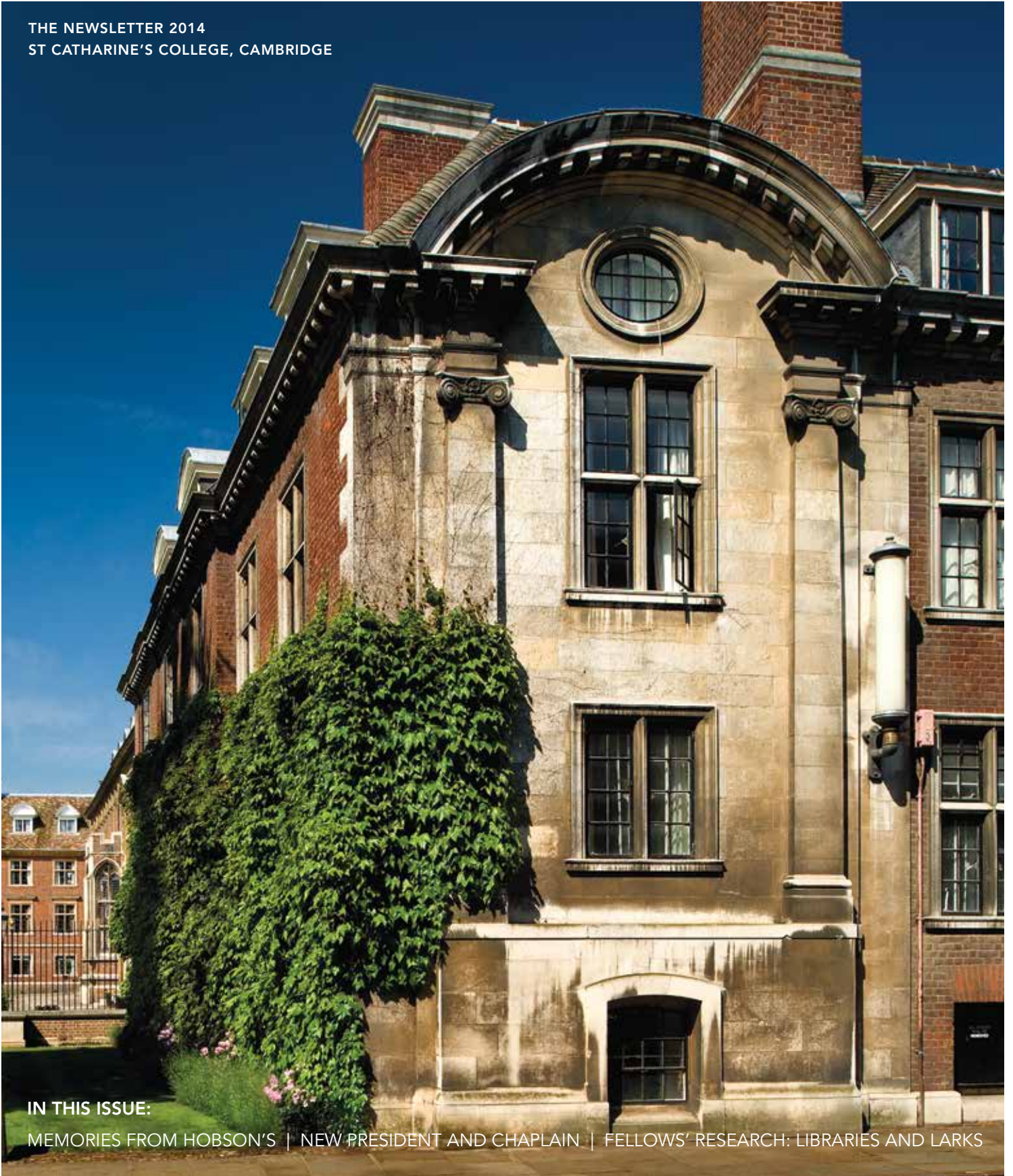




# WHEEL

THE NEWSLETTER 2014  
ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE



**IN THIS ISSUE:**

MEMORIES FROM HOBSON'S | NEW PRESIDENT AND CHAPLAIN | FELLOWS' RESEARCH: LIBRARIES AND LARKS





FROM THE MASTER

**PROFESSOR DAME JEAN THOMAS (2007)**

I'm pleased to introduce the new-look *Wheel* – our annual newsletter providing a broad snapshot of College life, complementing the comprehensive annual Society Magazine.

This year's issue contains contributions from more than 40 Members and friends of the College. A number of you wrote in to share your memories of living in Hobson's, and our thanks go to all who have contributed. Also in these pages: our new President and Chaplain introduce themselves; Fellows Dr Abigail Brundin and Prof Bill Sutherland describe their areas of research; and the Librarian discusses one of our more mysterious manuscripts. Students report on their travels, and on their successes in College sport, and two of our longest-serving staff, the Butler and Deputy Butler, tell us about the College silver and the wine cellar, respectively.

We are grateful to those who have organised and reported here on College Society events. I encourage you all to sign up for the many events for alumni held in College and elsewhere (some of which are listed on the back cover), and to follow us on the College website – as well as on Facebook and Twitter, if you are so inclined.

We would welcome your comments on the *Wheel's* new look; the next issue should be with you around May 2015. Meanwhile, we look forward to the Society Magazine at the start of Michaelmas Term.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

**Dr Peter Wothers (1988)**, the Rushton Fellow in Chemistry, was named as one of the Science Council's 100 leading practising scientists in the UK. Dr Wothers was recognised in the 'Teacher Scientist' category for "his role in helping to bridge the transition between sixth-form and university through his leadership in developing the syllabus for the Chemistry Pre-University qualification."

**Aleksandra Kotwica (2010)**, a Catz PhD student in Physiology, was in one of the ten winning teams of the first Breast Cancer Startup Challenge, which awards grants of \$5,000 to enable teams to transform their research into viable business plans. Aleks's team, led by Alice MacNeil at Accenture, is working on developing virus-like particles as a versatile delivery method for cancer therapeutics.

**The McGrath Centre** won its category at the Cambridge Design and Construction Awards in March. The Centre, which opened in June 2013, scooped the award for Best Alteration or Extension of an Existing Building – a great endorsement of the project to

renovate Chapel Court. The Centre is now in constant use by our students, Fellows, alumni and conference guests, and is a wonderful asset to the College. We remain sincerely grateful to the alumni and friends of St Catharine's who, through their generosity, funded this transformative project in its entirety.

St Catharine's Director of Music, **Dr Edward Wickham (2003)**, and our Chaplain, **Rev'd David Neaum (2013)**, led the St Catharine's Girls' Choir in a six-day tour to Hungary in April. Seventeen girls (and two organ scholars) visited Budapest, Kecskemét and Szeged, performing four concerts and two Masses. They also collaborated with the Piarist School in Szeged, who will visit St Catharine's next year.

Undergraduate **Rebecca Moore (2011)** triumphed in the 10,000m race in the BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport) competition at Bedford on Sunday 4 May, becoming student champion of the UK. Rebecca was fourth in this competition in 2012, and in 2013 took second place; so this year's win was well-deserved.



**The McGrath Centre, opened in June 2013**

## FROM OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

### 19 February

Students, staff, Fellows and alumni were enthralled by the Lent Term Library Exhibition, which featured some beautiful old maps, including a 1688 map of Cambridge showing 'Catharine Hall'.

### 1 March

Fellow **Professor Chris Clark's (1990)** book, *The Sleepwalkers*, reached no 2 in the Heffers nonfiction paperback chart.

### 4 and 9 April

A great week for Catz alumni in TV and film: it was announced that **Ben Miller (1985)** is to star as a villain in the new series of *Dr Who*, whilst *The Double*, based on the Dostoyevsky novella and adapted and directed by **Richard Ayoade (1995)**, was released in cinemas.

### 30 April

This photo of Head Porter **Dom Mulcrone** with our resident ducklings may be several years old, but we still love it, and so do our Members ...



### 12 May

The Society's Scottish Branch enjoyed a drinks reception, a lecture and stunning views of the Castle at the New Club in Edinburgh, where **Professor Gavin McCrone (1954)** spoke about his book, *Scottish Independence: Weighing Up the Economics*.

## SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

### Badminton

 Captains **Emma Tarrant (2012)** and **Andrew Lowson (2011)**

- Ladies' 1st team to be promoted back to Division 1 and reached the semi-finals in Cuppers; ladies' 2nd team remains in the top half of Division 4
- Men's 1st team were runners-up in Division 1 and reached the semi-finals in Cuppers; men's 2nd team to be relegated from Division 3; men's 3rd team remain in Division 7; men's 4th team to be relegated from Division 8
- Mixed 1st team reached the semi-finals of Cuppers; mixed 2nd team reached the quarter-finals of Cuppers

### Hockey

 Captains **Graeme Morrison (2008)** and **Caitriona Cox (2011)**

- All three teams reached the Cuppers finals, with two victories out of three: mixed, Catz 5–3 Jesus; men's, Catz 1–6 Jesus; women's, Catz 18–1 Girton/Homerton

### Netball

 Captain **Alice Skupski (2012)**

- Ladies' team finished top of Division 2 in Michaelmas and joint 3rd in Division 1 in Lent.
- Mixed team finished 6th in Division 1 in Michaelmas and 3rd in Division 1 in Lent, and reached the Cuppers quarter-finals.

### Rowing

 Captains **Chris Quarton (2011)**, **Chris Eddy (2011)** and **Sarah Lucas (2011)**

- M1 won blades (9th on the river); M2 won blades and went up 6 places to 1st place in Division 3
- W1 went up 2 places (8th on the river); W2 went up 1 place
- The Catz rowers won Cam FM's Marconi Cup for their overall performance in Lent Bumps – collected by Chris Quarton and Chris Eddy live on air on 14 March.

### Rugby

 Captains **James Lamming (2011)** and **Cara Eldridge (2011)**

#### MEN'S

- League: Catz 12–12 Fitzwilliam (Catz 4th in the league, into promotion play-offs)
- League play-off final: Catz 41–0 Christ's (Catz promoted to Division 2)
- College Varsity (new event this year): Catz Cambridge 17–45 Catz Oxford
- Cuppers: 1st round, Catz 15–5 Queens'; 2nd round, Catz 0–13 Robinson (Catz go into Cuppers Plate tournament)
- Cuppers Plate: quarter-final, Catz 23–14 Homerton; semi-final, Catz 12–44 Fitzwilliam

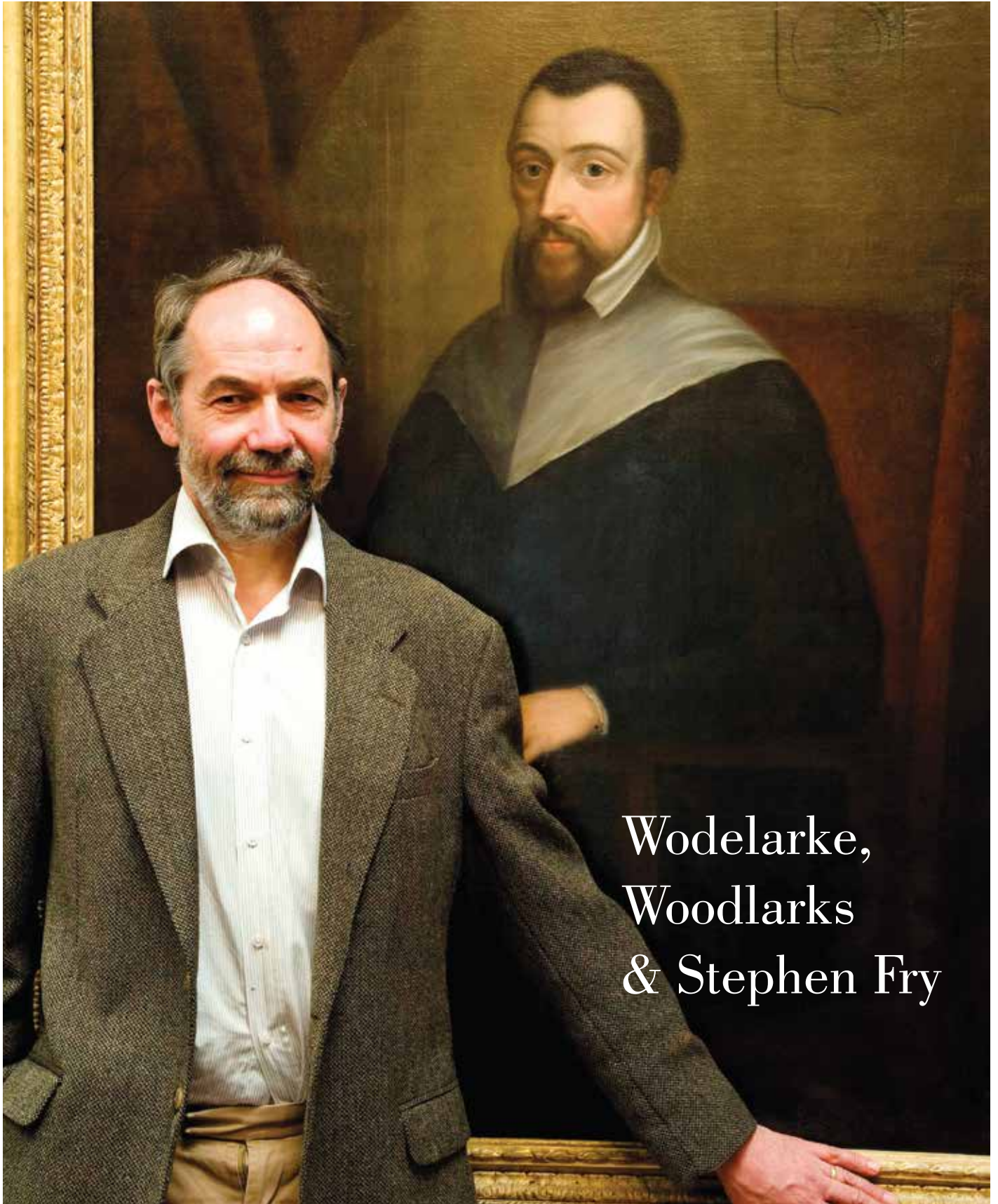
#### WOMEN'S

- League: Catz 20–0 Emmanuel, Catz 20–25 Hill Colleges
- Cuppers 7s: Overall winners (Catz 22–7 Hill Colleges, Catz 22–0 Emmanuel)



The Cuppers-winning women's rugby sevens team





Wodelarke,  
Woodlarks  
& Stephen Fry

*Professor Bill Sutherland (2008) finds a serendipitous connection between St Catharine's history and his own research*

All readers surely know that St Catharine's was founded in 1473, by Robertus Woodlark of King's College. Our College archivist, Elizabeth Ennion-Smith, kindly found out for me that, as a result of the then relaxed approach to spelling, he had a range of names. By 1858 he was referred to as Robert 'Wodelarke', 'Woodlark', or 'Woolark', the middle version becoming the one by which he is known today. It is fitting that we dine with him overlooking us, gazing down on his heritage (although **Professor Sir John Baker (1971)**, acting as sleuth, determined the painting is actually a copy of a portrait of the 1598–1607 President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, only reversed!).

The woodlark first entered my research in the 1970s when I was studying Breckland, a fascinating area straddling Suffolk and Norfolk and loved by Cambridge botanists. The characteristic species were all in decline: the woodlark had gone from fifty pairs in the 1950s to extinct; stone curlew and wheatear had all become scarce; rare plants had disappeared from 39–93% of sites. We carried out research to show the impact of grazing and disturbance, especially by rabbits. Since then, the management has improved and woodlarks are now frequent on many of the heaths.

More recently, the woodlark became a focus for research after the Government announced a plan for opening access to 'open land comprising mountain, moor, heath, down, and registered common land', and wished to know whether the potential disturbance caused would be a problem. They approached us to provide the answer.

Surprisingly, our research on southern heathlands showed woodlarks could breed perfectly happily in the presence of people, even nesting successfully within a footstep

of main paths. However, we also discovered that, when deciding where to nest in the spring, the birds usually showed a strong avoidance of people and so crowded into the undisturbed locations. Our research then showed clearly that when packed together they produced fewer, lighter young who were less likely to survive.

## The woodlark first entered my research in the 1970s when I was studying Breckland

We could thus quantify how disturbance impacted the population, not through a direct impact but through them avoiding a non-existent threat. The Government officials were adopting an evidence-based approach – but were rather nonplussed that the birds were failing to do the same!

Some time later, I remember being told our research was on the front page of *The Independent*. I rushed to buy a copy and discovered that, unbeknownst to us, the government was using our results to determine their housing strategy, and that our research occupied the entire front page, two other pages and editorial. Thankfully, they agreed with our research!

Gerard Manley Hopkins's woodlark remarks, "The skylark is my cousin and he / Is known to men more than me." Indeed, the skylark has become a totem of the countryside and a target for conservation action, due to its popularity and appearances in poems by Shelley and Ted Hughes and music by Vaughan Williams and Pink Floyd.

But it's possible to trace an awareness of the woodlark in the arts too. Hopkins, an early conservationist, accurately transcribed the song as "Teevo cheevo cheevio chee"; John Clare described the effects of the Enclosure

Acts by lamenting, "The woodlark's song is hush"; and Olivier Messiaen included the woodlark in his astonishing transcription of the local dawn chorus for piano (*Réveil des oiseaux*, 1953).

My work on woodlarks – and other topics – had shown that information was often inaccessible for those who made decisions. Upon moving to Cambridge in 2006, I decided to apply myself towards making a real difference to practice and policy. In November 2013, two colleagues and I wrote a piece for *Nature*, identifying 20 key issues that policymakers should understand. To our astonishment, the article went viral, was downloaded over a quarter of a million times, and was promoted by Stephen Fry to his 6.5 million followers on Twitter. There is clearly real appetite for improving practice, and I have found St Catharine's a great testing ground for discussing such ideas with its wide range of experts.

*William J Sutherland is a Professorial Fellow at St Catharine's, and Miriam Rothschild Chair in Conservation Biology in the Department of Zoology. He tweets as @bill\_sutherland.*



© Paul Newport

**A woodlark on a Breckland heath**





## The Italian Books in an English Country House

*Dr Abigail Brundin (2000) explores what we know about the 17th-century 'gap year', or Grand Tour, from the libraries of National Trust houses*

The English have long had a fascination with Italy. By the 17th century a young gentleman's education was not complete until he had made his Grand Tour, most commonly across France and down the Italian peninsula as far as Naples. This was an opportunity to learn languages, observe culture, and pick up skills in diplomacy and foreign relations. The tourist would return a man, ready to take over his family's estates.

When travellers returned from Italy, they brought back art objects and other tourist trophies – and, crucially, books. For a young man whose expenditure was carefully kept in check by a guide or tutor, books provided an economical means of preparing for travel and of cementing continental experiences, as a prelude to the importing of more lavish goods later in life.

The holdings of an early modern private library provide a key insight into the relationship between books and foreign travel. Recently, I have been taking advantage of the rich private libraries in many National Trust properties, using them to track the English fascination with Italy through books. My principal case study is Belton House in Lincolnshire, one of the Trust's largest libraries, where the substantial collection of Italian books clearly reflects the time the family spent abroad, the languages and interests they acquired, and the subsequent impact these had on life in Lincolnshire.

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The holdings of an early modern private library provide a key insight into the relationship between books and foreign travel

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Belton House was owned by the Brownlow and Cust families, who began acquiring land in north Lincolnshire in the 16th century and became a dynasty of successful lawyers. Many male members of the family visited Italy over the centuries, but two in particular experienced a deep and prolonged encounter with Italian language and culture.

John Brownlow (1690–1754) travelled to Italy in 1710–11 at the age of twenty, in the company of a tutor, on a Grand Tour designed to prepare him for his future responsibilities as a landowner and MP. The family's finances were stretched at the time of his departure, but the money was found to pay for this expensive foreign tour, which lasted a little over a year and cost around £1,000.

John's tutor was an experienced French guide named René de la Treille. We know from accounts kept by Treille that the company visited Genoa, Turin, Padua, Venice, Rome and Naples. Books are listed among the many items purchased abroad. When Brownlow returned home, Treille came with him and was still living at Belton on his death in 1731.

In 1801–2 John Cust (1779–1853), a recent graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, spent a year in Italy with his younger brother Henry and other companions. They visited all the major Italian cities, took excursions in the Bay of Naples, and bought numerous books, inscribing them carefully with place and date of purchase. They took their travel seriously, filling many volumes of journals with sketches, inscriptions and comments in many languages. Like his great-great uncle, John Brownlow, Cust returned to Belton fascinated by Italian culture, fluent in the language, and determined to develop his knowledge.

One can see evidence of the Grand Tour throughout Belton House, in the furnishings, artworks, architecture and landscape design. The family not only acquired books in large numbers, but also used them heavily: the

books in the library at Belton have been read, annotated, and passed to further readers within the household and beyond it. Although only a few privileged (male) family members went on Tour, many more, including the women of the household, benefited by reading the Italian books in the library.

The Brownlow and Cust boys are interesting precisely because they were typical of their class and age. The wonderfully-preserved library at Belton, together with the family archives in Lincoln, provide an unparalleled opportunity to record and analyse their multi-cultural 'typicality' and map its contours. By bringing the books into conversation with other Italian objects in the house, in a 2013 exhibition at Belton, the National Trust has also underlined its ongoing commitment to opening up these outstanding libraries, rich in cultural history, to a wider public.

*Dr Abigail Brundin is Fellow and Director of Studies in Modern Languages at St Catharine's and University Senior Lecturer in the Department of Italian.*



**The library at Belton House**

© Patricia Pires Boulhosa



## From the Library

*College Librarian Colin Higgins looks at an earlier journey to Italy, and its unique connection to St Catharine's*

Five hundred years before John Brownlow was born, a traveller from Oxford visited Rome. We know very little about the purpose of Master Gregory's journey, and even less about the man himself. When he returned, he wrote down what he had seen.

Gregory was scornful of pilgrims and little interested in Rome's churches. Instead, he was fascinated by the apostate – the ruined remains of Rome's classical greatness. His inventory of places seen, measured, and chatted about with the locals is like nothing else of the time. Gregory's Latin wasn't great (the text on Trajan's Column defeated him), and neither was his sense of direction (his topology is idiosyncratic). But the text became popular among humanistic visitors and late medieval chroniclers.

In the 13th century, someone purchased a manuscript copy and bound it together with seven other geographical, historical and topographical texts. In the mid-14th

century it was donated to Ramsey Abbey, where the monks rebound it and recorded it in their catalogue. The monastery's library, famous for its large collection of Hebrew books, was scattered when the Abbey was suppressed in 1539. Its stone walls were later incorporated into Caius, King's and Trinity, but most of its books disappeared.

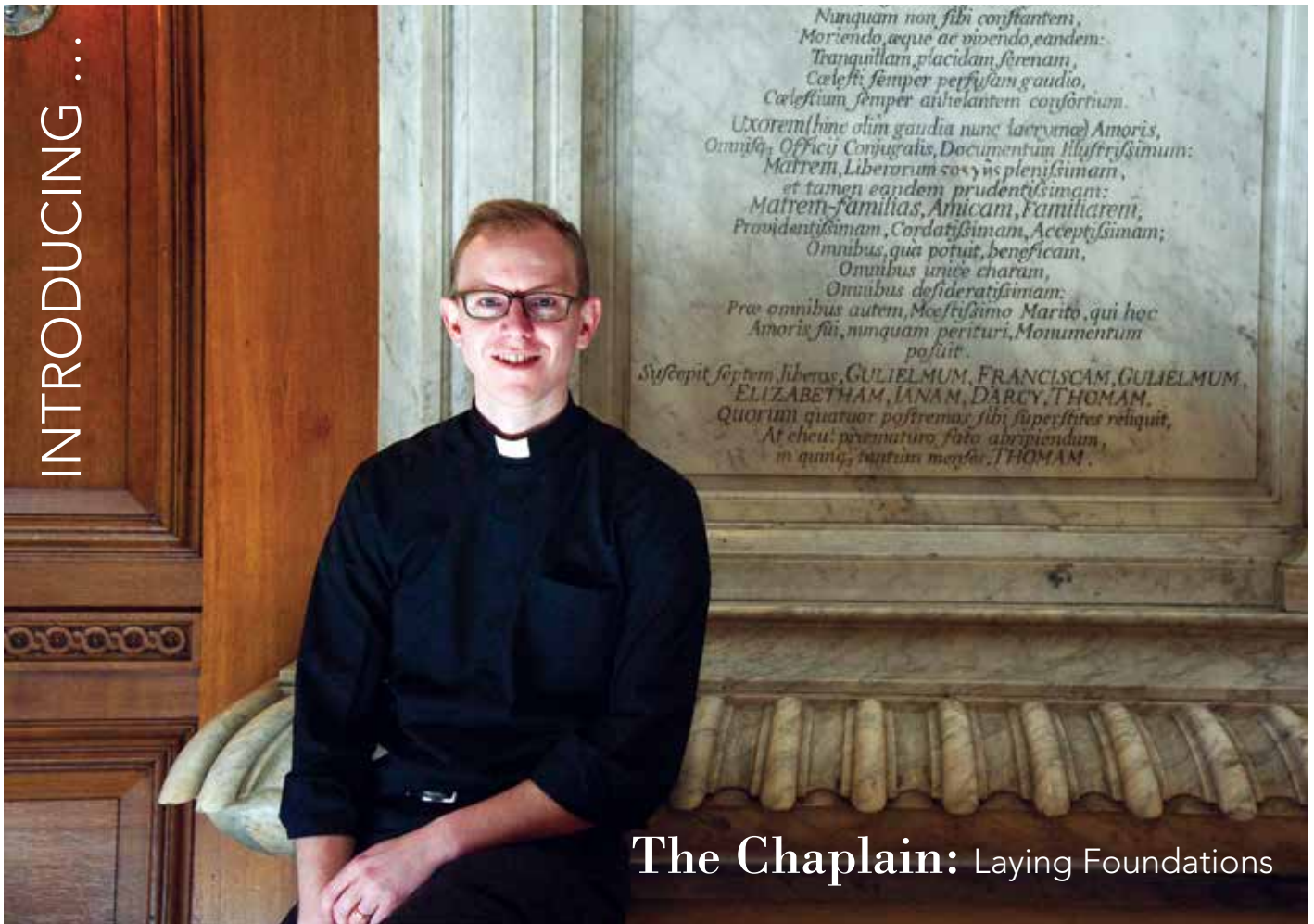
In 1710, German scholar Zacharias Conrad von Uffenbach visited Cambridge. The narrative of his brief stay at St Catharine's notes that he was 'shown a single manuscript, the only one they had, we were assured'. By his description we know that he viewed the Ramsey copy of Gregory's text. We know nothing of how, or when, the book came to us.

Gregory's account survives in a single manuscript copy – in the College Library. It contains multiple histories – physical, factual and intellectual – and is rightly appreciated as one of the College's finest treasures, and an object of continued scholarly interest and activity.

*Colin Higgins has been Librarian at St Catharine's since 2010.*



INTRODUCING ...



## The Chaplain: Laying Foundations

*New Chaplain Rev'd David Neaum (2013) reflects on the strengths of a College community*

Since living in a monastery after my undergraduate degree in philosophy, I have been interested in deliberate communities. It is one of the reasons why the opportunity of working at St Catharine's College was so attractive to me. The sense of community at Catz is impressive, drawing from a rich tradition and looking to build on it for the future. The community is built from mutual giving and receiving. Members both give and receive much while here, and often look to give back generously so that others may continue to benefit from the exceptional education, the sporting prowess and cultural opportunities on offer at Catz.

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### The sense of community at Catz is impressive, drawing from a rich tradition

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I understand one of the Chaplain's roles to be that of strengthening community. That is why most of my time is spent not in Chapel but talking with people. One of the most interesting conversations I have been a part of since arriving has come out of a reading group of largely first-year students. Responding to Russell Brand's provocation in the *New Statesman* during Michaelmas, a group of us have met together several times to discuss nothing less than how to change the world. What a pleasure it is

to listen to intelligent, critically-engaged students think about how the world could be bettered.

One of their frustrations is the difficulty of sustaining deep and lasting communities in contemporary society. The benefits of flexible job markets, robust housing prices and increased social mobility are being weighed against their cost. It is one of the reasons why our community of St Catharine's is so important. We hope that foundations are being laid here for relationships that will bind people together to this place and to one another throughout their lives. It is a pleasure, as Chaplain, to help lay those foundations.

*David Neaum was welcomed as Chaplain in October 2013.*



## From the President

*Dr John Little (1972) reflects on his journey from undergraduate to College President*

I came up to St Catharine's in 1972, one of the first to come to Cambridge from Stratford Grammar School in the East End of London. I had decided to take what is now called a 'gap' year and so had first walked through into the Porters' Lodge in December 1971 for my interview with **Alfie Maddock (1948)** and **John Shakeshaft (1961)**. They quizzed me quite strictly, although Alfie took the lead because I had confessed to being more interested in Chemistry than Physics. It seemed to go reasonably well, and I went back to work at the Ilford Films Co where I was working on ways to stabilise colour dyes in their 'new' business venture of colour photography. (Unfortunately, a 'small' American company called Kodak had somewhat stolen the march on Ilford Films and, soon after, they sank into oblivion.)

After a few days, a letter arrived from **Gus Caesar (1933)** starting with the words "Dear Little," and offering me a place to read Natural Sciences, although the College did want me to take the Entrance Exam as well. As I was working, I had little time for revision and had to arrange to go back to school to take the exam, whereupon I proceeded to make a very average attempt at the papers. This culminated in another letter from Gus telling me that I should concentrate on reading up on my maths before I came into residence!

Coming up to Cats in October 1972 was quite an exciting, if daunting, time as I moved into Hobson's 14, sharing with **Richard Stephenson (1972)**, another scientist. However, any thoughts of concentrating solely on science and finding most of my friends in that community vanished quite quickly. On the first Monday afternoon I went to the College football trial, where I met some of the very good

second- and third-year Cats footballers. I did quite well and was then told to go off to Jesus on the Wednesday afternoon for the University trials. Again, luck was with me: I scored a hat trick and was told to turn up the following week for training with the University first team.

Thus I acquired a large body of friends in the Cats sporting community and settled quickly into College life. Natural Sciences proved very interesting, especially what was then called Crystalline Materials (later to become Materials Science) – overseen by **Graeme Davies (1967)**, a Fellow who also supported all the College sports teams, even by rowing in a novice Kittens boat with us one summer at the Mays. I did well in my undergraduate exams and was fortunate to become captain of the University football team, leading them out in front of very proud parents at the Varsity Match (then held at the 'old' Wembley stadium).

My interest in Materials Science led me into doing a PhD and then some postdoctoral work at the University of California in Berkeley (where I also managed to play for the Oakland Stompers in one of the fledgling US leagues). I returned to Cambridge in October 1980 to a post in the Materials Department as a Demonstrator (now called Assistant Lecturer), and worked there as a Lecturer and Senior Lecturer until October 2012.

In 1979, whilst I was in California, ladies had arrived at Cats, and this made quite a big difference to the College. But by 1980 and the second cohort

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Coming up to Cats in October 1972 was quite an exciting, if daunting, time as I moved into Hobson's 14.

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of women, the College had already settled into an acceptance of this new status and I found it the same memorable College that it had always been. In the intervening years our women have matched the men in all areas: academic performance has been very good, societies have thrived and, in sport, we now have a good crop of Blues most years. Perhaps the traditional sports are no longer at the forefront, but other sports – sailing, modern pentathlon and triathlon – have all produced wonderful sportsmen and women in recent times (and, it seems, hockey excellence will continue forever!).

So, I am extremely proud to have been elected as President of St Catharine's for three years until September 2016. There are more Committees to chair and attend and the President deputises for the Master when and if necessary, but this puts the President in a position to help shape the College now and in future years, and this is something that I am happy to give back to Cats. With the support of many interested and generous Old Members, the College is looking to build a platform for the next 500 years, and I have no doubt that Cats will remain friendly, cosmopolitan and striving to achieve in the halls of academia and on the sports field.



LIVING IN ...

# HOBSON'S

**Hobson's has stood imposingly opposite the Porters' Lodge since 1929, when it was built on the former site of the George Inn. The inn's proprietor, Thomas Hobson, gave his name not only to the building, but to the phrase 'Hobson's choice', as he only ever offered his customers a single horse for hire, rather than allowing them to choose for themselves.**

**When we asked you in our February e-newsletter to let us know if you lived in Hobson's, we were delighted to receive so many responses, along with some great pictures and stories! We couldn't resist sharing some choice morsels of Catz history.**

**James (1954) and Andrew (1956) Arrowsmith** sent us two beautiful images (one pictured), which enabled us to identify the occupants of Hobson's in 1956–7 and 1958–9.

**Canon David Creaser (1955):** "From 1956 to 1957 I lived in the splendid Hobson's 7 – then regarded as one of the best rooms in the College. Its main advantage was its

location outside the College gates and the easy access it provided, via the windows, after hours. Of course, being a law student and then a theologian, I wouldn't have dreamed of using the windows for that purpose myself (but many other people did, in return for a small donation to charity!)"

**Professor Ed Hall (1973):** "I occupied the ground floor room in Hobson's overlooking the courtyard. I was reading



Part II Pharmacology during my veterinary programme, and awoke one morning in March to sheep grazing outside my window. They were returned to King's later that day!"

**Jo Kilbourn (née Wrigley, 1979) and Karen Cass (1981)** were some of the first women to occupy Hobson's. Karen told us: "Since it was a mixed staircase, Jo and I had to guard the showers for each other as there was no lock and nothing to stop men bursting in to join us! We had fun, though: a favourite activity was to buy cakes from Fitzbillies just down the road and scoff them in one of our rooms after tennis matches."

**Ben Miller (1985):** "My room was Hobson's 6 and was freezing cold – I had to wear a ski hat whilst working – but I loved it! I had to stay up for the summer at the end of the year, and it so happened that the JCR was storing its arcade games in my room at the time. I spent my time attending lectures at the Cavendish labs and playing Pacman with my friend **Tom Haine (1985)**. One night, we were playing Sisters of Mercy rather



loudly, and some people climbed in from the street and joined in with the dancing! I have a lot of very happy memories of my time there."

**Philip Mills (1986):** "I was the proud inhabitant of Hobson's 13 in 1988–9. I loved having a view out of the window across the gates to the Porters' Lodge and also another view across Main Court and towards the Chapel, where I married my wife **Amanda (née Gilham, 1986)**. I remember when Jessye Norman was coming to Cambridge to receive an honorary degree and was due to go into Corpus Christi across the road. I had her fabulous recording of Richard Strauss's *Four Last Songs*, and when the great lady appeared at Corpus, I put her on full blast, belting out of my window as a tribute. I'm sure she must have heard herself!"

**Joanna Reeves (née Whiteley, 1988):** "I lived in Hobson's 5 in my first year, and my now husband **Martin Reeves (1988)** lived in the room above. We met on the staircase on our first day, began dating in our second year, and married on 19 August 1995 in the Chapel."

**Hal Drakesmith (1990):** "I lived in Hobson's as a first year Nat Sci. Just down the corridor from our sitting-room was **Peter Wothers (1988)**, then in his third year. **Alex Holmes (1990)** and I managed to get Deaned within first week for an illegal, over-attended, raucous jollification, despite keeping our windows wide open to ensure maximum noise dispersal. A few days after our dressing-down by the Authorities, we returned to the Dean to seek permission

for another party in our sitting room, which after much glowering and 'Are you joking?' was gracefully granted..."

**Rob Osborne (1995):** "I lived in Hobson's 1 in 1997–98, the room next to the Organ Scholar. It had an out-of-tune piano in it and I drove everyone mad learning the Pink Panther – which I still haven't managed to master!"

**Miriam Montgomery (née Knights, 2009):** "In third year, I managed to nab Hobson's 19 – it was like a home from home, with baths on every floor! Unfortunately, I made the mistake in my first year of setting a bath running and forgetting how fast the tub filled. I came out of my room to find a stream running down the stairs to the basement. I was terrified of what the Porters might say, but the one on duty only laughed and said, 'I'll fetch you a mop.' I then had a thankless hour or so mopping up a lot of water. Needless to say, by the time I'd finished, I didn't want a bath any more, but I probably needed one! If I had my time at Catz again, I'd pick Hobson's every time."



**James Craig (1981)** generously digitised this image of the the Queen being greeted by the Master, **Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer (1973)**, in 1981

## 30 MINUTES WITH ...



### TONY SMITH MBE, BUTLER

Tony has been the Butler at St Catharine's for 15 years. He arrived in 1999 following a 23-year career in the Queen's Guards, where he received an MBE and the English Rosette, amongst other decorations. "I come from a military background and regiments that are steeped in tradition, just like the College. I came for interview with the Master, **Sir Terence English (1993), Professor Ron Martin (1974),** and the Bursar, **Charles Crawford (1997)**. They interviewed me for three hours – but at the end of it they offered me the job on the spot!"

Tony is responsible for the Fellows' dining and all the College functions and feasts, including the College silver. On the day of a feast, it takes him the whole day to clean all the silver that's needed – ten pieces for display, and 16 or so candlesticks. His favourite pieces are a dishstand featuring the three Muses, which he affectionately calls "the three Cathies", and a larger model

of St Catharine with her wheel. Once the silver is clean, it will stay shiny for about two weeks. "If it's in a good state of cleanliness and I know there's another big dinner coming up, I'll wrap it up in clingfilm – that slows the tarnishing down. Silver being a soft metal, you don't want to clean it too often because it'll wear away."

Tony grew up in Shrewsbury, trained as a compound mixer at Bangor University, and travelled on seven tours of active service during his military career, including a memorable visit to Alberta, Canada, where he saw the Northern Lights. He has one daughter, still runs three miles most days, and likes sea-fishing over shipwrecks. "That's where you get big fish like conga and ling – plus, it's a challenge, because you get hooked up on the wrecks and have to untangle yourself. It's something active, something needing skill – that's the kind of thing I like."

### LYNNE BUSHELL, DEPUTY BUTLER

Behind a small, inconspicuous door in the College basement lies the surprisingly enormous wine cellar, a treasure-cave filled to the brim with wine, whisky, port and Madeira. The walls are lined with 'bins', alcoves in which the bottles can be laid down, keeping the corks moist and the bottles sealed. The ambient temperature is kept at a chilly 10°C.

Lynne has been at the College for nearly 23 years, and loves working in the wine cellar. "It's an island of calm compared to upstairs!" she explains. Lynne splits her duties with Professor Ron Martin, the Wine Steward: "I order the house wines and ports, and he chooses the more specialist wines for feasts and dinners." Once the wine arrives, Lynne keeps track of the stock and rearranges the bottles when necessary to provide enough space. Behind the endless stacks of bottles lie some really special finds – Lynne shows me a bottle of Madeira dating from 1853.

In July, Lynne is cycling from London to Paris with two colleagues, **Caroline Grover** and **Alicja Duma** of the Conference department. "We cycle 285 miles over four days, and end by going up the Champs-Élysées the day before the Tour de France does!" The trio are raising money for three different charities, and the College wishes them all the best for their exhausting journeys!







# Travelling for Catz

*Renata Snow (2010), a fourth-year vet student, travelled to the Peruvian Amazon to study tamarin monkeys*

**A**s a vet student, I usually spend my holidays doing compulsory work experience in the UK, so the free summer between my preclinical and clinical courses represented a great opportunity to travel and develop new skills. I wanted to explore my longstanding interests in conservation and wildlife medicine, subjects not taught in the standard veterinary curriculum.

I spent six weeks as a field assistant at CICRA, a biological research station in the Madre de Dios region of the Amazon rainforest, five hours by boat from the nearest town. I was involved in two types of research: trapping and following. On trapping days, we would hike to the trap site before dawn and set up a mobile lab in a tent nearby (bringing the lab to the animals, rather than vice versa, minimises the disruption to them). I was responsible for monitoring the monkeys' anaesthesia,

collecting some of the data and samples, and holding the animal during blood draws and dental casts.

On 'follow' days, we would use radio telemetry to locate a group of tamarins we'd trapped previously and then follow that group for half a day or the whole day. Suffice it to say that watching rat-sized monkeys overhead through binoculars and following them as they race through the trees – while not tripping over roots or falling into a ravine – is every bit as difficult as it sounds! It does, however, yield a lot of behavioural data, both on the individual and on intra- and intergroup dynamics. At the end of the follow, we would navigate our way back to base by GPS (another new skill for me).

In addition to helping the principal investigators with their regular data collection, I did an investigation into the rates of different injuries in the tamarins we

trapped. I wrote up my findings afterwards for the British Veterinary Zoological Society (from whom I received another grant), and if all goes well a revised version of this paper will be submitted for publication later this year.

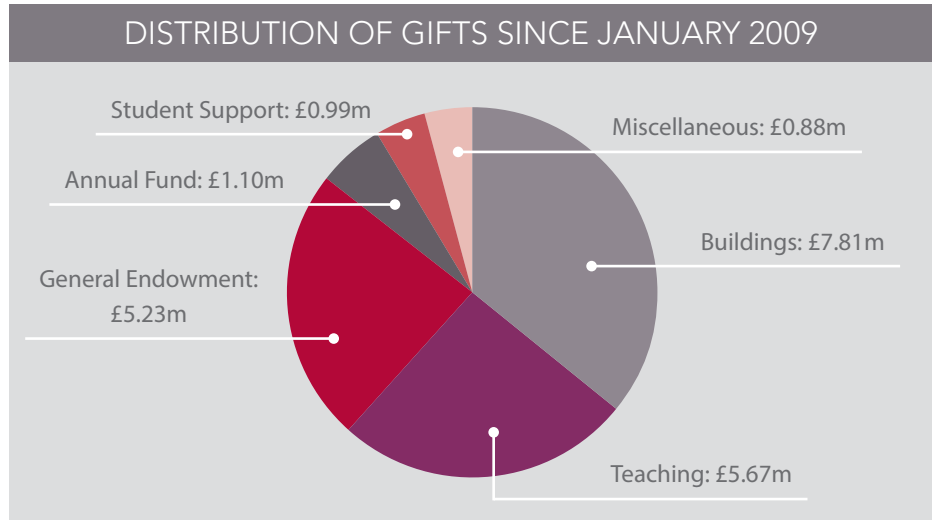
I learnt a lot about tamarins, developed a range of fieldwork skills and faced the challenge of studying wild animals while minimising the cost to their welfare. A final highlight was simply chatting to the other scientists at the station about their fields of study – from soil to jaguars – and thereby gaining a better understanding of the rainforest ecosystem as a whole. All in all, my time at CICRA was extremely rewarding, and I am immensely grateful to the benefactors of the College travel funds for their support.

*Renata received a grant from the DO Morgan Fund for Veterinary Science.*

## FROM THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

The St Catharine's Campaign, launched in 2009, now stands at a total of £21.6 million (as of 30 April 2014), a wonderful endorsement of our values and aspirations. The pie chart shows the distribution of gifts to the Campaign, and we continue to focus on our three main priorities: securing College teaching to sustain our excellent academic performance; funding new bursaries to attract and support the very best students; and strengthening the Endowment to ensure the College can flourish long into the future. I encourage you to read more about our goals on the College website, or to get in touch with me at [development.director@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development.director@caths.cam.ac.uk).

As I write this, we have just received the marvellous news that your gifts to the Annual Fund have reached a grand total of £1 million. Donations from our Members have been received for the Annual Fund, with the Telephone Campaign at its heart, for six years now, and this year is set to be our most successful yet, with over £277,000



raised so far. Over two weeks our callers spoke to nearly seven hundred of you, and everyone at the College is sincerely grateful for your donations.

I would also encourage you to consider making a legacy pledge to the College. Legacies can be directed towards a College's core values, and are therefore a declaration of faith in the College's commitment to providing a first-class education. Since 2012, pledging a legacy

to charity has also become more tax-efficient – do contact the office or visit our website for more details.

The Alumni and Development Office runs 30 events each year in College, London and further afield for our Members. I do hope we can welcome you to one of these in the near future – please see the back cover for details.

*Deborah Loveluck (2007)  
Fellow and Director of Development*



**This year's Telephone Campaign callers send their thanks**



## SOCIETY NEWS

The College Society – the Club for all College alumni, run by volunteers, now in its 90th year, and with the Master as this year's President – continues from strength to strength. Currently our UK Branches are organising events in locations ranging from Edinburgh to Dartmoor to Newmarket; we're also particularly pleased that we have new volunteers working on events in Ireland, in Wales and in the Yorkshire area. Our grand Annual Reunion in College is on 27–28 September – see details on the back flap!

Applications for our Society's 2013–14 grants are still being received, but last year we awarded: £800 to support music tuition; £500 for acting and dance; £500 to support a hockey club tour; £1,140 for work experience; and a total of £3,830 to 53 students to help with sporting costs.

The Society Committee is most grateful for the generous donations given by our Members over many years. For those of you who might wish to contribute to the good work we do in helping with student finances, the Treasurer, **Dr John Little (1972)**, would be happy to accept any financial aid dedicated to the student body. We also work with the Careers Society to bring alumni and students together, supporting the now annual February Dinner and encouraging them to use our Career Link service; and we liaise with the JCR and MCR whenever possible.

Congratulations to **Andrew Thompson (1986)** and **James Pereira (1990)** on being made QCs; to **Lord Horam (1957)**, our previous Society Chair, on his elevation to the peerage; and to our Treasurer, Dr John Little, on his election as President of the College. Our thanks to **Professor Dame Jean Thomas (2007)**, Master, for being our Society President this year, and to Lord Horam for taking on the role from this September. *David Peace (1966), Secretary*



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**The 1953–59 Reunion gathered in Main Court on 5 April**

## RECENT ALUMNI EVENTS

**Catz Careers Dinner, 7 February**

This year's Catz Careers Dinner was a great success and thoroughly enjoyable. Amid a variety of presentations and over dinner, Catz alumni from many career sectors kindly returned to College to share their knowledge and experience of life after leaving the "Cambridge bubble". The Dinner will be taking place again next February and those interested should contact **Laura Spenceley (2012)** ([ls596@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ls596@cam.ac.uk)). In addition to other termly events, we encourage students to use the Career Link network. This is a fantastic resource, and we would be grateful if alumni could update their profiles. *Michael Condylyffe (2011), President of Catz Careers*

**History Dinner, 8 March**

The History dinner on Saturday 8 March was attended by 52 Members and guests. 16 of these were current undergraduates, but the majority were alumni who had read History at St Catharine's some time in the previous six decades. The five History Fellows present interrupted the guests' enjoyment of the excellent meal to give a brief account of their current research and what had led them to it. Finally, **Professor Chris Clark (1990)** showed the value of historical knowledge for the understanding of contemporary events by discussing wide-ranging parallels for various facets of the Ukrainian crisis. *Dr John Thompson (1971), Emeritus Fellow in History*

**Members' Reunion (1953–59), 5 April – 'Glorious Fifties'**

On Saturday 5 April a tide of College matriculands from the years 1953–59 arrived for a Reunion Dinner: an opportunity for the renewal of old friendships and memories of a distant past. At dinner, the Master spoke of the College's progress on a wide front, not least its sustained advance towards financial security, a goal to which many of those present had generously contributed. The 'buzz' in the social moments was unmistakable and several groups organised their own informal pleasures, including a 'Tom Henn Evening' in his old rooms, the initiative of **Canon Hugh Searle (1956)**. A splendid day. *Roy Chapman (1955), Fellow Commoner*

**Acheson-Gray Sports Day, 26 April**

The Acheson-Gray Sports Day mounted a fine Dudley Robinson rugby match which saw alumni trounce the College 61–25 (because the College sportingly lent them some decent players). The alumni triumphed overall by 187 points to 149 in six sports. 120 diners filled the Olive Grove through **Louis Williams's (2012)** great efficiency. 'Jerusalem' was duly sung. Glasses were raised to **Charles Acheson-Gray (1991)**, to £5,000 given to fund the event, to all Captains, and to **Dominic Harding (1993)**, alumni organiser since 2001. Next year's A-G Day will be on 20 June 2015, to include a dinner in Hall. *John Oakes (1961)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2014

SATURDAY 14 JUNE

*St Catharine's at the Bumps*

WEDNESDAY 6 AUGUST

*An inaugural drinks reception of the Wales Branch of the Society will be held at 5.30 at the National Eisteddfod in Llanelli*

SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

*Choir Reunion*

SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

*Members' Reunion (for matriculation years 1993–95)*

FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

*Hong Kong Supper Party and Lecture*

SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

*College Society Annual Reunion and Dinner*

SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

*Singapore Supper Party and Lecture*

THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER

*Kuala Lumpur Supper Party and Lecture*

TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER

*St Catharine's at the Royal Society, kindly sponsored by Mark Humphries (1980)*

SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER

*Geography Dinner*

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

*Law Dinner*

TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER

*New York Supper Party*

WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER

*Boston Supper Party*

### 2015

SATURDAY 28 MARCH

*Members' Reunion (for matriculation years 1963–66)*

SATURDAY 20 JUNE

*Acheson-Gray Day and Dinner in Hall*

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

*Members' Reunion (for matriculation years 1996–98)*

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

*College Society Annual Reunion and Dinner*

## MEMBERS' REUNIONS

Please find below the dates for your weekend year reunions until the end of 2017 (these are slightly different to those previously published). If it is a while until your next reunion, why not join us at the Annual Society Reunion? This falls on 27 September, and all alumni and Associate Members are welcome with a guest.

### Year Reunion matriculation years

2015 1963–66 (28 March) and 1996–98 (19 September)

2016 1982–84 (9 April) and 1967–70 (17 September)

2017 1999–2001 (25 March) and 1975–78 (16 September)

*Any alumni who have taken their MA or equivalent from St Catharine's are welcome to dine at High Table once a quarter during full term, subject to availability. See the Alumni section of our website or contact the Alumni and Development Office for more details.*

## LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL GIFT?



Exclusively-designed lapel pins and earrings, crafted in sterling silver and gold, are available to purchase from the

Alumni and Development Office. These stunning pieces offer an elegant way to wear the College's most recognisable symbol. Get in touch (see right) with any queries or to make an order.

**If you are thinking of holding an event in Cambridge, why not consider the wide range of facilities available at St Catharine's? Contact the Conference Office on +44 1223 338323 or [conference@caths.cam.ac.uk](mailto:conference@caths.cam.ac.uk)**



## FIND US ONLINE



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# WHEEL

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