community, and I hope we can pull together to help each other. Zoom and its equivalents is no replacement for face-to-face contact, although some from my own year (1970) held our 50th anniversary reunion via Zoom, and many of you will have been holding meetings, attending lectures and in my own case holding interviews virtually. However, I do exhort regional or year groups to take up virtual contact, where and when they can, in an act of mutual support. If any of you have any ideas or experience of things which as a Society we could do to help, please get in touch.

Unsurprisingly we have had no in-person alumnae events since March and who can guess when we'll all be able to meet again, though hopefully in 2021. So in the meantime, I wish you all well and hope that for those of you who have major challenges either behind or ahead of you, that you will be able to find the strength to overcome them, and that the New Hall Society through its members may be able to support you.

Tessa Kilvington-Shaw (New Hall 1970)
Chairman

What does 'diversity' mean to the New Hall Society?

Murray Edwards College (New Hall) was founded as a College with the aim to create equality of opportunity to education for women from all backgrounds. We are delivering action and change to ensure that we continue to be an inclusive community where everyone is welcomed and respected and to address discrimination, including where this is against social class, age, race, sex, sexual orientation, gender, religion or belief, and disability.

The New Hall Society, which includes both former students and former Fellows, is also a very diverse group. To demonstrate some of this diversity, we decided to ask some members to write about their own lives and reflects of diversity. As they were writing, the Black Lives Matter campaign which started many years ago was gaining momentum across the world.

We have been careful in choosing our writers, so that they tell a range of stories without presuming that they speak for anyone else except themselves or that it is their role to explain or 'speak out' about discrimination and disadvantage.

Of course, this leaves many stories untold. We are therefore creating an archive of materials from alumnae with their own stories. An invitation to contribute your own story, if you wish, will be sent later in the year.

What's the point of diversity without inclusion?



Natanim Fekadu
2018 History and Politics
JCR BAME Officer,
President of CU East
African Society.

I was raised in the rainbow streets of East London, the UK's most diverse region, and possibly the world's. Around me was a wealth of culture, and from that, came a wealth of experience, stories and philosophies that influenced my own identity. "Where are you from?", a simple question, would be enough to start a long road of nostalgia and storytelling with most people you would meet. I never realised that I was taking this diversity for granted. My reality was that I could be whoever I wanted to be, and in the sea of colourful faces, I never had to live up to others' material expectation of me based on my

skin colour. This shroud of comfortable invisibility was taken from me upon arriving in Cambridge.

Driving into town on that fateful October day, I knew not to expect what I had always been surrounded by. Older school friends and enough Cambridge YouTubers had warned me enough of the hypervisibility that I would face, that I would always stick out, even without trying. Sitting in lectures at Sidgwick Site and spending nights out on the town, I came to terms with the newfound self-awareness that I would be dealing with for the next three years in this city. I found myself unwillingly understanding that I was not just 'Natanim' here, but 'Natanim' plus all the identities and perceptions placed on me from people who did not grow up with the same ethnic and cultural diversity that I did.

I threw myself into access work in my first year. I was not naïve to think that my presence here meant that the University had 'fixed' its access problem and so I shouldered the responsibility of being the access point for so many students in whom I saw myself. I would speak to prospective students who looked like me and I would tell them how important it was that they applied and that they came to Cambridge. I would remind them of the legacy ▶▶

“ It makes you think, what is the point of diversity without inclusion? ”



Natanim at Matriculation,
pictured in Orchard Court.



they would be leaving, the inspiration they would become and space they would be occupying. The future Cambridge that I saw in my head was a long way away, but it started with myself becoming the domino in changing this University from what I saw, and this began by me doing everything I could to make Cambridge accessible. By the end of my first year, I realised the Cambridge I was promoting was not ready for them. I had spent a year dodging awkward conversations with Porters, pursing my lips at constant micro-aggressions, listening to friends' harrowing racist encounters in the same Colleges they are expected to call home. I had been working so hard on presenting Cambridge

as an option, that I managed to forget that I would be welcoming these students into a place that was not ready to make them feel at home. It makes you think, what is the point of diversity without inclusion?

I welcome the new revolution of thought and practise that we have seen this year, spearheaded by the global Black Lives Matter movement. Since the murder of George Floyd, both Minneapolis and New York City councils have pledged to move funding from their Police departments towards other youth and social services, signalling a massive change internationally in how we view the police's role in our communities. Most importantly perhaps, the protests have sparked a revolution of thought; we are now rethinking the historical figures we commemorate and the media we think is appropriate to consume. We are now holding people accountable for their words and actions and accountable for making diversity an after-thought. We have seen the impacts of the movement trickle into Cambridge also, but as an institution, Cambridge still has much to do to account for its racist past and attempt to amend the consequences of its complicity in centuries of black exploitation, whilst also showing current black students that their concerns and real lived experiences of racism will be handled seriously and delicately. While we wait for a genuine commitment to the anti-racist struggle from the University, we must still have hope that the demands for diversity, equal justice and respect – not just for black people, but all oppressed and persecuted groups in the world – will one day be met.

Reflections on furthering gender equality



Sara Mole
New Hall 1980
Professor of Molecular
Cell Biology and
Provost's Envoy for
Gender Equality, UCL.

I became aware of what is now Advance HE's Athena SWAN scheme in 2008 and suggested we use the process of chartering for an award as a way to examine objectively gender equality in my department. We received our first award (Silver) in 2009, reflecting good practice that was already in place, and committing to a plan for future action. We renewed Silver in 2012. Looking back, engaging this early meant that we were working out what gender equality was all about at the same

time as preparing submissions and devising our next action plan. The light dawned when we worked out that gender equality really meant women and men should have exactly the same opportunities, be free to make exactly the same choices, and that this was happening. Our size, around 100-120 people, was an advantage. This is small enough to nurture a good sense of community which meant our surveys and activities were well received, and large enough for variety and to measure impact.

Along the way I learnt that changing culture takes time but can be broken down into stages. We aligned with Kotter's established 8 step scheme (others are available), and ensured that we spent the time to fulfil each step, and eventually repeatedly cycling through the last few steps if something had not worked and as we tackled new inequalities of which we became aware. We developed a vision that was so simple that everyone understood it, even if they did not know anything about gender equality, and nor could anyone reasonably object to it. Our vision and mantra is still #simplygoodpractice. We followed the evidence, whether quantitative or qualitative, and devised actions to change anything that was not supporting equality or best practice. Importantly, we found that as we improved things for

“ Along the way I learnt that changing culture takes time. ”





those who were under-represented, we improved things for everyone, although of course those who were disadvantaged benefitted more.

By nature, I am an optimist, and enthusiastic and strategic about important things. I used this to plan and push for innovation in our activities and to share what we were doing with others, to spread good practice by giving talks and leading workshops. This recognition by others meant we kept pushing forward. We were also very keen to think differently, try new things and assess their impact. These activities and attributes underpinned

“Importantly, we found that as we improved things for those who were under-represented, we improved things for everyone, although of course those who were disadvantaged benefitted more.



our work and ensured that we made steady progress. We were awarded Gold in 2016, the first department at UCL to be recognised at this level.

In recent years we have really enjoyed pushing at the boundaries to deliver equity. We have continued to do innovative work (such as Life of P.I.). We received Gold in 2020 and have an ambitious action plan to keep us moving forward, with gender equality now just one part of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work as a department.

Early on, I wanted to deliberately model what we were trying to achieve, so I invited a male co-Chair and ensured that the committee was gender balanced and represented all types of employee and student in the LMCB (Laboratory for Molecular Cell Biology) as well as eventually covering as many other protected characteristics as possible as we extended beyond gender.

Out of the experience of leading the LMCB in its equality work I was competitively appointed UCL Provost's Envoy for Gender Equality in 2018, which now allows me to contribute to and influence gender equality work across UCL. Extending the principles of collaborative leadership used in the department, I set up the new UCL Gender Working group with three co-Chairs (to cover most protected characteristics as well as senior academic and professional support staff). Our work is still evolving and we seek to work with, and challenge, senior management and the whole institution to



Sara receiving the Gold Athena award from Sir Paul Nurse, Athena SWAN Patron, in 2016.

advance and deliver UCL's gender equality priorities, integrated with our wider equality work. This includes continuing participation in the Athena SWAN charter, profiling and sharing good practice, resourcing initiatives, considering and addressing issues of multiple disadvantage, and championing necessary change. Co-operative leadership is challenging in that it requires more effort behind the scenes, but working to our strengths means that we make faster progress overall as well as sharing the workload, and it is more satisfying because again we have to model good practice. UCL now has 39 departmental Athena SWAN awards, the most of any UK University, and including three Golds. Our departments have engaged at different times, with those engaging early generally showing the most progress. I support our central EDI team and work with the Athena SWAN manager to lead on gender equality and its intersection with multiple disadvantage, especially race, strategically. At the same time, we are supporting departments and local equity

leaders to take our EDI work forwards at grass roots level.

I am engaged with the national and international Higher Education sector. Notably, I had the privilege to share my experiences with the governance committees for Canadian research enterprise as they developed their own comprehensive 'made in Canada' equalities charter (Dimensions), now piloting. I have set up a special project with one of UCL's international partners, the University of Tohoku, Japan, so that we can learn from and help each other in our goal to achieve full gender quality. The current travel restrictions have forced us to turn what would have been several exciting face-to-face activities into a longer lasting, and possibly further-reaching, online project, which of course is **#simplygoodpractice**. I should perhaps close with saying that all this is on top of my academic life and research into the children's neurodegenerative disease, Batten disease.

Why diversity and inclusion are so important to me



Jason Ghaboos,
Senior Civil Servant,
Former Bye Fellow

Working in the Cabinet
Office on Diversity &

Inclusion across an organisation of over 440,000, I consider myself fortunate to work on a daily basis with colleagues with expertise, passion and an unremitting drive to make the UK Civil Service a great place to work.

Reflecting on my D&I journey I often return to an early memory. Both my parents were

“The most streamlined processes and finely articulated policies can be undone if the person operating within them is not equally invested.”

nurses in the NHS and, after dad retired, ran a small Care Home. I remember one resident (Joe) very fondly. He was a war veteran with a speech impairment causing him great frustration when trying to communicate. Joe had specialists and speech therapists to assist his development, but nothing seemed to work. At around 10 years old, and following a heated exchange with his therapist, I remember picking up the augmentative therapy word board off the floor where it had been thrown and taking Joe through it. We continued with that learning together and Joe's speech slowly improved. It remains today one of my most rewarding experiences, and as you will see still resonates with me.

My career in the Civil Service has spanned over 18 years, most recently overseeing the UK's Sponsors Licencing regime. Additional responsibilities championing D&I and Social mobility in UKVI, being Co-Chair of the Home Office's Gender Equality Network and leading a People function overseeing over 4,500 staff across the UK and overseas have provided opportunities to really understand what people from all backgrounds, experiences and situations want from D&I.

My work with Dr Jill Armstrong on the Collaborating with Men research as Bye-Fellow at Murray Edwards focussing on



Jason Ghaboos leading a workshop discussion for the *Collaborating with Men* project.

gender inclusivity and workplace culture was life changing. Working alongside Jill, listening to the experiences of women and men across the public and private sectors to better understand the impacts to progression and workplace culture and identifying practical solutions.

Why is diversity and inclusion so important to me? It is integral to effective business delivery and is not just a 'nice to have'. Or even simply 'the right thing to do'. One of my mentors would often say to me 'would you make this decision if this was your own business?'. You wouldn't, for example, invest millions in a F1 car, fine tune the engine, calibrate the wheels, carefully select the tyres matching the terrain and then put little thought to the selection, motivation or development of the driver.

To create truly inclusive workplace culture the motive cannot simply be pastoral, intentions borne in isolation to core objectives and activity in silos from business delivery. Organisations must balance investment in their people, policies, process and practices to optimise business output. The most streamlined processes and finely articulated policies can be undone if the person operating within them is not equally invested in. Achieving alignment and pulling on these levers for improvement cohesively will support any business in delivering enhancements to productivity and utilisation. Just like our F1 car, without taking the time to calibrate the system could lead to sub-optimisation.

So where next for D&I? The focus of activity across sectors and organisations has often been through a single lens of an identity or characteristic – and with some real success. The value of this should not be underestimated. Grouping by ►►



characteristics can amplify voices that can too often go unheard, particularly when those voices are in the minority.

Yet, there is an opportunity to evolve. Not a paradigm shift, but an evolving approach to embrace an understanding that to continue to improve the outcomes of D&I practice a more nuanced approach may be needed. Whilst successes have certainly been delivered, individuals do not experience life through one label. Those voices being amplified, are they all really asking for the same things? Are they all having the same experiences? As a woman. Or a lesbian. Or a person of faith. We all have experiences, good and bad, that are made up of multiple facets, some directly or indirectly influenced by our characteristics or in fact not at all.

The Equality Act 2010 protects from discrimination or unfair treatment on



Jason Ghaboos pictured outside 10 Downing Street.

the basis of those outlined personal characteristics. As we take our next steps in professional D&I delivery we must consider the impact of continuing to group activity, experiences and interventions under these labels and reflect on whether this homogenised approach is the most optimal path to improve experiences and develop inclusivity. And, of course, a different approach can help in tackling those competing tensions (for time, investment, focus) that often arise between these 'groupings' when operating under identity characteristics.

The key is taking a meritocratic approach, to improve all whilst considering the nuances of individual experiences that could hold individuals back. I attended a grammar school in the top 100 list, a top 10 University and have worked as Bye-Fellow at Murray Edwards. I am also a mixed race, heterosexual man, from Burnley and from a working-class background. Which of these labels define me? Which reveals my motivations? Which one holds me back or spur me on? Which speaks most to my lived experience?

And somehow I am reminded of Joe when thinking on all of this. His speech didn't improve because of the specialist assessments, processes put in place by therapists or from labels as 'Disabled' or a 'war veteran' suffering from severe strokes. Joe improved as he was given the same opportunity to develop, whilst considering his individual needs as a person to build a genuine connection. I think there is something in that.

Disability work – both endlessly rewarding and hopelessly frustrating



Harriet Cannon
New Hall 1996
Disability Advisory
Team Manager and
Autism Specialist,
University of Leeds.

There is an adage amongst University Disability Practitioners that you don't choose this line of work, it chooses you. This is certainly the case for me. Having read English at New Hall, it seems perhaps an unusual stretch to find myself dedicated to a career supporting and championing disabled students and working hard to build accessibility and genuine inclusion across the Higher Education sector.

I manage the Disability Advisory Team at the University of Leeds, heading up a large team which coordinates the support and ongoing casework of over 5000 disabled students, and which enables the University to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act. The changes witnessed over the 20 years I've been working in disability services cannot be overstated. Numbers increase exponentially year-on-year, the complexity

of navigating systemic barriers changes constantly, and a University education, once beyond the reach of many disabled people, is now far more accessible. This is why I do the job I do – for the opportunity to make tangible changes, for individuals, the University and across the sector as a whole. It is a career for which Cambridge prepared me well – the influencing and negotiating skills to challenge; the confidence to expect and instigate change; the communication skills needed to articulate it all.

I started on this path at the University of Cambridge, working for the Institute of Continuing Education International Summer Schools, at a time when a major piece of disability legislation came into force. I already had a keen interest in disability from my family background and the new legislation gave me an opportunity to learn more and do better. A chance training course with the University's Disability Resource Centre set me on my way and introduced me to likeminded individuals who taught me about disability, education, and genuine accessibility. Happily, I still work closely with colleagues from the DRC today. ▶▶



Having met (and later married) a Yorkshireman, I left Cambridge for the University of Leeds in 2005. I spent a brief time organising Summer Schools for school children on behalf of the National Academy for Gifted & Talented Youth, a role which coincidentally introduced me to autistic children and teenagers. When the University advertised for a Disability Coordinator to work specifically with autistic students, I jumped at the chance. It was the first role of its kind in the HE sector; very few autistic students either declared their autism, or accessed support at the time, and they were not well-served by existing support structures. To say it was an emerging field of work is an understatement. I had a caseload of two

“ I had a caseload of two students when I started. There are now over 350 autistic students registered at Leeds. ”

students when I started. There are now over 350 autistic students registered at Leeds.

Coming from an autistic family, working with autistic students was very much a case of finding my niche. It is work I continue today, alongside the busy managerial and strategic side of my role, where I am responsible for ensuring that what amounts to 12% of the University's student population can access the high quality support and adjustments which enables them to study, and holding the University to account when they cannot. I represent autistic students nationally, as a member of the Office of the Independent Adjudicator's Disability Experts Panel, and as Founder of the Association of Autism Practitioners in HE. I regularly work with the Department for Education and the Office for Students, I'm an active member of the National Association of Disability Practitioners, and I've been lucky to have the opportunity to research, lecture, present internationally and even go viral with a couple of pieces of work. As is so often the case with disability work, it is in equal parts endlessly rewarding and hopelessly frustrating as the slow turn of the super tanker that is the HE sector reluctantly yields hard-won victories. But at the heart are the students I work with, often right through from their undergraduate studies to the completion of their PhD, who make this job the fulfilling, varied work it is.



Sharing my work with the author of *NeuroTribes*, Steve Silberman.

I write at an interesting time for disabled students. The coronavirus pandemic and subsequent lockdown has raised obvious and myriad practical issues in relation to accessing learning, all of which have kept me incredibly busy since March. But it has also given those of us working in the sector an opportunity to amplify the voices of disabled students, and to push through changes which have previously fought for space on the agenda. The overnight pivot to online learning benefited many disabled students, removing those physical barriers that the inaccessible infrastructure of many universities creates, enabling students to

study in a far more flexible way. It hasn't worked for everyone, but for many disabled students, the last six months has been the first time they have had genuinely equal access to their learning. The test now is to maintain the momentum and shape future practice so that we keep the parts that work best for students, remembering that what works for disabled students generally benefits all students. Whilst we continue to chip away at the larger barriers created by a society which does not recognise or value disabled people sufficiently, the hard-won ground gained during the pandemic gives me confidence that the Higher Education sector can adapt and change to recognise, celebrate and rely on the diversity of its student population for its future success and sustainability.

The evolving equality agenda



Rohini Corfield
New Hall 1984
Community Champions
Development Officer,
Voluntary Action South
Leicestershire.

My interest in diversity was sparked in Africa where I was born in post-colonial Kenya, to Hindu Punjabi parents. I remember a stratified society – the English community were leaders, the Asian communities were professionals/business owners and the local Kenyans did a variety of jobs. Despite language differences, the communities intermingled. I recall celebrating a variety of festivals

“ I thoroughly enjoyed University social life, and joined various societies meeting intriguing people from all over the world. ”

and revelling in the choice of foods (ugali cooked over an open fire; roast dinners and spicy curries). I loved the variety in clothing – brightly patterned African wraps/headaddresses, sparkly saris and cool linen suits.

As British citizens, we left Kenya in 1972 to join relatives in England. I recall leaving a colourful sun-drenched Nairobi, tearful farewells and arriving in grey London. The family settled on the outskirts of Bristol. My teachers at the local comprehensive school and family encouraged my academic and extra-curricular development. The school suggested I apply to Oxbridge, something my family would never have dreamt of, which is how I came to New Hall.

I found study at Cambridge incredibly challenging and lost confidence in my abilities. I was tempted to leave, but with the fantastic support from tutors and friends, I completed my degree. I thoroughly enjoyed University social life, and joined various societies meeting intriguing people from all over the world. Forty years on, I still cherish the friendships I made at University.

Between 1994 and 2001 I worked at BBC Pebble Mill as an Equal Opportunities Officer. As a public service broadcaster



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Rohini with her husband and colleagues. Rohini with colleagues in Nepal. Rohini and her husband Chris, during their time in Nepal with VSO. Commemorating World Aids Day in Nepal.

the BBC has a guaranteed income through the licence fee, but audience research showed that not all sections of the public felt they were getting a fair deal. White middle-class men were generally satisfied with the mix of news, politics, history and sport, but women, people with disabilities, young people, Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, gay, lesbian and transgender people, people living in rural areas, working class people and many

other communities felt that the BBC was not reflecting their lives in its radio, television and online output.

In order to redress this imbalance, I set up ten equality working groups across England, made up of journalists and professional staff. Each region developed a customised action plan:

- **Attracting a diverse workforce** - the BBC wanted to attract people from a range of backgrounds so they could draw on their life experiences to infuse creative programming and make daily news reflective of the issues people cared about. BBC staff went to careers fairs ►►



at many different universities, advertised in specialist press like *The Pink Paper*, *Eastern Eye* and *The Voice* and ran a series of workshops for graduates from diverse backgrounds explaining the range of recruitment options on offer – the BBC needs lawyers and accountants as well as journalists!

- **Portrayal monitoring** – the BBC wanted to enrich its output by having as many different voices on air as possible. It wanted people from all backgrounds to appear both as ordinary members of the public and as professional experts, not just in stereotypical roles e.g. BAME people talking about racism. Portrayal Monitoring was undertaken to count the number of women, young people etc appearing on BBC output, and their role. This analysis confirmed the output was heavily “male, pale and stale” so Community Researchers were appointed to develop a diversity contacts database which all BBC journalists had access to.

“Diversity has enabled me to practise *Ubuntu*; the South African idea that our humanity is defined by our connections with others.”

- **Building an inclusive culture** – the BBC wanted to be an employer of choice and support all staff to balance home and work responsibilities, whilst building a career. BBC sites in London and Birmingham had workplace nurseries, which were later replaced by Childcare Vouchers. Staff were offered flexible working opportunities. Managerial roles were done on a job-share basis. Staff training about Equalities, Tackling Harassment and Managing diverse teams was organised, and staff turnover records kept. Targets (not quotas) for Women, BAME and people with disabilities in the workforce were set and monitored.

The BBC has made some progress, but significant challenges remain as the recent debates about gender pay parity and ageism/older women presenters demonstrate. The equality agenda is constantly evolving, and the BBC needs to embrace inter-sectionality.

One of my personal ambitions had been to do Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) – Sharing Skills, Changing Lives. After the catastrophic Asian tsunami in December 2004, I applied and in September 2005 my husband Chris and I arrived at The Department of Education in Nepal. We spent 18 months working with Nepalese colleagues on monitoring the progress of the United Nations *Education for All* plan. This aimed to make a free quality primary education available for every child, regardless of gender or caste. There are 75 education district offices, and 28,000 schools, spread across the mountain,



Rohini at the colourful market place.

hill and lowland zones. Our role was to monitor whether international aid money was enabling Nepal to provide primary education in eleven local languages by tracking the effectiveness and efficiency of the education system. Every six months international donors like the UN, EU and individual countries would meet in Nepal to discuss our monitoring report and on-going challenges – some schools did not have toilets for girls, which was especially problematic when they started menstruating. Toilets were built. UNICEF also offered a pot of cooking oil for every girl that completed a Term of schooling, and this incentive helped increase retention rates. VSO worked with parents to explain the benefits of education.

Living in Nepal offered deep experiential learning; we witnessed the “Jana Andolan”

(People’s Movement); the removal of the corrupt King leading to a fledgling democracy. Illiterate women protested with their kitchen utensils, students organised marches using pressure-cooker bombs, villages co-ordinated lights on/off demos and gay and lesbian people rallied outside the Royal Palace. It was a privilege to see mass mobilisation result in political change.

Diversity has enabled me to practise *Ubuntu*; the South African idea that our humanity is defined by our connections with others. The pandemic has demonstrated just how vital connection is for all humanity.

Reflections on publishing difficulties for writers of colour



Moni Mohsin
New Hall 1983
Journalist and author

At the start of this year, much before the rage about Black Lives Matter erupted, I was having a quiet lunch in London with an editor from a powerful publishing house. She was telling me what sort of fiction about the Subcontinent finds favour in the West. 'I'm afraid no one is interested in humour from there,' she said. 'Our readers are interested in only one kind of novel from your part of the world – serious,

“ We can write romance and chick lit, but if we are black our books must have an element of race thrown in. ”

weighty work, preferably about something dark, engaged with very deeply. They have no appetite for anything else.'

At first I was surprised by her comment and then outraged. But looking back, I am grateful to her for confirming something I had long suspected of an industry dominated by white decision makers. Writers of colour are not afforded the same creative latitude as their white counterparts. White authors can write about whatever they please because their experiences are considered universal. But ours are not. Our primary purpose is to educate white audiences. So after 9/11 it became the responsibility of brown authors from Muslim countries to churn out 'urgent' novels that enlightened white readers on the hows and whys of Islamism. Never mind that most of us, easy-going liberals ourselves, had no insight into extremism or any personal experience of it. It still fell to us by dint of our race or religion or culture or whatever to burrow into the hearts and minds of jihadists for the benefit of our white readers. White authors, by contrast, are not required to explain to the rest of the world the beliefs animating their culture's centuries old practice of white supremacy.



And if we were not going to engage with Islamism, then the least we could do was to shed light on subjects like female oppression, hunger, child labour, our dreadful slums and our corrupt and broken politics. Our tone had to be grave, our engagement profound and our purpose educational. We must not presume to do anything else. So not only are we discouraged from writing humour, but also science fiction, thrillers, fantasy, detective novels and horror. We can write romance and chick lit, but if we are black our books must have an element of race thrown in and if brown, then our work should explain our regressive culture and preferably feature a

young spunky girl who falls in love in with a white boy, breaks free of her overbearing parents and joins the white mainstream to live happily ever after.

I have nothing against novels by non-white writers about terrorism or forced marriages or female genital mutilation. I welcome any well written novel that expands my sympathies. But I would also like to read other things by non-white writers.

I understand that the publishing industry is just that – an industry that must turn a profit to survive. And the truth is that very few novels are profitable. It is therefore ►►



risky to take a punt on a non-white novelist holding forth on a subject about which the average reader simply does not care. But this makes two, to my mind, erroneous assumptions – that the average reader (according to publishers she is a white, middle class, middle aged woman) has limited horizons and is utterly resistant to new ideas. And second, that non-white people don't read.

Of course, there are high profile mould breaking novels such as *My Sister the Serial Killer* by Oyinkan Braithwaite and

“ In the wake of Black Lives Matter social attitudes appear to have shifted even in publishing. There is now a scramble to be seen as diverse. ”

The Windfall by Diksha Basu – satirical, edgy works by non-white writers that don't bother to explain the entire racial history and political structure of their society in order to tell their story. And to be honest, a British publisher also bought a social satire I authored set in Pakistan. But such examples are few and far between. For the most part when a 'different' book by a non-white author is published it is deemed so risky that it is apportioned a minuscule publicity budget, consigning it to obscurity from the outset. If it still manages to do well, it is snatched up and celebrated. But, as happens more often, the said book disappears without a trace, editors can tell their writers with infinite regret, 'you see our readers are just not receptive to books such as yours.'

In the wake of Black Lives Matter social attitudes appear to have shifted even in publishing. There is now a scramble to be seen as diverse. The current Booker Prize shortlist of six novels comprises no less than four by non-white authors. I'm glad for it. It is a long overdue correction. But it will remain an isolated gesture unless more work is done. To be truly inclusive British publishers must allow us, people of colour, the same freedoms that they do to white writers.

It has been a challenging year for everyone. There are very few reports of alumnae group meetings in this year's *Review* but many stories of achievements, resilience and joy.

We look forward to celebrating with all alumnae when we can meet again.

News from our alumnae

1957

Jean Chilver (Slater)

These are challenging days for many of us but they have also presented opportunities to engage in ways that were not previously so easily accessible for older folk. With opportunities for travel very limited, it has been both refreshing and stimulating to access several different programmes from Universities and various charities on Zoom and other websites. However, as others have found, the lockdown has meant that planned celebrations had to be dramatically reduced and for us it meant that our August golden wedding was a quiet affair with messages from the family in Australia and the hopes of more to come one day.

Isabel Raphael (Lawson)

Lockdown meant continuing my three Classics reading groups non-stop. I have two in Latin, each with 20 adults, and 15 in Greek. We have cherished these times together: Vivat Zoom! We've looked at Catullus in a new way, as a cocky young man about town before he is smitten with a completely new kind of emotion, and

Martial has provided a brilliant contrast. The surprise has been discovering how extraordinarily exciting Xenophon is: we're still reeling at Persian treachery and murder most foul. That, plus Zoom readings of Shakespeare with my grandson and his friends and getting him to perform with me in a lecture on the Homeric Hymns, has kept the black dog wonderfully at bay. And they're all signed up for September. I am chasing Ovid for passages to read that illustrate the grand Titian exhibition at the National Gallery. Each morning starts at 7am with an hour's walk in Regent's Park, where the roses blossom luxuriantly and the gibbons in the Zoo sing a dawn chorus.

1959

Winifred Blay (Caesar)

I have now lived for a very long time in North West England. As for everyone, contact face-to-face has been limited these last few months during the Coronavirus crisis. In particular contact with our grandchildren in London has been reduced, as has face-to-face contact with our relative with a disability, who lives near

Glasgow. Before Covid-19, my husband and I were frequent travellers on the West Coast Line, up to Glasgow and down to London. Virtual contact, Zoom-wise, with a group of New Hall friends has been a new wonder – we have helped each other to master, in a small way, the mysteries of the virtual communication world. Aged and Caged but still chirping!

1960

Patricia Drummond (Ramsay)

Presently, at 78, I am retired, but still an Honorary assistant at Christ Church Cathedral in Fredericton, New Brunswick. This means conducting or assisting with services from time to time, and filling in when the priests in parishes nearby are on holiday or sick.

Rosemary Waring (Goodson)

I'm keeping busy by writing a chapter on 'Agrochemicals' for an up-coming book on *Present Knowledge in Food Safety* and I now know much more on the pluses and minuses of pesticides. My company 'Tharos' which makes digestive

supplements is hoping to expand into Australia which will be exciting if it all works out. My daughter Emma has passed her BAP (Bishops' Advisory Panel) so is on track to become ordained in the Church of England sometime in the distant future. A first for the family!

Lucy Warrack (Beckett)

I have lived in the depths of North Yorkshire for nearly 50 years, so lockdown, with my husband John Warrack, who is 92, was not very different from our usual life except that we couldn't see our children and grandchildren for months. In September last year I started writing a new novel, my fifth, its central character as old as I am (now 78) and I finished it in early June. The story kept pace with events in the UK and the world, so it turned out to be partly about Brexit and political chaos, and partly about Covid-19. But it's also a close-quarters novel about four people, two old and two young. Thanks to the brilliant efficiency of my publisher, it appeared in September 2020. It's called *In the Grieving of her Days*, and might interest my contemporaries in particular.



1961

Anne Langley (formerly Vickers, neé Wallis)

As a local historian I find the pandemic very interesting and have been making a photographic record of the effect on my local community and keeping a lockdown diary. My husband is 'shielding', which has been challenging, but the beautiful spring weather helped and now he can go out for walks etc. again. Because the County Record Office is shut, I've been working at home transcribing indexing names from 19th century trials. I'm also supporting bereaved people through Cruse Bereavement Care (by telephone) and helping to re-create the Roll of Honour of the men from our village who served in WWI.

Margaret Tompsett (Hatfield)

In March we hoped to have a family reunion in England on our way to Ethiopia and tour that fascinating mountainous country and ancient cultures. Then came Covid-19 so we stayed home in semi-isolation. We are fortunate to live in a beautiful place where we can walk on the beaches and swim in the sea and the lake. I have been with the Red Cross doing seminars on managing stress and organising town halls for the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society to discuss various aspects of the pandemic. Zoom has been a godsend connecting us

with family and friends around the world. In July our youngest daughter gave birth to her first child, a healthy little boy. We drove down to Washington DC to spend two weeks helping the happy but tired couple. The hardest part has been seeing so little of other family in person, never hugging and maintaining our distance.

1963

Alexandra Barratt (Carr)

A strange and terrible year for me: marked not only by the virus, with the ensuing lockdown in New Zealand and inability to travel, but also the sudden and unexpected death of my husband, Robert Welch, aged 82, on 12 July 2020. After studying at Lincoln College and the University of Otago, Robert did his PhD at Cambridge at the same time that I was an undergraduate at New Hall. He was a member of Emmanuel College and his first wife, Lois, was enrolled as a mature student at New Hall, though we never met. Robert had a long and distinguished career in animal physiology as a government scientist in New Zealand and I was fortunate enough to meet him in the 1990s. We married in 1999 and just failed to make our 21st wedding anniversary.

Janet Garton

This year I was lucky enough to be allocated a researcher's flat in Copenhagen – a free flat for 12 months in Nyhavn, one of the oldest and most attractive parts of the city. My plan was to spend the year researching in the Royal Library into the work and letters of the Dano-Norwegian author Amalie Skram; I have already published many of her letters and written a biography. I was preparing a new edition of one of her novels, and her letters to artist friends, working with the Society for Danish Language and Literature. My work was interrupted by having to return to Norwich from March to July because of lockdown, but I managed nevertheless to spend seven months there and get a lot of the work done. I shall just have to return soon to finish off!

Merryn Williams

Owing to our age my husband and I are considered high risk, though we are perfectly fit, so we are living quietly at home in Oxford and only seeing our children on Zoom. I'm collecting poems about the crisis (there are already thousands!) for an anthology *Lockdown and After* to be published by Shoestring Press in 2021. My own coronavirus poems have been published in Manchester Metropolitan University's online collection www.mmu.ac.uk/write/corona-days.php

1964

Caroline New



Hello New Hall alumnae! As a grandmother, terrified for our kids and future generations as fires rage, methane rises and deserts spread, I have become a climate activist in XR and the Green Party. Among other more obviously political moves, I have taken to colouring my hair pink or blue with hair chalk. It is well received and does counter the invisibility of older women! With Sustaining All Life (check out website) I've contributed to online workshops in New York's Climate Week, and we intend to repeat them in online events in November, when COP26 should have happened. Thanks New Hall for the thoughtful things you are doing.

1965

Trisha Rogers (Shepherd)

My main news is that, as chair of London and South East Region United Nations Association, I'm chairing the ►►



organisers of a UN75 Festival from 18 to 24 October, organised with Peace Child International and UNA-UK. In recognition of the widespread feelings of insecurity exacerbated by the pandemic, our Festival theme is *What next for the UN? Building a more secure world*. Do go to WhatNext4UN.org. If you miss the festival live, you can still catch up via the website, and you can still contribute your ideas to the action needed (by individuals, communities, nations, the UN) to ‘build back better’. These will be shared with the UN Secretary-General when he visits London early in January 2021 to mark the 75th anniversary of the first meeting of the UN general Assembly, which took place in London.

Joyotee Smith (Roy-Chowdhry)

I have moved from Phuket to Bangkok, Thailand.

Ying-Ying Yuan (Tsien)

During these unprecedented times as we are more distant from so many, in an odd way we are closer to those whom we used to not see that much. And we think about our past visits to places and countries that we knew so well. I do hope to revisit MEC again once we can travel. In the meantime if there are any other alumnae in Tucson, Arizona, where I now live, don't hesitate to get in contact.

1966

Margaret Price (Shore)

Lockdown has been challenging owing to shielding due to my vulnerability after my stem cell transplant two years ago. So I climbed my stairs to the height of St Paul's cathedral every day until I'd ascended to the height of Mount Everest. Sponsorship for this raised £6000 for MSF and Myeloma UK. I also got quite fit! I'm now biding my time until we are allowed visit our grandchildren in USA and UAE.

Katherine Bradnock (Ryder)



I imagine my lockdown experience was, as for each of us, “the same but different”. The house and garden have never been so neat and tidy, and since we live in a village on the edge of the Chilterns we are able to walk regularly and keep healthy. British Rowing quite early on allowed us to take out a double scull from our Club on the Thames, being in the same household. I'm sure many readers will have had family plans upset. For us it was my husband's

80th birthday celebrations – the third attempt at them stymied just recently by the “rule of six”. However, we have so much to be grateful for; ours has been a very privileged generation in many ways. One outcome of our evenings at home (we used to be out at least four evenings a week to choir and bridge) resulted from setting up an old slide projector and reviewing a few boxes of colour slides. I found a few from my Graduation on 21st June 1969 and am happy to share them!

Ann Altman (Körner)

In the early 2000s, I endowed a graduate studentship in honour of my father. My parents were Jewish refugees but my father, with a Czech doctorate in law, was able to pursue a doctorate in philosophy at Cambridge during the war, eventually becoming Professor of Philosophy at Bristol University. My mother became involved in the management of psychiatric hospitals and computerisation of the NHS, eventually becoming an honorary “Doctor of Law” at the same University. So I was thrilled to learn that this year’s recipient of the Stephan Körner award is a young Australian woman who will be examining how legal systems worldwide approach the rights of refugees to physical and mental healthcare. Her eventual goal is to empower refugees to participate in the design and delivery of their mental healthcare and to foster recognition of healthcare as a universal human right. My parents would have been so pleased.

Lesley Saunders

I started writing what I called ‘plague poems’ on 16th March and have now written more than thirty, some of which will be published in a couple of anthologies later this year; meanwhile, there are a few to be found online www.tworiverspress.com/2020/06/08/poems-from-lesley-saunders-inspired-by-paintings-from-rebecca-swainston

1967

Bryony Jagger

I am completing the full score of my opera *The Bacchae* based on Euripides’ play, though it’s hard to see when it can be performed in these Coronavirus times.

Caroline Smith (Shott)

We had planned to celebrate our 20th pantomime production in Southeast Pennsylvania in January 2021 with some special events, and have got our wish in unexpected ways. We have written a new script for a virtual pantomime *The Prince and the Carrot* which will be recorded completely on Zoom and then YouTube’d in time for Christmas. We’ve had to invent new, visual, jokes that rely for their impact on the vagaries of cell to cell Zoom interactions, but it’s also enabled us to have an international cast (including two New Hall alumnae). I retired fully last year from my final job leading training sessions for police on ►►



humane and effective responses to crisis situations involving people with mental illness or drug addiction – watching the news makes me think that a few more police departments could use the training.

Joy Richardson (James)

We were due to fly to Sydney in March to see our grandchildren, but this was scuppered at the last minute by the lockdown, as was their planned visit to us in June. Thankfully, our older son had recently returned to London from living in Singapore so we have at least had a few garden meet ups. Since drawing a line under my work as a school inspector I have been volunteering with the NSPCC to work in schools on safeguarding issues. This work is currently suspended, so I have turned my attention to helping organise the local network of support for those in need, and an exhibition that records lockdown experiences, as well as taking up oil painting. It is now 50 years since graduation and we have instigated regular virtual catch ups with University friends we might previously have seen only rarely, including signing up for Alumni Festival sessions discussed later via Zoom.

1968

Ve Osborne-Broad (Cutler)

This feels like a follow-on from last year's news, with added Covid-19. Instead of

looking back at a happy annual reunion with our year, I'm looking ahead to next year's which will be here in Cornwall. Trusting that by May we can have group walks, birdwatching, art galleries and meals out. Our gardens were glorious this spring, and I kept wishing I could have everyone here to see them. Sadly, that wasn't possible. I haven't been able to do any talks or events as absolutely everything is on hold, including all the local festivals throughout the year. But I am hoping to have the third book of my trilogy out before the end of the year. All the books are available from my website www.victoriaosborne-broad.co.uk. A trilogy has three books, of course, but unfortunately I've been getting ideas for a fourth...

Paula Bolton-Maggs (Blundell Jones)

We were fortunate to visit Anne (1968 like us) and John Priestly in New Zealand's North Island in November 2019, enjoying their wonderful hospitality before touring both Islands and visiting relatives. We discovered it rains far more at Milford Sound than in Liverpool! We also enjoyed a fascinating trip to Bhutan including a hike up to the Tiger's Nest in February, returning home shortly before lockdown. The spring was beautiful and we discovered that the same walk in our neighbourhood through the woods was never the same twice. We learnt to recognise yellowhammers by sight and sound, not realising before how many there were. The blossom was amazing and followed by a great harvest of apples in the garden. We met our year group on Zoom and enjoyed

catching up that way now travels are all suspended. Nevertheless the year of 68 now plans to meet in Cornwall next May. Oh yes, and still writing about transfusion.

Susan Carter

The Year of '68 goes on undaunted, we have got together every year since 2006. In 2020 we planned to descend on Albi, in the Tarn region of France, hosted by Lynne Brydon. Covid-19 put a stop to that but not to our meeting. We turned to Zoom instead. Zoom get-togethers have had the advantage of including those who can't usually join us, because of distance or ill health. Twenty one joined our April session. In May we were twenty-nine (twenty-four alumnae and five husbands) from four continents with Anne in New Zealand; Tirzah in Israel; and Sakiko and Barbara in the States. We have a third session planned for October. Discussion has ranged over our Covid-19 lives, generally privileged and happy, and the state of the world, much less good. We has given us something to look forward to in 2021, by inviting us to Cornwall in May. Over twenty of us have already booked. And we may get to Albi yet. Here's hoping...

1969

Jane Lamb (Wright)

I have spent a lot of lockdown doing various Zoom activities, including bridge,

yoga and a film buffs group. We have a daily family Zoom which has allowed me to see my UK and California family regularly. I am still writing poetry and quilting so have been able to feel busy enough, though being on my own has been hard some days. I know over all I am lucky especially not to have a lot of financial worries, and, so far, no health issues. All the best to my fellow alumnae. We will get through this eventually.

Ann-Louise Kinmonth Davis



Chatting to the President of the JCR last week was a privilege. Staying in touch across generations matters as much as the luxury of friends, now made remarkably long ago. I am moving from doing to mentoring; Chair of Governors for the lovely St John's College School; Convenor of a group on inequalities in health; and of the voices of Hickling website of the elders of my village. I am a trustee of the Foundation for Family Medicine in Palestine and so on. I hope the picture captures the weird sense of secluded safety in the midst of danger. At least my toes are wearing well!





Liz MacKenzie (Ryder)



Together again - enjoying the beach in Adelaide with my granddaughter.

To tell you that I have been living through the pandemic in one of the safest places in the world, Adelaide South Australia with a total case number of 466 and just 4 deaths, is not to gloat or to sound smug but to express gratitude for my good fortune together with an acknowledgement of how tough these last six months have been for so many and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. The tale of cancelled travel plans, in my case to England and Europe in May and to Vietnam in September, even trips within Australia will be familiar to many, as will the pain of separation from loved ones. Hopefully we have all found silver linings in the face of this disaster and gained the ability to distinguish a 'first world problem' from real tragedy. I count my blessings and pray for a vaccine.

1970

Tessa Kilvington-Shaw (Kilvington)

The 1970s cohort had great plans for celebrating the 50th anniversary of

our matriculation. Sadly we have had to postpone gathering until next year although some of us met via Zoom during alumnae weekend. I don't have to shield, but am getting rather jaded doing most things alone – and unhappy not to see my granddaughter in Hong Kong for what could be at least 18 months. I have, however, with the good weather kept busy photographically following a swan family from tiny cygnets to fully-grown swans. I've also been sitting as a magistrate, both virtually and in court. I braved a solo trip to Iceland and recently enjoyed a few days on the North Yorkshire coast with my son who is my bubble! Oh and I went to Egypt in October 2019 to see the pyramids – one of my collection of the Seven Modern Wonders of the World.

Barbara Woroncow

I was awarded the Polish honorary medal 'Pro Masovia' for distinguished contribution to cultural development in the Mazowsze region.

Meg Harris Williams (Harris)

My book *Dream Sequences in Shakespeare* will be published in November by Routledge.

Niobe Wells (Hopkins)

I do not think many of us will have fond memories of 2020 and, due to lockdown, very limited news to report. We have now been able to put our house on the market and so hope that in 2021 we will have

moved to the Cambridge area, but of course things may well go pear shaped. Some time (though not as much as needed) has been spent de-cluttering and re-cycling. Has anyone been able to achieve Marie Kondo's suggestion of only having 30 books? I hope everyone has been able to keep safe and well and that maybe the 1970 year will be able, somehow, to meet up in person in 2021.

Bina Agarwal



I continue teaching MSc students at the Global Development Institute, University of Manchester, including a new course I have designed titled *Gender Inequality: Theory and Evidence*. For several years, I have also been working on sustainable livelihoods, in particular whether farming in groups, rather than individually, can help women farmers enhance their productivity and empower them socially. I have also written and spoken on Covid-19, including a blog on the impact on women; five webinars, including on *Women and Work* and *People and the Planet*; and appeared on Brut (France), and Al Jazeera. A recent paper on *Nature and Gender: Myth or Reality?* published in the journal Marg's special issue on Art and

Ecology, also carries a painting *The Daphnes* by the American artist Lynn Randolph, that features me.

1971

Susan Whitham (Addison)

I am not wholly retired, despite being close to 68. Lockdown has meant an end to string quartet playing, but a re-read of Dickens. I think quartet practice would have been preferable – Dickens is so uneven and in some places downright poor. My old man (vintage Fitzwilliam) is gallivanting off to Christie's in nearby Didsbury, so we are in a bubble of two, unlike the rest of the country, which seems to do as it pleases, as far as "rules" go. However, the garden does not know what hit it, and all highways and byways near us have been thoroughly explored on our bikes. I despair of HM Government, but that is probably not a remark to put in such an intellectual and worthy publication as the New Hall mag!

Sue Attridge (Wood)

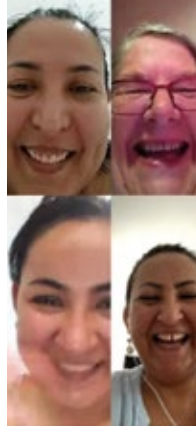
I've spent the last ten years caring for three acres of grounds belonging to a charity on the West Sussex coast. With a relaxed mowing regime, we (my husband was one of two regular volunteers) discovered orchids: green-winged, common spotted and twayblades. A wildlife pond was created and a bog garden planted



with both native and non-native species. I enlarged the flower beds and stuffed them full of perennials, to bloom from earliest spring through to the frosts and provide sustenance to pollinators and other creatures. There are rough areas with semi-controlled nettles and brambles, and an area of meadow left to grow long each summer. Recent moth and bat surveys have confirmed it as an invaluable refuge for wildlife in an area succumbing to more and more housing. Its development has given me, almost to my surprise, the greatest sense of real, enduring achievement in my working life.

Anne Muir (Borrett)

I retired from my full time post as Senior Practice Consultant at Relate in 2016. Since then I have done some private counselling and supervision, but retired completely last Summer when we moved from Wakefield to Daventry. My five children and their families are now a lot closer and in the Autumn we were delighted to see a lot more of them all. Lockdown has changed that of course – and also left us in the middle of a ‘building site’ with several half finished projects in our new house! However we are amongst the lucky ones having reasonable space, a garden and no employment issues. Lots of time to reflect on real priorities – and, on a lighter note, finding myself doing a little dance when I manage to get an online grocery delivery!



Jackie Gooding

I've composed 20+ limericks this past year and love the challenge of rhyming and scanning. I've gained real satisfaction from teaching English to non-native speakers one-to-one on the phone, NOT using the technological wonder Zoom. I don't charge and I don't prepare. Instead I listen for mistakes and offer structured but gentle correction. My greatest joy is teaching three adult Uzbek sisters (all married), one in the USA, one in N. Cyprus and one in Uzbekistan. We squeeze onto a phone-screen using What's App and put up with intermittent internet as we communicate “freely” across four time-zones. Who would have thought this possible back in the 1970s at New Hall? I've done Pilates, contemporary dance, choir, u3a Poetry and church on Zoom since April, resulting in tired eyes. I even did four days of Drama School online. I wrote a limerick (of course!) – about a penguin called Ptolemy.

Virginia Beardshaw

In December 2019 I was appointed an Honorary Fellow of the London School of Economics and Political Science in recognition of my contribution to the School's governance and fundraising over a number of years.

1972

Kathy McVittie (Labrum)

As a nineteen-sixties dream-ager I gazed at the circumpolar stars. After fifty years I'm closer: I live at 58°N, at Dhruvaloka, Place of the North Star. White Tara (similarly associated) calls me to explore my shadows and my light. Midsummer nights are very short, and days much cooler than in Cambridge. I beachcomb, write and garden with fresh energy. I've deepened my dance practice in Movement Medicine and Open Floor. I embrace shamanic visioning that grounds my love of the natural world. Diverted in 2020 from re-training as a touch therapist, I expand my network through weekly writing-for-wellbeing posts, www.writingpresence.com. To Dhruvaloka Brora, on informal retreat, I welcome friends old and new.

Jane Jessop (Ashpitel)

Recently several of us have been meeting for a meal in London on the first Friday in March. This year we met by Zoom and it was really lovely to see and hear from everyone. This perhaps made it easier for people who live further away to join us. In other news I have finished my novel and am looking for a publisher, and I'm having fun and a fascinating time supporting my son Tommy who is an actor who happens to have Down syndrome. He has been selected by BAFTA for their Elevate programme so we have

been travelling to meet some big names in film in London and via Zoom as well as spending time filming on location.

Eileen Joyce

I still work full time as a neuropsychiatrist at UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology and I am trying to decide when and how to retire gradually and even gracefully. Our daughter is a junior doctor in London and so far so good. I have enjoyed increasing contact with Murray Edwards over the past five or so years. The College has done a good job at involving alumnae and I think Barbara Stocking has done a brilliant job in justifying the need for all women Colleges with which I thought I would never agree.

Denise Yusuf

In July I published my second book, *The Solution Focused Approach with Children and Young People, Current Thinking and Practice*. I edited the book and contributed two chapters. It explores the work of Solution Focused practitioners all over the world working with children and young people. It has taken a couple of years, as there were 27 contributing authors, and I hope it contributes to the knowledge of the approach. In the last few years we have been lucky enough to travel abroad teaching and talking about our work. Highlights included trips to New Mexico, Peru, Singapore, Cyprus, Belgium, Finland, Holland, Spain and Germany. I moved online to continue to work as





a Solution Focused coach and supervisor with children, young people and adults. It has been an interesting experience! We have three grown-up children and in January expect our first grandchild – we are ridiculously excited.

Hilary Shepherd (Evans)

I am lying low in our Welsh valley with my husband Nick and working on my fourth novel while growing lots of veg and enjoying a wonderful summer of birds, with some house renovation thrown in (but all that wall paint I bought before lockdown still sitting in the tins). Sadly, a special family reunion had to be cancelled, but Covid-19 so far has treated us lightly – the medics in the family both had it but mildly, as did my step daughter who lives in Paris. Very worrying at the time, though.

1973

Frances Barr (Porter)

I continue to work part-time providing online educational support (marking/feedback/advice) for veterinary surgeons studying part-time for postgraduate certificates. Since I work remotely, my work continued largely unchanged during lockdown, although increased flexibility has been needed in supporting the students' varying circumstances. I have become increasingly involved with local nature conservation,

taking part in regular volunteer workparties to coppice, clear scrub and repair fences, walking regular butterfly transects for butterfly conservation and taking part in a local mink monitoring project at one of the local reserves. Last year I set myself the target of walking 2019km in 2019 (around 6km a day) and ended up with a total of about 2500km! It was a fun and achievable target for keeping active so I'm repeating the challenge this year.

Sue Corbett

I continue to divide my time between charity (WRAP and Breaking Barriers) and commercial dealing in vintage rugs at www.yarnhome.co.uk gigs with a little bit of support for Murray Edwards to spice the mix. The great weather this year has meant lots of river swimming and a mild dose of Weil's disease. Oh, and I now have an ancient campervan from which to watch clouds and stars. The children (31 and 30) are just about hanging on to employment albeit with reduced wages for one and a new job following redundancy for the other.

1974

Laura Warren (Rham)

Like everyone else, 2020 has veered off into a completely unforeseen trajectory. Just as we were on the point of celebrating the first 10 year milestone of the South Downs National

Park with a series of outdoor events back in March, the pandemic struck. My work for the National Park Authority has now moved completely online with an associated learning curve of Facebook Lives and Zoom webinars, which will be familiar to many. We are now concentrating our efforts on a smooth transition into becoming owners of the iconic Seven Sisters Country Park at Cuckmere Haven in the Eastern end of the park. In my home life, the gardening blog I write with my two sisters, www.The3growbags.com, went skyrocketing during lockdown as we put on a month long *Grow Your Own For Corona* course telling new gardeners how to set up a veg patch in their own back-garden. Our first book *A Plant for Each Week of the Year* comes out this Christmas.

1975

Kate Smith (Smart)

Life on the local Parish Council continues to be varied, and issues include Planning, a new environmental action group, and consultations including about a ward boundary reorganisation. (Badly-timed or what?) Post-lockdown, we are deep in discussion of whether we can afford to re-open facilities such as our play equipment and public toilets, with huge additional cleaning. We are extremely fortunate in our Clerk. Meetings are currently virtual, and who knows, may stay that way, though it can be more difficult to involve the public.

We have re-started services at church after a long Covid-19 gap, and are about to sing again for the first time in six months. I'm now on the committee of CamSoc in Derbyshire, and we are determined to attract new graduates. Husband Paul was just trying to wind down health and safety newsletters, but Covid-19 has brought big new demands for weekly updates from employers and kept him unexpectedly busy.

Hazel Wright

After over 40 years as a family solicitor, and a mediator for many of them I retired in October 2019. My plan was to travel in Europe and beyond, to learn new practical skills, and to see more of family and friends. I have barely started any of those. I have been self-isolating since early March. Throughout my career I have volunteered as a charity trustee and currently the College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists takes up quite a bit of time. I remain hopeful that MEC will demonstrate the dedication to equality and diversity that is expected of all leading educational centres.

1976

Helen Wood (Jagger)

I am still facilitating various writing groups and chairing the trustees at the Old Bank Camelford, which closed for six months. Camelford Walkers met from August ►►



for socially distanced walks (!), and the centre itself re-opened in September for Life Drawing, and the Community Larder – which may well take over the building’s lease comes in June 2021. I am also working with Greening Camelford to preserve mature trees locally, and to create a wildlife garden between our primary and secondary schools with long grasses, wild flower areas, apple trees, fruit bush hedges, and over 100 native trees planted before the children returned to school. I am now overseeing the publication of pamphlets for each long standing member of the Indian King Poets, and culling my library which is a good job for winter and a potential lockdown for SARS-Covid19. Next year sees the conversion of a small barn into a retirement place for Haydn and me – hence the book cull.

Barbara Elliott (Wilkinson)



This is the portrait that joins the gallery of former Channing headmistresses, including Isabel Raphael, also a New Hall alumna.

I retired in August 2020 after 15 happy years

as Headmistress of Channing School in Highgate, north London. I am living in Barnet and looking forward to finishing a novel, travelling and keeping fit and healthy. Having read Spanish, I’m delighted that my eldest son (of four) married a

Mexican, and my second son lives in Madrid with his Spanish wife. I am envious of my bilingual grandchildren!

1977

Helen Hurst

Having been a biology teacher for seven years, I decided to retire last summer. With both our kids now off to uni, my husband and I hoped to do lots of travelling this year which of course has not quite worked out. Nevertheless we hope to buy a house in the Luberon, France and do more hiking (me) and cycling (him) and wait a year or two before venturing further afield.

Sue Higginson (Harris)

Looking back, 2020 started in a positive way. In February, I directed a production of Anna Ziegler’s *Photograph 51* about Cambridge alumna Rosalind Franklin and her role in the discovery of the structure of DNA. My husband, Mike, and I squeezed in a long-planned trip to Vietnam and Cambodia, complete with surprise border crossing Covid-19 tests in the middle of the Mekong. Within weeks of our return, lockdown hit. Ironically, the world has felt smaller. Technology allows us to keep in touch daily with my mum in rural Worcestershire, and eldest son, Adam, in Melbourne. Daughter Alice and her theatre company, Scratchworks, are

determinedly adapting their productions to an online world. Youngest son, Harry, opted to stay at University in Exeter for a very successful final Term which lasted from January to July! Hopefully, this time next year, employment opportunities will have emerged for him.

Deborah Ellinger (Chopping)



I raised \$80K for a charity that has been impacted by Covid-19, by running the Boston Marathon in a virtual race along with 18,000 other runners from around the world. I ran my 26.2 miles in Boston around the River Charles with a friend – both of us complete with masks and staying socially distant from other runners. We finished on the “real” marathon finish line in downtown Boston.

Jane MacDonald (Degen)

I have recently spent two years in Sydney, studying for a Masters in Counselling and Applied Psychotherapy. I am now back in Tasmania.

1978

Anna Reckin (Taylor)

Furlough from my day job coincided with some writing deadlines, so various things got finished, including (just published) a co-translation from Norwegian of Lars Amund Vaage’s poetry collection, *The Red Place*, and an essay in Long Poem Magazine. I also translated a short poetry collection for children *Winter Kitchens* by my co-translator, Hanne Bramness, to appear this autumn. In July I was fortunate to get a funded place at the British Centre for Literary Translation’s summer school (all online, of course, this year). Online shiatsu classes have kept me grounded, and the Sainsbury Centre’s Artists’ Programme has been a lifeline creatively: the first project from the lockdown is now on the SCVA website: www.sainsburycentre.ac.uk/learning/artists As I don’t own a car, I haven’t been further than Norwich city centre since March, but local shops are good and I’m very glad of parks and leafy streets to walk in.

Janet Legget-Jones (Legget)

I have been working throughout Covid-19 at the Royal College of Physicians as Head of Business Development in Education. My eldest child Jeremy has produced my first grandson, Jude and my last son is to fly the nest to University after 30 years of child rearing! Those of you who remember me as Head of Boats and sports mad will ►►



appreciate I am still running, completing a 10 mile run in under 2 hours earlier this year and I am a regular sea swimmer around the coast of North Wales which is home.

Fionn Stevenson

I am delighted to have returned to living in NE Fife in Scotland while continuing to work remotely online for my University in Sheffield – a silver lining from the dreadful Covid-19 situation. I have been managing a programme of around 80 PGR researchers in our School of Architecture – one of the largest in the UK for this discipline. My latest book, which came out in September 2019 (*Housing Fit for Purpose; performance, feedback and learning*) is now formally recognised by the Royal Institute for British Architects as one of its key publications in its new *Sustainabilities Outcome Guide* and *Plan of Work* for its 60,000 members internationally – finally putting housing post-occupancy evaluation firmly on the map.

Edna Murphy

I've left my Bursar role and am now looking for the next challenge! As I write my eldest son is about to become a dad for the first time and my youngest is preparing to move with his partner to Venice to live. I am enjoying being part of the New Hall Society committee and keeping up with the amazing things the College is doing to support women during their time at College and beyond.

1979

Esther Knight

This year I began part time History PhD at Southampton University, examining Johanna Šamánková's involvement in the Czech women's and national movements in late 19th Century Bohemia. By way of preparation in summer 2019, I was awarded a Czech government scholarship to start to learn the language! I would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in this topic or period.

Gwyneth Moss

Since everyone joined my world of working from home and living on Zoom, I've run three successful online EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) conferences and several advanced training courses as well as transferring all client work to online. After 20 years on the fringes EFT tapping is becoming increasingly accepted by the mainstream, probably because it works in reducing the effects of shock and stress and helping people to move on from past trauma.

1980

Sally Bott (Rattley)

I am absolutely loving my later-life career as an Autism Consultant. After working in a primary school for several years and completing my Masters degree in Autism (specialising in children), I now advise parents privately and help them with challenges they are facing with their children. I can be contacted at sallybott121@gmail.com.

Alison Care (Fellows)

I am now Group Commercial Director for Tees Valley Combined Authority and the South Tees Development Corporation, and I'm also a director of Teesside International Airport – working in economic development back in the area where I grew up.

Julie Greene

I am Professor of History at the University of Maryland at College Park, and founding Director of the Center for Global Migration Studies at UMD. My work focuses on US and global labour and working class history, immigration, and empire. My most recent book is *The Canal Builders: Making America's Empire at the Panama Canal* (Penguin Press). I am currently completing a book titled *Box 25: The World of Caribbean Labor Migrants*, which uses

testimonies by ordinary workers (in Box 25 of the Isthmian Historical Society at the Library of Congress) to explore their worldview and migratory travels.

Denise Yates

My first book was published in May 2020. Entitled *The School Handbook for Dual and Multiple Exceptionality*, this book is aimed at teachers and other professionals in school and is about pupils who are gifted and talented whilst at the same time having a special education need or disability (SEND). The book, co-authored with Adam Boddison, the Chief Executive of nasen, is part of an initiative to ensure that inclusive education includes pupils with DME. I am now part way through my second book about Dual and Multiple Exceptionality, targeted at parents and carers to help them to support children and young people at home. I have been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday honours in October this year for services to children and young people.

1981

Kirsten Hesketh (Dougal-Biggs)

I want to share the exciting news that my debut novel was published by Canelo in May 2020. *Another Us* is the (hopefully!) touching and funny story of a marriage under pressure after a child is diagnosed with ►►



Asperger Syndrome and is inspired by my son who was diagnosed with ASD when he was 10. I am very excited about it all!

Grizelda Williams (Knight)

I have mainly been in the garden building walls and steps this year.

1982

Simone Pearlman (Stecker)

I am now a freelance legal trainer delivering training to lawyers and others in law firms and other organisations in England and overseas. I am also a Visiting Lecturer at the University of Law.

Dorothy Nesbit

I wonder how fellow alumnae have been affected by Brexit and Covid-19. I found myself doing a same day exchange and completion in the sale of my house in May 2020 – I found it hairy! I am currently living with and caring for my mother who recently turned 90. In my largely online coaching practice I continue to help organisations to recruit and develop senior leaders. I am also increasingly helping both clients who have lost jobs and newby propertypreneurs to develop the confidence and resilience needed to forge new paths. In my “new old” home I am loving country walks and revisiting scenes from my childhood.

Jackie Gordon



After nearly three decades working in Psychiatry, and more lately in Liaison Psychiatry in Sussex, I am soon to retire. The time has flown. If students/alumnae want to know more about this speciality you would be most welcome to contact me. I will continue to do some work on a more part-time basis. The year for all of us has been trying. It has been a privilege to be part of the NHS during this period – and see staff and colleagues rise to the challenge. On a lighter note I have had another piece of artwork accepted by the Royal Academy Summer (Winter) exhibition this year. For any of you out there who create any kind of art, I would urge you to enter this open exhibition – you just never know...

1984

Catherine Livingstone (Roud Mayne)

Since March, I've worked in the Falkland Islands as a locum Consultant Anaesthetist. The population here is less than 5,000, so the hospital is very small. The Government here

acted quickly and so far the only 13 positive cases have been at the Military base. For us the impact is more the effects of the disease itself. Our problems are from secondary effects: visiting specialist surgeons are no longer coming, and evacuating patients who need treatments can be difficult. Evacuation is to Chile or occasionally Uruguay and only for patients we can demonstrate are Covid-19 negative. The scope of what medical care we can provide is limited, and we do feel the isolation. I've taken the opportunity to do some exploring as the landscape and wildlife here are fabulous. If you are interested, you can follow my time here on my Facebook page *When Livingstone met Stanley*.

1986

Kate Seekings

A challenge, to summarise 30 years in 150 words! After Cambridge I did two Master's degrees: in European Tourism Business in Holland and France, and then in International Relations at Johns Hopkins University in Italy and the USA. Returning to London, I joined Deloitte as a consultant working in Kyrgyzstan, Argentina and Siberia. In 1997 I returned to my father's home country of South Africa for an MBA at the University of Cape Town, after which I joined Standard Bank heading up their corporate culture transformation team. That's where I met my husband, Barry.

Shedding years of disillusionment in the corporate world, we opened guesthouses, first in Yorkshire and then in North Devon. After 13 years and two sons, we moved to Hereford where I attempt gardening and art between travelling, governor roles, and raising two school-aged children. I'd love to hear from my New Hall peers!

1987

Francisca Oboh-Ikuenobe (Oboh)

On 1 January 2020, I was named the Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Engineering and Computing at Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Christine Henney (Rowland)

Last year I had an unexpected career development – I became an advocate working with people who lack mental capacity (Independent Mental Capacity Advocate). I work in the north of England and have been able to observe at first hand the sometimes unexpected ways that the Covid-19 crisis has impacted upon some of the most vulnerable in our society. I continue with my involvement as a trustee for Christchurch Ilkley and its soft play centre, Dan's Den at Christchurch. I have two daughters at University, one currently at Peterhouse, and one who has just started Sixth Form. ▶▶



Louise Mellor



I am working in the Middle East and North Africa Research Hub, with the former Department for International Development, now the newly created Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. I am living in London with my husband, Peter, and three children, aged 16, 14 and 11. I am feeling grateful for our lovely family holiday in the Lake District this last summer, and also to be able to play organised sport at this time, including cricket which I started recently at a local club (and played in a Women's tournament at Lord's last year).

Susy Brouard

After studying for two years at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, I am now a curate in Kidlington (five miles north of Oxford), where I will be for the next three years. I was ordained a deacon on Sunday 27th of September at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

Morag Baird

I moved in January from Australia to Accra, Ghana as DFID Senior Infrastructure

adviser, West Africa. I was drawn-down to the UK due to the Covid-19 pandemic but I am returning to post very soon.

Karen Gibson (Stern)

In August this year (2020) I married Alan Gibson after 18 years on my own with my twins, now 21. I am a Director at PwC advising on executive pay and reward, going into my 25th year with the firm.

1988

Bean Hobday (Lyons)



The photo is of six of us just pre-Covid-19 lockdown having a 50th birthday get-together in Marlow. Vicky Young, Bean Hobday (Lyons), Kath Allen (Arbuthnot), Clare Belmont (Gardner), Carol Hadwen and Jane Hurworth (Mawer). We had lots of laughs, and Espresso Martinis to keep us awake! We are still great friends almost 30 years after leaving New Hall, and we toasted Lorna Howitt (Cooper) too who couldn't make the date. We all hope this deserves a spot in the review.

Alison Arthur (Collins)

I am still working as an old age psychiatrist in beautiful South Shropshire, and married to a very hard-working GP. As a member of the “Covid Cohort”, our daughter missed her graduation from the University of Liverpool after finishing her BA (Hons) with a 1st in English and Communications. I have recently taken up wild swimming and I’m loving it!

Jasja Kotterman (de Smedt)



I moved with my family from France to Paraguay in February to manage the family’s farming investments in South America. Notwithstanding the strange Covid-19 times, it has been a fascinating move to a little known part of the world. You can follow my adventures on Instagram.

1989

Abbe Brown (Lockhart)

I published a monograph *Intellectual Property, Climate Change and Technology: Managing National Legal Intersections, Relationships and Conflicts* (Edward

Elgar 2019) and have been appointed University Dean for Student Support 2020. I am working with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative in relation to negotiation of a UN treaty regarding marine genetic resources and technology transfer in areas beyond national jurisdiction – and I have become inspired to learn to dive.

Penny Montford

I continue to home educate my kids, which has been a blessing since their education has been relatively unaffected by Covid-19 although we miss gallery and theatre outings as much as anyone. We’ve just expanded our family with 5 ducklings which is a hugely enjoyable experience and we’re loving now having 4.5 acres instead of a tiny back garden.

Susan Graves (Luke)

I am now qualified as a personal performance coach and I help professional women improve their confidence at work so they can improve their well-being and grow their career to the next stage. I left my previous career as a project manager in 2018. My husband, Mark, and I still live in Derbyshire. I am a mentor for the Murray Edwards mentoring scheme and have got as much out of it as my mentees. When not coaching or mentoring I enjoy singing and playing the violin and I have been taking advantage of several online singing and playing opportunities recently. ▶▶



Deborah Saunt

© LUCA MISEROCCHI



Following in the footsteps of Zaha Hadid and Denise Scott Brown, I have been appointed the Eero Saarinen Visiting Professor of Architectural Design at the Yale School of Architecture. My Autumn 2020 Advanced Design Studio will ask 'What About Learning?', questioning the right to knowledge and participation in civic life, and architecture's role in shaping education and urban engagement.

1990

Annette Prandzioch

I've recently taken up the position of Director General of the Royal Over-Seas League, a Commonwealth accredited membership organisation of which the Queen is Patron, and where members enjoy a historic clubhouse in the heart of St James overlooking Green Park.

Anu Roy

We have been generally OK, since we live in a remote and open mountainside, but there are different kinds of problems

here.... anyway everybody's in such a mess. We just have to get through it one day at a time and hope for the best. I did write about the virus in the Himalayan foothills for the Economist www.economist.com/1843/2020/04/24/a-nation-on-pause-coronavirus-in-india. The good news is that my book has just been shortlisted for the Dublin Literary Award. It's an amazing shortlist and it feels like a huge honour just to be on it www.irishtimes.com/culture/books/international-dublin-literary-award-anna-burns-among-eight-women-on-shortlist-1.4344718.

Lyn Barlow



I, like many people, needed something positive to focus on whilst shielding, and textile art is something I spend a lot of time on. I wanted to find a project that I could not do on my own, in isolation, but something in which I could involve friends and neighbours. Most importantly I wanted to create something that we, as a local community, could look back on and which would serve as a social record of what we experienced, thus the 'Coronavirus quilt' evolved. I am currently working on an Inspirational Women quilt, with panels depicting individual women, and

associated quotes, or pro-women movements/establishments. One panel depicts New Hall under the heading Dare to Dream. Whilst making the quilts I drew greatly on the inspirational story telling style of the Quaker tapestry which seemed ideally poignant and suited to the projects.

1991

Alexia Doherty (Barrett)

I am still living in Dubai with my husband and two young children, I have been working as an Instructor at the Dubai College of Tourism since May 2019, lecturing in different subjects related to the Retail Industry.

Elanor Kortland (Hunt)

In addition to continuing my work as a commercial consultant in the Biopharmaceutical Industry (with my company Kortland Consulting Ltd which is now 13 years old!), I have also been growing my other business, The Mindful Smile Company. Within this, I offer recognised 8 week Mindfulness and Compassion-based courses to community, corporate and private individuals. In 2020 I have also qualified as a yoga teacher and trained to teach the 10 week NHS-approved Yoga4Health course for people at risk of diabetes or heart disease, or who have mild-moderate depression, anxiety, stress or social isolation. This year I have also

trained and begun working as a volunteer counsellor with SHOUT, a free text-based service for people in crisis.

Beate Kubitz



I have built a small and successful transport consultancy over the last three years, providing research, evaluation and policy development in new mobility, www.beatekubitz.com. In August 2020 I was awarded a Fellowship by the Foundation for Integrated transport to study the impact of rural and periurban transport on urban car driving levels. During lockdown I set up a volunteer-run electric cargo bike delivery service, www.cargodale.co.uk which has been supporting people and small businesses in Calderdale for the last six months.

1992

Rananda Taverner (Rich)

With a science-based education, a Chartered Accountant qualification and over 25 years in corporate life, mainly ►►



in the health and wellness industry, I took the opportunity at the end of 2019 to refocus my knowledge and experience into one of my earliest passions: writing. I'd established my writing and editing business, The Ink Rat, back in 2015, ghostwriting a book and editing several others for a select few clients since. I freelanced while continuing in my part-time corporate role and looking after our growing family on the Northern Beaches of Sydney. In 2020, I took The Ink Rat business full-time. These days I contribute to the launch and development of health, wealth and self-mastery books and products while supporting the people and enterprises that create them. I'm excited about my work yet take full advantage of the flexibility it provides to love, appreciate and enjoy my family.

Husna-Tara Prakash (Nanda)

2018 saw the opening of our second boutique hotel The Glenburn Penthouse in Calcutta, following the success of Glenburn Tea Estate & Boutique Hotel on our tea estate in Darjeeling. I have continued to lead historical, cultural and gastronomy tours of Calcutta, and am now expanding my knowledge to the rest of Bengal. I am passionate about the history of this region and continue to conduct lectures on the region to international visitors, and have re-branded to The Glenburn Experience in Bengal that encompasses the two hotels and the expert tours. Covid-19 has hit us really badly with

what could be 18 months of no business, as almost all our visitors are international guests, and we don't see a return of normal flights to India for quite a while. Do keep dreaming of a visit to our beautiful region and I would be delighted to personally show you both Calcutta and Darjeeling.
www.GlenburnTeaEstate.com
www.GlenburnPenthouse.com
www.GlenburnFineTea.com

1993

Kate Stephens (Ellis)



Brighter times in Autumn 2019, launching the Smart Set with the Duchess of Sussex, a unique collaboration with four major retailers in which one piece was donated to Smart Works for every piece bought in store or online.

I've been Chief Executive of Smart Works for the last seven years, and during that time, the charity has grown from one centre in London to eight in cities across the UK, helping around 4000 unemployed women a year with the clothes and confidence they need to succeed at job interview and transform their lives. In 2019, we announced the Duchess of Sussex as our Patron. A natural champion for our clients, the Duchess has helped shine a light on the work we do, allowing us to reach more women who may need our help.

1994

Polly Paulusma (Riley-Smith)

I am still living in Cambridge, and I teach Prac Crit to first years under Leo Mellor's direction. I'm also a singer-songwriter and PhD researcher though trying to finish my PhD with the libraries closed has proved difficult, so I've done this instead to keep me out of trouble... www.pollypaulusma.com/news/six-oclock-somewhere

1995

Sunny Chow

2020 was supposed to be the year when I celebrate the 25th anniversary of matriculation with people of my year. Sadly, we had no joyous parties due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Instead we learnt to stay together "virtually" using technology and "spiritually" with our minds. Working from home intermittently over 7 months of the year is more difficult than expected when there are two kids home-schooling and having online lessons simultaneously within the same space-time. Nonetheless, we have seen surprisingly more blue skies and proliferation of wildlife even in the city where the human footprint is lifted for once. I hope we can all work to protect the environment and continue to enjoy everything nature provides.

1996

Yvonne Deng

We've had ten fabulous years in London, four of which as parents of twins. But, with the nursery-to-school transition looming, and sleep deficits mounting, my husband and I decided to pack in our big city life and fled to the mountains in late 2019. It meant leaving our respective jobs behind and starting another adventure of founding our own consultancy company. Little did we know at the time how lucky we were. Not only do we now have family support for the kids and excellent, all-day state school provision, but living in a small town in the Alps meant that the lockdown had very little effect on daily life, with all of the woods and mountains still at our disposal. I do miss my main hobby of dancing, and my (train) trips around Europe to see friends, but these are small sacrifices indeed. Wishing you all strength and health!

Vicki Lesley

This has been a year of 'births' for me. My second child, a girl named Rosa, was born less than 2 weeks before the start of lockdown. Nine weeks later my debut film was released on Curzon Home Cinema. *The Atom: A Love Affair* is a documentary on society's love-hate relationship with nuclear power. The gestation of my 'film baby' was quite a lot longer than my pregnancy – around a decade – so





it was amazing to launch it into the big wide world. We felt very blessed to be safe at home in our 'baby bubble' getting to know our new daughter (though home schooling my 6 year old was not without its challenges!) I'm also grateful to keep in touch with so many Cambridge friends who are far away – how would we have coped with this year without the internet?

1997

Roba Khundkar (Khundkar)

I am currently a consultant plastic and reconstructive surgeon specialising in management of patients with Sarcoma. My role involves surgical excision and reconstruction of patients with rare soft tissue tumours. I am also a senior clinical lecturer in Global Surgery at Oxford University and faculty of the Oxford University Global Surgery Group. As part of this academic group I undertake research and help train surgeons in low and middle income countries (e.g. Tanzania) and conflict zones such as Gaza.

Liz Davidson

I'm in the fourth year of my posting to British Embassy Brasilia with my husband David and sons Barney and Gilly, now 7 and 5. I'm currently Acting Ambassador which is lots of fun. We'll be back in the UK from mid-2021.

Ruth Fowler

I have been commissioned by BBC1 to write a 4x1 hour female-focused drama tentatively titled *Rules of the Game* (The Forge/BBC1) which will shoot in 2021.

1998

Victoria Taylor

I moved to Sydney, Australia in 2015, and cross-qualified as a solicitor here in 2017. I am proud to work for the NSW state government as a planning and environmental solicitor. I really love being a lawyer, and the work that I do. Mid-pandemic, I bought a little flat in the heart of bohemian Sydney (Newtown) and am currently painting everything white (polar ice quarter).

Cassi Padbury (Farthing)

I am proud to announce the birth of son Milo, a little brother to Isabel.

1999

Nicola Bates (McKie)

It is nice to be able to write with good news. Last week a team I was competing with came third in the Cyber 9 12 strategy/policy competition www.cyber912uk.org/en/blog.

I also have an article to be published soon in Computer Weekly on Driverless Vehicle Security for Military Applications.

2000

Eileen Herlihy



So it is 20 years since I came to New Hall and to the UK. I am still working at JPMorgan in London, which I joined straight after Cambridge – this

year I took somewhat of a career break as I had a baby boy, Dara in January. I am still in touch with some very dear New Hall friends and am also acting as a mentor under the New Hall scheme. I find it enjoyable and rewarding and I highly recommend signing up – the training provided by the College was very useful if you haven't done that sort of thing before.

Jann Yee Colledge (Chin)



After the birth of my daughter in 2016, I moved from London and now practise in

Ashford, Kent. I gave birth to my son in 2018 and returned to work just in time for the

Covid-19 crisis. It continues to be a difficult time in the NHS with plenty more challenges ahead. Aside from my family and medicine, I enjoy writing and illustrating children's books. What began as a hobby grew into a passion. I am excited to announce the release of three illustrated books written for ages 3+ (available on Amazon). I also have another illustrated children's book coming out at the end of February 2021, and a completed novel (awaiting illustration) which I plan to release by Christmas 2021.

2001

Liliya Wheatcraft (Bakiyeva)

I retired from the NHS and became a social entrepreneur after my own diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and ADHD. Following my diagnosis, I realised I have something unique to offer: the combination of personal experience, as a spouse to an Aspie man and mother to two children on the Autism Spectrum with ADHD, plus professional expertise as a Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists with particular experience in neurodevelopmental conditions. I founded Autism-Doctor™, to coach people of all ages with ASC, to aid them to integrate their diagnosis of autism with their sense of identity. Post-diagnostic services are badly needed as well as training that is practical, accessible, ►►



interactive and led by Autism experts. The result is *Autism-in-8-Words* launching in November 2020. If you are keen to get involved, get in touch. Volunteering offers, fundraising help, social investment: all are welcome!

Alexia Knight



In October 2019, I and husband Colin welcomed Henrietta, sister to Toby and Rowan, into the world at home. That night, Henrietta became

very ill and was admitted to our local SCBU. Tests indicated she had oesophageal atresia and a tracheoesophageal fistula. Intubation worsened her condition, but she was eventually stabilised and rushed to St George's, London for life saving surgery. During her fortnight in NICU, her TOF/OA was confirmed, as was a diagnosis of VaCTERl Association. She had 5 operations in her first 15 weeks, another in lockdown, and is waiting for her next at GOSH. Despite the surgical "fix", it's a lifelong condition, which brings with it problems including tracheomalacia, oropharyngeal dysphasia, oesophageal dysmotility, and GORD. However, every indication is that Henrietta shares her mother's determination. An under-researched area, no-one knows what causes >90% of TOF/OA cases, or Vacterl Association. You can find out more at www.tofs.org.uk.

Diana Liyanage



This year I have published my first children's science fiction novel *Axel Lennart and the Ice World*, the second volume in the series will also be published shortly! I have also finally purchased a flat in London, and am very excited to finally get on the housing ladder! I wishing all the best to New Hall/Murray Edwards – your enduring good will and support has always been an inspiration.

Lyndsey Hall-Patch

I have left my specialist role in epilepsy and non-epileptic seizures in Bradford for my second maternity leave and will be returning to a new job as a Consultant Clinical Psychologist in Dewsbury. I am still with Richard – 20 years this year. We got married in Las Vegas when I was pregnant with our first daughter 3 years ago. Sophie is very excited to be a big sister to our second daughter.

2002

Joanna McDonnell

In February this year, I launched a start up in language learning. Lingo Locate www.lingolocate.com changes the way you

learn languages. It enables you to combine formal tuition with free social conversation practice, for the most effective and budget friendly learning. It does this by providing an online marketplace for all language learning opportunities in any location. For our launch we focused on Spanish learning, and are expanding to other languages and geographies soon. Our customers call us the Trip Advisor of languages.

Jennifer Rochester King (King)

I had a daughter, Anna, just before lockdown. It's been very different to my last maternity leave but we've enjoyed more time as a family getting to know her.

Sarah Solemani

I am currently shooting Ridley Road, a BBC1 4x1 hour drama which I adapted from the acclaimed novel by Jo Bloom.

www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/latestnews/2019/ridley-road

2005

Jennifer Brown

We welcomed our baby boy, Arthur John, to our family in September. Our daughter Ivy will be 3 in November, and it is lovely to watch her gentle interaction with her new brother. I have taken a career break from full time heritage work until the children

start pre-school, but prior to the Covid-19 disruption had been volunteering at local museums and with an Essex women's heritage project *Snapping the Stiletto*. I also continue as a Trustee of the John Ray Trust, a charity supporting education in the field of natural history and promoting wider knowledge of Ray's work. I undertake work including giving talks to groups, organising events, and updating site interpretation in the Trust gardens.

Catherine Stockler (Hall)



My husband (Alexander Stockler, Girton 2006-2009) and I had a son, Frederick Charles Daniel Stockler born on 1 June 2020.

2006

Laila Tims

Two years ago I set up a small not-for-profit with some friends to support Classics teachers internationally, called Hands Up Education. This academic year we launched our new secondary Latin course, *Suburani*, a new course that is rooted in a modern understanding of Roman society and embraces new pedagogies. ▶▶



Personally I've had to take a backseat in the last phase of development as we welcomed our second child in December 2019, Ostyn, little brother to Liam. We're also very pleased to have moved into Marmalade Lane, Cambridge's first Cohousing Community, and are loving the way of life.

Donya Fredj



After being based in Dubai for five years, I said goodbye to the shiny Emirate and moved to the more low-key but just as beautiful Abu Dhabi at the end of October to

start a new legal role. I have secured a position as senior corporate counsel at Group 42, a leading Artificial Intelligence and Cloud Computing company in Abu Dhabi which deploys AI-centric industry solutions across a range of industries from oil and gas and financial services to aviation and health care. Most recently, G42 has been trialling the world's first phase III clinical trial of a Covid-19 inactivated vaccine. I am really excited to be joining a rapidly-growing company with such an exciting vision and can't wait to see what the future holds for G42. I am also looking forward to exploring the sights in Abu Dhabi and especially the Louvre!

2007

Becca Stanley

I gave birth to my daughter, Ember, on January 10th. It's definitely not been the year I expected but it's been incredible watching her grow into an already very curious and headstrong little person!

Amy Graham

I gave birth to my first child, Theadora Graham Vatnani at the end of June 2020. She is adorable, of course. I will return to complete my PhD at Sheffield Hallam in March 2021, which has become a study of bus enthusiasts and their cultural practices. Strange and wonderful how life progresses.

Dona Kumarajewa (Subasinghe)

It has been two years since I received my teaching fellowship at the University of Surrey vet school. I am enjoying my work as part of the small animal practice teaching staff. I teach throughout the BVMSci course at the vet school. My research into minimisation of antimicrobial resistance development due to veterinary clinical practice has taken on a new direction with the use of a new simulation tool for teaching. Online hybrid teaching and learning is enhanced by the use of the tool and together with my colleagues I am exploring the efficacy of the tool in medical undergraduate education.

2008

Francesca Brooks

I am just beginning a new post as a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow with the Department of English and Related Literature at the University of York.

2009

Rosita Kalayci

I have some exciting news, I have just been appointed College Chaplain at St Hilda's College Oxford. Here is the announcement www.sthildas.ox.ac.uk/content/appointment-new-college-chaplain-and-director-multifaith-space

Suzie Topham (Burlton)

Frances Margaret was born in February, baby sister to Ambrose Peter.

Yaming Yang

After having spent seven years living in London and working in the advertising and media sector, I have decided to move to Brisbane, Australia, next year. I will be joining my family who are living there, and be taking on a Visual Arts graduate certificate at Queensland College of Arts to start a new adventure.

2010

Holly Smith

I'm working on a campaign to help distribute donated smart phones to the digitally excluded www.hubhub.org.uk/communitycalling. Eleven million people in the UK have limited access to the internet, with a major barrier being affordability. Digital exclusion and data poverty can mean no access to education materials, health services, or contact with family and friends. Renovated phones are distributed to vulnerable and digitally excluded people in a trial area of Southwark. It's been great to hear success stories: an elderly person being able to see family over video call, or a recipient getting a job on the first day of having a phone. We are still in need of phones to help reach our target, so it would be lovely if the New Hall community could have a look around their homes to see if there are any old smart phones lying around!

2011

Siena Golan (Carver)

I got married in July last year – very grateful to have managed that before Covid-19!





Cora Olpe-Roberts



This July, despite a raging pandemic, I married my wonderful partner George in a tiny ceremony at Corpus Christi College. We had 10 guests and a most memorable day.

2012

Jie-Yu Tang

I just published an interesting article: *Oxytocin and Three Kinds of Dangerous Behaviors in a Romantic Relationship: Playing, Suffering, and Stalking*
www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2020.572654/abstract

Carla Bardua

I finished my PhD in evolutionary biology last November at University College London and the Natural History Museum, researching the evolution of the amphibian skull. I then continued as a postdoctoral researcher at the museum for 8 months before moving to Oxford to train to become a teacher. Whilst I love research, I've

realised that teaching is the way forward for me! I hope to get more kids interested in STEM subjects and introduce them to what science is like beyond school.

2013

Katie Prescott

Having left my teaching job (at a lovely school between Cambridge and London) this summer, I am now focusing on my business (Abridge Academy) which coordinates cultural exchange programs for gap year and University students in Asia and online. Once the coronavirus pandemic calms down, I am hoping to fly out to Japan to take up an international school job there.

2014

Opportune Simon

I am launching a podcast with a fellow Medwardian alumna that aims to increase access at Cambridge and Oxford by inviting current and former students to share about their experience at University. The podcast will launch by the end of September 2020, follow **The Oxford and Cambridge Project** on Facebook or **@oxfordandcambridge** on Instagram to get notified when the first episodes drop!

Year representatives

If you would like to contact your year representative, become a year representative or be put in touch with any of the alumnae sharing their news, please email us: newhallsociety@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk

1954/55/56

Elizabeth Waldram
(Collins)

1957

Isabel Raphael (Lawson)

1960

Rosemary Waring
Janet Scott

1961

Margaret Tompsett
(Hatfield)

1963

Merryn Williams

1964

Clare Passingham
(Darlington)

1965

Jane Evans (Rice)

1966

Katherine Bradnock
(Ryder)

1967

Joy Richardson (James)

1968

Victoria Osborne-Broad
(Cutler)
Susan Carter
Evelyn Silber

1969

Sheila Damon (Kinghorn)

1970

Frances Edmonds
(Moriarty)
Jane Inglese (Bailes)

1977

Clare Littlejohn
Sue Higginson (Harris)
Hilary Crowe (Hudson)

1978

Rachel Howgego
(Burbridge)

1979

Ruth Ruggles (Patten)
Bev Forsythe (Thorne)

1980

Tracey Campbell

1982

Jo Busvine

1983

Moni Mohsin

1984

Sall-ann Baker

1987

Joanna Wright

1988

Folasade Kilaso
(Oshinusi)

1989

Abbe Brown
Kate Karooni (Burnham)

1995

Kristin-Anne Rutter

1996

Tori Keevil

1997

Emily Commander

2005

Rehana Khanam

2007

Emma Bridle (Riordan)

2009

Carina Tyrrell

2010

Lil Read

2012

Rowanne Willett

2013

Olwen Wilson

2014

Beth Craig-Green

2016

Hollie Berman

2015

Miranda Nicholson

2017

Lylaah Bhalerao

Regional representatives

Regional representatives are a point of contact for alumnae living in or visiting a particular area. If you would like to contact your regional representative or would like to become a regional representative, please email us: newhallsociety@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk

UK and Ireland

ABERDEEN

Abbe Brown (Lockhart) (1989)

BEDFORDSHIRE/BUCKINGHAMSHIRE/ HERTFORDSHIRE

Simone Walsh (2000)

BRISTOL

Jenny Bradley (1974)

CORNWALL/ DEVON/SOMERSET

Helen Chamberlain (Maynard) (1984)

EDINBURGH

Iona Erskine (1983)

KENT

Jane Day (Wearing) (1974)

LONDON

Tracey Campbell (1980)

NORTHERN IRELAND

Beth Aiken (Bowers) (2001)

NORTH WEST ENGLAND

Lynne (Elizabeth) Jones (Daly) (1973)

Worldwide

AUSTRALIA (SOUTHERN)

Julia Miller (Haisley) (1980)

AUSTRALIA (WESTERN)

Mary Webberley (1991)

BRAZIL

Teca Galvao (1996)

FRANCE

Nathalie Gasperini (1989)

GERMANY

Bonnie Chow (2007)

HONG KONG

Sum Yee Chong (Cindy) (1996)

Sharon Ng (1999)

INDIA (NEW DELHI)

Pia Gupta (1994)

MALAYSIA

Sharon Saw (1986)

SINGAPORE

Joy Houghton (2000)

Wei Li Liew (1990)

SOUTH AFRICA

Fiona Burt (1984)

SRI LANKA

Romola Shanthi Wilson (1976)

SWEDEN

Joanna Ahlkvist (1994)

TAIWAN

Ami Yang (2001)

UAE

Alexia Doherty (1991)

USA (BOSTON)

Maija Pratt Rojas (1993)

USA (CALIFORNIA)

Lin Yan (2000)

USA (MISSOURI)

Stacie Strong (1998)

USA (NEW JERSEY)

Sheila Hallam (Cooksley) (1978)

USA (WASHINGTON DC)

Sarah Jackson-Han (1988)



Sue Joyner (nee Rotheram)

New Hall, 1960

8 OCTOBER 1940 – DECEMBER 2019

Sue joined New Hall from her home in Filey, North Yorkshire, in 1960 to study Natural Sciences, and threw herself into University and College life, with much-loved friends like Dingy DeSoya. She went on to undertake postgraduate research and a



Sue at graduation
in 1963.

doctorate within the fields of zoology and parasitology with Dr Salt, later working in the Molteno Institute. Her happy experiences in the University and city shaped her contribution to the education of thousands of children, during her subsequent teaching career in Norfolk.



Dr Zara Steiner

FBA, Fellow Emeritus

6 NOVEMBER 1928 –
13 FEBRUARY 2020

The College is very sad to report that Dr Zara Steiner passed away on 13 February 2020. Zara joined New Hall in 1965 as a Fellow in History, serving as Acting President from 1995 to 1996. On retirement from the College in 1996, she was elected as a Fellow Emerita. Zara was born in New York and educated at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, and Oxford University. She received her doctorate in History from Harvard in 1957. Specialising in the international history of 20th century Europe and the United States, she was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy in 2007. Zara married the literary critic and scholar George Steiner in 1955; he pre-deceased her by 10 days.



Naomi Linnell

New Hall, 1957

11 JANUARY 1939 – 3 JULY 2020

Small of Stature, but Large in Life

Naomi was, just, a pre-war baby, born at the beginning of 1939 to Brian and Ethel. Her parents were loving and, sometimes, exacting, but always proud of her intelligence, and they rejoiced when she studied hard and won a place to go up to Cambridge in 1957 to read History.

It must have been an exciting time for the little blonde girl from St Albans. Urban legends tell of a lively social life, hobnobbing and dates with future members of the Conservative Cabinets of the 1970s and 1980s, of beautiful dresses for May Balls, and of listening to jazz. Along the way, she also got her degree in History and learnt many valuable life lessons.

Following Cambridge, she trained to be a teacher at the University of Leicester, where

she met the man who was to become Jo's father. She loved teaching – she loved children and seeing what was going on behind the visible – getting to the essence of the whole child. Always encouraging, always strict, and always fair; she was to carry on this practice in raising her own child.

Jo was born in 1965 and Naomi devoted herself to being a full-time mother. But, you couldn't keep that brain down, and in the early 1970s she volunteered in the library of Lincoln Cathedral. She later applied for the full-time post of Cathedral Librarian, becoming the first lay-person to hold the position, let alone a woman. Lincoln was a magical place to work, and here she was introduced to the care of rare books and manuscripts, which was to become her world. She really found her niche and was fortunate to come into contact with the very best of the best, at the British Museum, the British Library, academics, and super-skilled craftsmen and experts, many who became close friends and allies. It was at this time that she received the soubriquet of 'The Old Dragon', retained for the rest of her life.

Possibly her greatest achievement at Lincoln involves the Lincoln copy of Magna Carta. She rescued it from a precarious position, propped up almost vertically, virtually folding backwards in a display cabinet in the damp cathedral

treasury under an unsuitable light source. Fighting off the indignation of the canon treasurer, she arranged for it to be moved into a more suitable environment in her library. One year, she sent it off on a Vulcan bomber to America for a visit to celebrate the founding of the USA. After the visit, the charter became a key part of the public exhibition of cathedral book treasures which she inaugurated. A press photograph of the time shows her and the Dean, Oliver Fiennes, receiving a large sponsorship cheque from a representative of a London bank. His name was John Major. It didn't seem to hurt his career.

In 1980, needing a change, she moved to Canterbury to the position of The Keeper of Printed Books for the Cathedral. Another cathedral (you're always close to heaven in a cathedral) and, in this case, more academic contact, as she spent half her working week in the library of the University of Kent. She continued to blaze her trail by leading the project to computerise the catalogue of the cathedral's 19th century books using two BBC B computers and an acoustic coupler connected to the University mainframe, at a time when manual catalogue cards still ruled most libraries. At Canterbury she made more lasting friends, and she married Geoffrey who adored her until the day he died.



But there was a worm in the bud and, sadly, this was ME which led to her early retirement. Taking a step back was hard for her, but she filled her life with photography, with poetry, and music. She had a particular penchant for obscure Eastern European recordings of early baroque music, for the voice of Peter Pears, and the work of Leonard Cohen.

She met and fell lastingly in love with Oliver, the true love of her life, and together they moved to Broadstairs where they spent many happy years enjoying the sea and each other's company. With Oliver she worked on projects such as the book ▶▶



written by both to accompany an exhibition about Columbus, and she learnt how to share her home with a certain, notorious, pink and yellow-striped cat.

Oliver's death in 2008 hit her hard, but with Jo and Chris and Bill close at hand she fought her little way back. Broadstairs started to become too much for her – too noisy, too busy, too difficult to manage, and dry-rot in the building just about took away any lasting pleasure that she once had in the house or the town. So, just before Christmas in 2018, she moved with Jo to Herne Bay, with Chris moving soon after to be close at hand in the town.

“ Urban legends tell of a lively social life, hobnobbing and dates with future members of the Conservative Cabinets of the 1970s and 1980s. ”

Then she fell in love again with another very handsome boy. Zarususstra, a ginger and white rescue cat, swaggered his way into the Herne Bay house, early in 2019, and padded straight into her heart.

She lived happily with Jo and Zarususstra until, almost overnight, she turned yellow. Consultation with doctors confirmed that she had pancreatic cancer – a particularly nasty brute of a cancer which, while it doesn't punish with much pain, brings dementia. To an intellect such as Naomi's, this was particularly cruel, but having been given 48 hours to live in October 2019, she put up with it patiently for the next seven months.

When the dementia became too hard to manage, she was lucky enough to go to Chestfield House, where the nursing and general care was exemplary. In true Naomi style, she became a favourite with all the staff, and her keen sense of humour and mischief shone through right until the end.

She died peacefully in Chestfield House, with Jo at her hand, on 3 July 2020. And, without her quacking, the world seems like a very quiet place. We are lucky to have had her in our lives. We shall not see her like again.

Joanne Pearman (daughter)



Ann Reid

New Hall, 1959

7 OCTOBER 1940 – JULY 2020

Ann Reid, nee Wolfe, died suddenly of an undiagnosed heart condition far before her time. She was at New Hall in Silver Street in its early years when it was one of only three Colleges in Cambridge admitting women.

She studied History and Geography graduating in 1961, and played tennis for the University (and also at Junior Wimbledon). Ann spent her adult years in Portishead near Bristol with her much beloved husband Laurie of 38 years and their children. When she lost her husband to cancer in 2004, she bore the loss with gracious strength. She is survived by her three children and by her long-term partner David with whom she rebuilt her life after Laurie passed.

Her working life was varied, encompassing teaching, Human Resource management, her own Training & Development company plus various management consultant roles

on Bristol harbour re-generation and job creation projects. She was rich in awesome qualities – strong, loyal, intelligent, determined, with a keen sense of fun, and she was a strong believer in giving back with many volunteer roles in local committees, clubs and community projects including school governor, tennis club treasurer. She was a non-Executive Director of the local Primary Care Trust.

She complemented her working life and her life as a mother with a keen interest in politics, historical novels, gardening and tennis and she travelled widely all over the world. She will be as deeply missed as her memory is cherished.



Anne (pictured on the left) on graduation day in 1961.



Angela Christine Diana Green (Cullingford)

New Hall, 1966

12 MARCH 1947 – 7 FEBRUARY 2020

We have received the following obituary from Angie's husband, Mark. Angie grew up in Poole, Dorset and enjoyed her time at New Hall studying English and participating in College dramatic productions. After

leaving Cambridge, Angie continued to pursue these interests, working initially for the Greater London Arts Association for whom she supported the London Poetry Secretariat. In later years she was employed as a Director of Artsreach, a Dorset charity, working successfully to bring high quality arts performances to rural communities across the county. She devoted much time to raising three sons while sustaining a wide network of extended family (including grandchildren) and friends. As well as her passion for community arts, Angie also supported other local voluntary organisations, including those involved with disabilities, finding time as well for gardening and swimming. She was a keen walker and always enjoyed walking with friends and her beloved collie dogs on favourite stretches of coast, particularly in Dorset and Cornwall.

We were sorry to be informed this year of the deaths of the following alumnae and members of the New Hall Society, and offer our sincere condolences to their friends and families.

Heather Jackson

New Hall 1968

6 SEPTEMBER 1920 – 7 APRIL 2020

Professor Jan Saxl

Former Fellow in Mathematics

5 JUNE 1948 – 2 MAY 2020

Christine (Judy) Harris (Morgan)

New Hall 1976

7 DECEMBER 1956 – 31 JULY 2020

Rowan Astbury (Matthews)

New Hall 1963

4 APRIL 1942 – 28 FEBRUARY 2020

Alumnae benefits

For current prices and booking information please visit www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk/alumnae.

Dining rights

One free meal in College per Term, with the option to attend up to three further meals at a guest rate.

Accommodation

Discounted rates for stays in College accommodation, subject to availability.

Sports facilities

Membership to the College gym and free access to the squash and tennis courts.

Gardens

Access to our beautiful gardens.

New Hall Art Collection

Access to our unique collection of contemporary art by women.

Plus:

- Regular events in the UK and overseas, including lectures, dinners and networking opportunities.
- College Merchandise for sale through our online shop.
- Publications that bring you news and features from the College across the year.

For more information or to book any of the above, please contact the Alumnae Relations Office on +44 (0)1223 762 288 or newhallsociety@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk



New Hall Society AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the New Hall Society was held on Saturday 7 March 2020 at 20:00 in The Dome, Murray Edwards College.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 28 September 2019 were approved.

2. Report from the Chair

The Chair gave a review of the work of the New Hall Society in the last year, noting that the AGM had moved from the Alumnae Weekend to the International Day Event.

The Chair spoke of the success of the alumnae events which continued to attract

growing audiences, and thanked the Development Team and members of the Committee for their time and ideas.

The Chair noted that the New Hall Society Review had been very well received, and spoke of the communications work being undertaken in collaboration with the College to facilitate the connections between alumnae and their relationship with the College as the Society grows.

3. Election to the Committee

Dr Mengmeng Wang (2006), was elected to the Committee.



New Hall Society Committee

Nomination form

Nominations for the Committee should be made using this form. Please ask two other members of the Society to propose and second your nomination. All alumnae, Fellows and former Fellows are automatically members of the New Hall Society.

Please return your form by 1 February 2021 to:
New Hall Society
Development Office
Murray Edwards College
New Hall
Cambridge
CB3 0DF

We, _____
PROPOSER NAME (IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

and _____
SECONDER NAME (IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

wish to nominate _____
NOMINEE NAME (IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

for election as a member of the New Hall Society Committee 2021-22.

PROPOSER SIGNATURE _____ **MATRIC YEAR** _____ **DATE**

SECONDER SIGNATURE _____ **MATRIC YEAR** _____ **DATE**

I agree to the above nomination.

NOMINEE SIGNATURE _____ **MATRIC YEAR** _____ **DATE**

Acknowledgements

The *Annual Report and New Hall Society Review* is published once a year for alumnae, students, staff, Fellows, parents and friends of the College. Feedback, suggestions and contributions are always welcome from readers, please contact:

Alumnae Relations and Development Office
Murray Edwards College
New Hall
Huntingdon Road
Cambridge
CB3 0DF
+44 (0)1223 762288
newhallsociety@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk
www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk

Murray Edwards College is a registered charity.
Registration number 1137530

The College would like to thank all those who assisted in the production of this publication.

Editorial board

Tessa Kilvington-Shaw, Debbie Macklin,
Fiona Duffy, Claire Cosgrave, Lexie Hoskins.

Design

Georgia King Design

Printing

Langham Press



This brochure is produced with vegetable-based inks and made of material from well-managed FSC®-certified forests and from recycled materials.



MARTIN BOND PHOTOGRAPHY



Murray Edwards
College

founded as New Hall

New Hall, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, CB3 0DF

+44 (0)1223 762288

newhallsociety@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk

www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk

Join us on social media

[facebook.com/MurrayEdwardsCollege](https://www.facebook.com/MurrayEdwardsCollege)

twitter.com/MECCambridge

[Instagram.com/meccambridge](https://www.instagram.com/meccambridge)