In memory of Queen Elizabeth II, our Patroness
1926-2022
In honour of Her Majesty, we remember her inspiring leadership as Queen of the United Kingdom and Head of the Commonwealth for a commendable 70 years. Her Majesty was the beloved Patroness of our College since 2003, following in the footsteps of The Queen Mother in accepting the role. The Queen last visited the College in 2019 where the luncheon was attended by more than 80 representatives of students, staff and Fellows. Her Majesty first visited in 2005 with the Duke of Edinburgh. On both occasions, she spoke to members of the College with great interest and paused in Old Court to greet individuals upon her arrival. Following the news of Her Majesty’s death, the College paid its respects by flying the flag at half-mast. The College was dressed with black drapes and ribbons while portraits were placed in Chapel, Old Hall and in The Round. All events were cancelled and the College remained closed to visitors during the period of mourning. All those who wished to leave a message were able to do so in the condolence book, and a memorial plaque has been established in the Porters’ Lodge in commemoration of Her Majesty’s many years of service. We were honoured to be represented at Her Majesty’s State Funeral by the President, who attended along with dignitaries and leaders from the international community. A statement from the President offered our deepest gratitude to Her Majesty. “At this extremely sad time, we join very many millions of others in the UK and across the world in expressing our deep condolences to the Royal Family. We extend our thoughts and prayers to her family as we all mourn an exemplary monarch whose monumental reign has served, and will long serve, as an inspiration for so many around the world.” Dr Mohamed El-Erian

In the months following Her Majesty’s passing, the Governing Body of the College will be approaching the Palace to explore the process of succession for a new Patroness. A memorial service also took place on the 19th October in Chapel, where we welcomed all present to remember Her Majesty and her support of the College during her lifetime of dedicated service.

Queen Elizabeth II, 1926-2022

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen, Patroness of Queens’ College, on Thursday 8th September.

Front cover and above image: Andreas Grieger

QUEEN ELIZABETH II, 1926-2022
Thank you for reading this edition of The Bridge in which we share with you, the Queens’ community, recent developments at your College, point to what is ahead and, most importantly of all, reiterate our deep gratitude for your advice and financial support.

As you can imagine, our community was hit particularly hard by the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Even though the College was relatively empty at the time as term was yet to start, the news immediately brought out a notable number of people to the Round. Individually and collectively, we mourned the loss of our Patroness and expressed our gratitude for her support. The College was immediately dressed with black ribbons, banners and portraits of The Queen. We held memorial and other services to remember Her Majesty. The condolence book placed in the Chapel was quickly filled with genuine expressions of grief and gratitude.

A week after the State Funeral, at which Queens’ was honoured to be represented, we welcomed new and returning students. It was a wonderfully “normal” start of term, something that I have not been able to say for the last two years. We admitted 14 new Fellows as we continue not just to deepen our teaching and research capabilities, but also broaden them to enable greater inter-disciplinary activities. Meanwhile, our staff continued to deliver remarkable outcomes, in Queens’ and beyond.

The “normal” return of students to Queens’ and the expansion of our Fellowship are just two of the many reasons we feel excited and optimistic about what is ahead for our College. We are progressing on the plans for a major revamp of our physical infrastructure, starting with the Owstone Croft site. We continue to expand our wellbeing support for students whilst also enhancing our extracurricular offerings. While some improvements have been made on greater financial resilience, it remains an important objective.

Building on the progress made with the Alexander Crummell Scholarships and our on-the-ground presence in the areas we serve directly, we are in talks with a handful of potential partners to enlarge our access and participation efforts. This is being accompanied by the consideration of several initiatives to provide an expanded menu of life skills for our students as they seek to fulfil their considerable potential and make a difference in a world desperately needing better collaborations, ideas, leadership, and outcomes.

None of this would be possible without the wonderful support we get from our alums, donors, and friends. Thank you very much for all your advice, guidance and donations. They have played, and continue to play a critical role in helping us navigate a series of external shocks (the latest of which is the ongoing cost of living crisis).

Thank you for what you have done and do for Queens’. Please never hesitate to reach out to me (president@queens.cam.ac.uk) if you have ideas on how we can better serve our community.

With all my best regards,

Mohamed A. El-Erian
Fellows become Life Fellows

Some titans of the Fellowship retired at the end of the 2021-22 academic year...

Prof. Lisa Hall, CBE
Prof. Hall has been an integral part of the College since she was elected as an Official Fellow in 1988. She has served as Undergraduate and Postgraduate Tutor, May Ball Committee Senior Treasurer and first female Vice-President (2013). In 2015, Prof. Hall was awarded a CBE for her services to higher education and to sport. Her appointment came after the work she had accomplished at Queens’ and as Chair of Disability Snowsports UK. As Head of the Cambridge Analytical Biotechnology Group, her research focuses on understanding how biology can be interfaced with electronic, mechanical and optical systems to achieve measurement and diagnosis. In recognition of 33 distinguished years as a Member of the College, the Governing Body has recently endowed the Lisa Hall Postgraduate Scholarship for STEM students from under-represented backgrounds.

Prof. James Jackson, CBE
Prof. Jackson came to Queens’ in 1973, following in the footsteps of his father Owen Jackson (1943). He read Natural Sciences as an undergraduate, commenced to a PhD in Geology and was elected an Official Fellow of the College in 1979. From 2008-2016, Prof. Jackson was the Head of the Department of Earth Sciences and supervised modules in years 1, 3 and 4 of the Natural Sciences Tripos for Queens’ undergraduates. As a Professor of Active Tectonics, he is interested in how to use geological insights to reduce the risk from earthquakes to populations in developing countries, and has conducted field work all around the world, including the Middle East, Asia, the Mediterranean, Africa, New Zealand and North America. He was also highly involved with providing expertise after the 2015 earthquake in Kathmandu, Nepal and awarded a CBE for his work towards Environmental Services.

Prof. Rod Jones
Prof. Jones is a Professor of Atmospheric Sciences within the Department of Chemistry. He read Physics at Jesus College, Oxford and worked for the Met Office (1985-1990) before being elected as the Trevor Bradley Fellow in Chemistry at Queens’ in 1991. Prof. Jones specialises in the observational study of atmospheric structure and photochemistry, including finding solutions to climate change and air pollution. As a Fellow he supervised Part III students, MPhil & PhD students, Erasmus exchange students, hosted Post-doctoral Research Associates and was the former College Vice-President. He founded FAAM (Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurements) which is dedicated to the advancement of atmospheric science through the investigation of the environmental impact of new aircraft systems.

Dr Thomas Forster
Dr Forster was elected as a Bye-Fellow in Pure Mathematics at Queens’ in 2016. However, he has a much wider range of academic focus. Dr Forster received a BA in Philosophy (with a minor in History of Music), an MA in Philosophy and PhD in Mathematical Logic. His love of music and philosophy later led to a career in Neurophysiology. Dr Forster’s research looks at Set Theory, Type Theory, BQO theory, Philosophy of Mathematics and Philosophy of Mind. During his fellowship, he supervised Computer Science and lectured for the Linguistics faculty. He holds many external affiliations, including External Researcher of the Auckland Centre for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science, Visiting Lecturer at Queen Mary Westfield and Adjunct Senior Fellow in the Philosophy Department at the University of Canterbury at Christchurch.
The address started with an introduction from the Governor of the Bank of England, Dr Andrew Bailey (1978, Hon Fellow), with a message on the current economic situation and education. Alumni were invited to submit their own questions for a Q&A discussion led by the Development Director. This was the first event of a new series where we hope to continue to invite Members to hear an annual update from the President and allow you the opportunity to ask your own questions.

By offering this as a virtual event we can connect with not just alumni based near Cambridge but the global Queens’ network. We had viewers from across the globe, including in the US, Canada, Egypt, Australia, India, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Germany, Italy, Singapore, France and Hong Kong.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our inaugural President’s Annual Address. Over 2,500 alumni and supporters tuned in to hear alumna Sally Boyle (1980) and Development Director Rowan Kitt interview Dr Mohamed El-Erian on his hopes for the future of Queens’.

The President’s updates

Recent advancements...
- Queens’ has approximately 950 students, with 500 undergraduates and 450 postgraduates
- Up 5% on overall applications to Queens’
- The first Cambridge college to have an interfaith centre
- Raised 22 full scholarships for postgraduate students from access backgrounds and recently completed the first endowed postgraduate scholarship (The Lisa Hall Scholarship)

Challenges we face...
- Creating accessibility for social mobility, diversity and inclusion
- Providing support and facilities for students who struggled during lockdown
- Financial resilience: we are developing a model that is less vulnerable to major shocks and sustains us for the long term
- In competition with financially stronger institutions from the US that are appealing to academics

How can you help?
- Become a member of The 1448 Society (regular giving), The Arthur Armitage Society (for those leaving a legacy), become a benefactor to Queens’ (for those giving £10,000 within two years) and offer to be an ambassador for the College in your local area.
- And, come and visit us!

The recording is still available on our YouTube channel for those who were not able to make the live screening. Scan the QR code to watch or search: https://youtu.be/JZcgRJXRx3Q

Join us for the next event in this series on Thursday 11th May 2023
As Covid 19 restrictions eased, the Development Director had the opportunity to connect with more of Queens’ global network. During the summer he visited alumni in Munich and Vienna, and (in the autumn) New York, Washington DC, Massachusetts and Texas. In November, we plan to host events in Singapore and Malaysia.

Queens’ Connects

Vienna

L-R: Rowan Kitt (Fellow), Jeremy Styles (1975), Oksana Lemishka (2016) and Gerhard Knechtle (1993)

Munich


New York City

Alumni met at Cambridge in America offices led by Julie Zhang (2009, centre), our Queens’ ambassador for New York

Austin, Texas


We now have a range of LinkedIn groups for Queens’ alumni around the world, featuring the latest news in your local area and allowing you to find out more about what’s going on at Queens’. We encourage anyone who wishes to keep up to date with Queens’ news and connect with fellow alumni to join in the conversation.
The new Dean of the Judge Business School

Dr Mohamed El-Erian (MAE) spoke with the Dean of Cambridge Judge Business School, Professor Mauro Guillén (MG), to discuss the future of business and what role CJBS must play in wider societal issues.

Who is the Dean of CJBS?

MAE: Professor Mauro Guillén. Thank you for doing this interview. It’s a pleasure to sit down with you... So, who is Mauro?

MG: Thank you for inviting me, Mohamed. I think of myself as an other-regarding person who is seeking enjoyment, fulfilment, family, but professionally to do things that excite me and will help the world.

MAE: Tell us about your journey to Cambridge and Queens’.

MG: People often ask me, ‘Why did you leave the United States after 34 years and 25 years at Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania?’, and I always say adventure. There’s no logical or rational reason why you would leave such an outstanding American university but there’s a thousand reasons to join a fantastic place as Cambridge. If I have to sum it up in one word it would be adventure.

MAE: We hear you’ve had quite an academic adventure and that you were involved with much more than the business school. Tell us a little more about this – how many departments were you involved with at the University of Pennsylvania?

MG: Originally I moved to the United States to get my PhD in Sociology. I was a professor at Wharton but I was involved with several other units within the university. The most important engagement was Director of Business at the Law School as we offered LLM students, who were studying for a one-year Master’s in Law, a business certificate. Then for 21 years I taught a class with a historian and anthropologist with over 200 students attending. It was very interdisciplinary.

MAE: Many people talk about interdisciplinary but you lived it. How hard was it to live in the middle with all these different circles interacting?

MG: I thought it was dangerous to pursue that path 30 years ago when I started my PhD in 1992. I think I was lucky to be at a place where that kind of research was appreciated and valued but, at the time, I wouldn’t have recommended anyone to pursue that path. Today it’s a completely different story. There’s no question that science, social sciences and humanities are already interdisciplinary. I’m impressed with how easy it is to cross boundaries at Cambridge.

First impressions of Cambridge

MAE: Let’s talk about Cambridge. A year ago, you were in full prep to take over as Dean of CJBS. At Queens’, we were thrilled that you wanted to join us as a Professorial Fellow. Tell us about your first impressions, the upsides and the downsides.
“When you start meeting people you realise that it’s a magnet for some of the brightest minds in the world. What makes Cambridge great is King’s Chapel and the Long Gallery, but also the people who come here and make such big contributions.”

MG: The first impressions I have are of the buildings, architecture and landscape. However, it’s the second impression that matters most. When you start meeting people you realise that it’s a magnet for some of the brightest minds in the world. What makes Cambridge great is King’s Chapel and the Long Gallery, but also the people who come here and make such big contributions. I will walk up Trumpington Street and think, ‘Maybe Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton or Robert Malthus stepped on the same cobble stones that I’m stepping on today’. The history and intellectual prowess of the people affiliated with Cambridge is something that really shook me.

MAE: Hopefully you didn’t go back in the middle of the night and remove the cobble stone to take it home.

MG: I guess it would be illegal, but it would be a very nice souvenir.

MAE: I remember you telling me that one of your pleasant surprises was lunch at Queens’ – this notion that you walk in and have no idea who you’re going to sit next to.

MG: Absolutely, I come twice or three times a week and I sit at the Fellows’ table. I’ve had amazing conversations about medieval Japan, astronomy, physics, maths. Fields that are very distant to my own preoccupations. There’s always something to learn and it’s such a gift.

Aspirations for lifelong learning

MAE: I know that the Fellowship has benefitted enormously from your interactions. How about CJBS? As Dean, what do you want to be remembered for in 10 or 15 years?

MG: For offering students the best possible learning opportunities and enabling the faculty to produce the best and most useful knowledge for our students. To get there we need to implement a couple of things. My baby is lifelong learning. Given how quickly technology makes everything obsolete, lifelong learning is the way to go for every educational institution.

MAE: It sounds like an obvious proposition but it hasn’t yet been implemented around the world.

MG: No university or business school has taken it seriously. There is another constraint in how many alumni you have. Lifelong learning is about your alum. At CJBS we have 11,000 alums, so we can launch the world’s best lifelong learning with a regional number of resources. However, if other older and bigger business schools were to get more serious about lifelong learning, they would need to get a football stadium. We have an advantage. As you know, there are tales in literature about how often the smaller player wins over the larger, more powerful player. We are small, we are young, but I think we can turn those two characteristics to our advantage.

Larger societal challenges & business

MAE: There’s admiration for how agile CJBS is and it’s become even more so under your leadership. To what extent can CJBS be the connector between business and major societal change? Can CJBS help address the incredible challenges we face as a society, such as climate change?

MG: I’m so happy that you asked me this question because it’s a central element of my strategy. We are definitely leaders when it comes to the environment. We strongly believe that business must be part of the solution to avoid economic disasters. I think back to the 2008 housing crisis when business and the financial sector was a large part of the problem. Instead, we want to offer solutions to all these big challenges that exist in the world. Our strategy is to join forces and bridge the gap. We’re collaborating with other parts of the University to offer the world solutions that can be implemented through the business sector, which plays a large role in the economy. By cooperating I think we can bring to the table the best we can offer and, at the same time, learn from other Faculties and Departments.
University-College co-operation

MAE: Talking about co-operation, there are two historic challenges at Cambridge – 1. Getting the University and colleges to co-operate better. 2. Getting a joint appointment like you have. Both these types of collaboration through institutions and individuals have faced difficulty in gaining enough traction. Why do you think that is?

MG: Organisational theorists, like myself, call this a Matrix Structure where everyone has two directions to pay attention to. In this case, it’s your academic department and the college. The structure is ambiguous and there’s potential for friction. I think this University has thrived precisely because, over the years and centuries, people have managed to make that matrix work. There have been attempts since the 1980s to put in place matrix organisations. The multinational corporations that have been most successful have managed those conflicts and those frictions to their advantage. There are ways to succeed – 1. Look for the common ground. 2. Keep communication open so that you address tensions. That’s what we must do to manage those matrix relationships effectively.

A Multigenerational Revolution

MAE: Let’s spend a bit of time on your research. You had quite an influential book out recently. What’s the next phase?

MG: I’m working on a book, and I think you’ll be happy to hear that I’ve written 90% of it in my office here at Queens’. The working title is A Multigenerational Revolution. With demographic changes, we’re going to see multiple generations in the workplace and the classroom, whether virtually or physically. I think this will be advantageous. There will be less segmentation by age in consumer markets, a criterion the market has wanted for the last 150 years. Broadly, we may have fewer boundaries in terms of where people live and their life experiences. For too long we have been compartmentalising life into these stages. Demographics, technologies, changes in the economy mean those boundaries are becoming blurred and are slowly giving birth to the multigenerational marketplace.

MAE: Would you extend it to multigenerational leaders such as Heads of Governments?

MG: Absolutely, we’re living longer and longer, staying healthy and in good physical and mental shape. I remember my grandparents at 60 years old, almost my age, were in far worse mental and physical state than I am now. The quality of life has improved. More frequently we’re going to see people the age of President Joe Biden interacting with a Prime Minister in their 30s – a 50-year difference!

MAE: I have one more simple question – how do you navigate your room and everywhere else in this college which is not made for tall people? Because I knock my head and I’m not as tall as you are.

MG: Archways are the main danger and I have to be careful and lower my head. If I walk without jumping or doing something strange then I just about clear the height of the frame. I mean this is a 500-year-old building so it shows that nutrition has improved in that we are taller now than then.

MAE: Well we are taller as a Fellowship to have you. Thank you for leaving a comfortable life at Wharton and embarking on your new adventure. It’s an honour and delight to have you at Queens’.

MG: Thank you Mohamed for this conversation and thank you to all the Fellowship for welcoming me.

“There are tales in literature about how often the smaller player wins over the larger, more powerful player. We are small, we are young, but I think we can turn those two characteristics to our advantage.”
Visiting Fellowship

This programme, supported by a generous donor, is designed to add international academics to our intellectual society. Visiting Fellows generally spend a term at Queens’ and have access to College and University resources. Queens’ has appointed Dr Reut Yael Paz as the inaugural Visiting Fellow.

Background
MA, LLM, Law & Political Science, University of Helsinki, Finland
PhD, Bar-Ilan University, Israel
Initiator and director of a research group at Law Faculty, the University of Giessen, Germany

Seeing antisemitism through law
Generally, my background is in public international law and the way it intersects with Jewish identity. I have recently established a project financed by the prestigious German Research Funding Foundation (DFG) called ‘Seeing Antisemitism through Law’. Working with a group of researchers, we are conducting a comparative study between four different European countries: France, Germany, Poland and England. We aim to discover how different courts unpack (if at all) antisemitism from 1945 onwards, showing that antisemitism is hardly an exclusively historical form of discrimination. In fact, the legal structure shows that it remains one of the robust manifestations of hatred.

Now a year into this project, we are constructing a data bank of different court cases from these four countries, which all legal practitioners will be offered free access to. The archive will provide a perspective of what’s already been done over the years, in a manner that allows legal scholars and practitioners to have a basic knowledge of antisemitism through law. The overarching goal is to use court cases to prove the falsity of the prevalent assumption that once the Holocaust was over, antisemitism was no longer an issue.

A Gateway between a Distant God and a Cruel World
My previous research focused on the positive and constructive aspect of the intersectionality between law and Judaism. My book, A Gateway Between a Distant God and a Cruel World: The Contribution of Jewish German-Speaking Scholars to International Law concentrates on these issues during the Weimar Republic. During this time, less than 1% of Jews were living in Germany but their presence and influence on the German legal culture is impossible to eradicate. I unpack why and how the most enduring influences internationally were exercised by legal academics who were Jewish or of Jewish descent.

European antisemitism
European antisemitism makes for a comparative approach. Israel’s legal culture reflects an interesting amalgamation of its own specific historical context that links the Ottoman Empire and the British Mandate together with Jewish law. From the history of its birth, Israel has been impacted by European antisemitism. Had it not been for the Holocaust, ultimately, we could ask what would have happened in Israel.

As an Israeli Jew in Germany, where Jewish presence became conspicuous only through their absence, there is an inherent attempt for non-Jews to construct the Jew for their own purposes. Legal debates today seem to explain – if not to say colonise – the “abstract Jew”, with a certain and structural disregard of the “real Jew”. One may compare it to gender debates and mansplaining, as it often disregards that Jews may have an important and nuanced knowledge about their own discrimination.

Complications also arise if there aren’t any clear, straightforward victims. Poland has very few Jews left which begs the question, how do jurists deal with antisemitism when there are, in a sense, no Jews? In Europe, you have cases where judges are dealing with clear antisemitism but don’t say the word Jew. It was only recently that the EU FRA (Fundamental Rights Agency) conducted its first research on whether Jews themselves feel antisemitic sentiments in their own country. By properly unpacking these issues across Europe, I hope we can see how law mitigates and interlinks with the political and historical debates.

First impressions
Oxford has an aura around it unlike other universities. The college system gives you the opportunity to meet different people and scholars from different research, not just law. I can also focus on writing my next book as I don’t have to be teaching or leading a team daily. I’m mostly looking forward to having access to the Queens’ and University libraries and to feel a deeper sense of what Cambridge is about.
The Intellectual Society

Celebrating Fellows’ achievements and welcoming new academics to Queens’ intellectual society.

Warmest welcome to...

Dr Susan Haines
Fellow & Admissions Tutor
“I am delighted to join Queens’ College and to become part of its welcoming community of students, staff and Fellows. I look forward to working with many of them as we select the future undergraduate and postgraduate students who will continue their academic studies as Members of our College.”

Dr Emily Webster
Fellow & Assistant Professor in Environmental Law at the Dept. of Land Economy
“I am interested in the interactions that occur between private law and global environmental problems, such as climate change and biodiversity loss. I address the evolution of corporate responsibility for environmental harm, the role of the courts and litigation in response to climate change and how the English planning system adapts to climate change.”

Joining the Chapel

The Revd Anna Jones
Fellow & Chaplain
“I’m delighted to be returning to Cambridge and to be joining Queens’ as Chaplain. I sang with the chapel choir way back in 1996-7 while a Graduate Trainee Librarian at Trinity College, which launched a very happy 12 years as an academic librarian, including latterly at the Whipple Library (for History and Philosophy of Science) on Free School Lane. After training for ordination at Westcott House I served my curacy in five rural parishes in East Cambridgeshire and am now much looking forward to getting to know and being among Queens’ students, staff and alumni in this new guise.”

Awards & Prizes

Professor Beverley Glover,
Director of Studies in Natural Sciences, won the 2022 SU Student-Led Teaching Award (SLTA) in the Lecturer category. The Student Union STLAs reward staff who have provided outstanding teaching and support.

Professor Richard Rex, the Polkinghorne Fellow in Theology, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity at a congregation of Regent House. This is the highest award in Theology.

Mr Nicholas Morris (2011)
Bye-Fellow & Director of Music
Nick rejoins Queens’ from Birmingham Cathedral. He was previously an Organ Scholar from 2011-14 and initiated the tradition where everyone new to the choir brings their own soft toy to add to the collection behind the organ.
Election of Bye-Fellows

Dr. Joe Perkins
Bye-Fellow in Economics

“I am Head of Research and a Senior Vice President at the economic consulting firm Compass Lexecon. My research focuses on competition and market design questions in the digital and regulated utilities sectors.”

Also elected:
Dr. Joanna Bellis (Medieval Lit)
Dr. Mansur Boase (Maths)
Dr. Lisa Mullen (English)

Dr. Kate Hendry (2000)
Bye-Fellow in Ocean Climate Science at the British Antarctic Survey

“My research focuses on the impact of climate change on nutrient cycling and ecosystems in the polar regions and the implications for global systems. I specialise in the use of developing technologies for studying biogeochemistry, including novel applications of isotope geochemistry, sensors and autonomous platforms.”

Dr. Jasmin Jahić
Bye-Fellow in Computer Science

“I am employed as a research associate in Computer Architecture Group where I focus on concurrent software systems and software system architectures. I am also actively contributing to EU research committees as a manager of a team comprising of 25 experts.”

Dr. Challenger Mishra
Bye-Fellow in Computer Science

“I am a Theoretical Physicist working on the problem of Quantum Gravity. My work is at the intersection of Physics, Geometry, and Machine Learning. Currently, I am developing new machine-driven approaches to string theory and related mathematics.”

Dr. Elizabeth Weir
Bye-Fellow in Psychiatry at the Autism Research Centre & former Rokos PDRA

“My research focuses on the health, healthcare, education and employment of autistic adults. I was thrilled to give a TEDx talk on this work in March 2022. As part of my work at the ARC, I am developing ‘From Science to Impact’ statements that translate cutting edge autism research into clear and concise summaries for policymakers, autistic people and members of the public.”

Dr. Jeremiah Mitchell
Bye-Fellow in Physics

“As part of the High Energy Physics group (Cavendish laboratory), I explore the networking and data acquisition of next generation atom interferometry experiments MAGIS-100 (Matter-wave Atomic Gradiometer Interferometric Sensor) and AION (Atom Interferometry Observatory and Network). I work on simulations of systematic noise impacts on the detector’s sensitivity to dark matter and gravitational wave searches.”

Dr. Jeremiah Mitchell
Bye-Fellow in Physics

“As part of the High Energy Physics group (Cavendish laboratory), I explore the networking and data acquisition of next generation atom interferometry experiments MAGIS-100 (Matter-wave Atomic Gradiometer Interferometric Sensor) and AION (Atom Interferometry Observatory and Network). I work on simulations of systematic noise impacts on the detector’s sensitivity to dark matter and gravitational wave searches.”

Mr. Joe Perkins
Bye-Fellow in Economics

“I am Head of Research and a Senior Vice President at the economic consulting firm Compass Lexecon. My research focuses on competition and market design questions in the digital and regulated utilities sectors.”

Also elected:
Dr. Joanna Bellis (Medieval Lit)
Dr. Mansur Boase (Maths)
Dr. Lisa Mullen (English)
We are developing a robust assessment and decarbonisation strategy on our energy usage and infrastructure. The progress is being monitored by the College Environment Committee, consisting of Fellows, staff and student representatives from the JCR and MCR, who collect, audit and publish data regarding the College’s environmental impact.

We began with Stage 1, an initial investigation of our existing energy emissions (both direct and indirect) at all properties at Silver Street and off-site, including Owlstone Croft.

The study showed a variety of improvements that can be made:

- The introduction of renewable electricity generation and heat recovery systems
- The electrification of the supply of heating and domestic hot water
- Better insulations for walls, floors and roofs and improved glazing in windows to mitigate thermal losses
- Limiting loss of energy through service distribution routes through the buildings and plant equipment inefficiencies
- Installation of mechanical ventilation with heat recovery to retrieve up to 85% of the heat extracted

For Stage 2 we created an indicative timeline of the required work to evaluate the viability of our target. Our preferred sequence stands to improve the fabric of individual buildings one by one to achieve a cumulative reduction in carbon emissions, starting with the west side.

This assessment has also supported and informed the design of the new postgraduate homes and refurbishment of Owlstone Croft. On completion of this project, this site will be completely gas free, and the landscape scheme will also deliver a 51% net increase in biodiversity.

Work will continue in 2022-23 to develop an estate wide strategy and capital expenditure maintenance plan for the transition to Net Zero Carbon.

Student Green Week

Students partook in the University-wide Green Week at the start of Easter term. Green Officers worked together to co-ordinate a week full of events, such as litter picking, vegan cooking classes, climate workshops and plant-based formals. The MCR and JCR Environmental Officers, Shukri Abdullahi and Saoirse McGuinness, ran a biodiversity event where students planted wildflowers in the Grove with the gardener’s assistance. This is now a bi-annual event with another Green Week taking place in Michaelmas Term with lots of environmentally impactful activities planned.
The Commemoration & Ceremony of Benefactors and Benefactors Feast

In April we welcomed Queens’ benefactors and guests for the Ceremony of Benefactors 2022 in a celebration of philanthropy of the College. More than 30 benefactors joined us from across the globe, hosted by many Fellows and students.

Alumni Garden Party

The Alumni Garden Party & Family Day returned in June with a picnic on the Fellows’ Garden and lots of ice cream, followed by speeches in the President’s Garden from the Development Director, Vice-President, Dr Marie Edmonds, and Olympic Champion, Grace Prendergast MNZM.
I’d never met anyone like Jim Kirton. He was huge, irreverent and extroverted. Clumsy too, but with such natural comic timing that you vaguely wondered if he was putting it on. I once watched Jim fall backwards through a glass window... into a building... Wearing a hard hat... Without spilling his pint. It occurred to me that if I hung out with this guy then fun stuff would probably happen. And it did.

The first time I met Jim was at a ‘W’ staircase party in Freshers’ Week. Our eyes met across a crowded hallway. Later I realised this happens a lot, we are both 6’3” and typically a head taller than anyone else in the room. Jim raised one of his extraordinary eyebrows at me, then set off for the drinks table. I followed.

The eyebrows aside – for mine are almost non-existent – we had a lot in common. We were both engineers, so as well as shouting, drinking, and playing pool in the bar, we both loved browsing the Maplin catalogue, looking at blue LEDs and trying to think of a reason to buy an explosion-proof Emergency Stop button.

Jim was from Essex and cooler than me. He occasionally smoked and knew how to. I didn’t. He had a Pentium PC in his room with Doom installed. I didn’t. He had burnt a hole in his tongue in sixth form trying to light a match on his teeth. I hadn’t.

Jim and I both joined the Assassins’ Guild in our first term. Our most memorable work came from our discovery of the Guild’s rules governing the use of bombs. We acquired an enormous cardboard box and wrote ‘bomb’ on it, then bought a bag of Party Poppers from WHSmiths for detonators. In the middle of the night, we scaled the walls of Sidney Sussex and quietly manhandled our device up a staircase to our target’s room. Whilst rigging the detonator to the doorhandle we accidentally set it off, ‘killing us’ both instantly. Eyes closed, we waited in silence to be rumbled but somehow no one woke! Here I confess our integrity failed us, we agreed we hadn’t been killed after all, rigged a second Party Popper and made our escape. Amazingly, since it almost pre-dates the internet, a report of this incident is still available online.

Fate determined that Jim and I would share a room together in the second year. We ended up in X10, which unfortunately directly overlooks the Cripps loading bay, so it was rather noisy in the morning. We had good friends across the hall and an auto-descending fire escape that necessitated many late-night fire drills. We also had a fridge stocked with the ingredients for gin and tonics and a large TV that needed regular adjustments of a potentiometer Jim and I had soldered on to the back after the original burnt out.
We were both musicians and participated in music. I had little talent, but Jim turned out to be a half-decent concert trumpeter. However, this was the mid '90s – the era of Britpop, House and Garage. After cutting his teeth in MagSoc, Jim loaned himself two decks from Queens' Ents (he was equipment officer), bought some records and spent hours mixing at high volume in our room, often on a Sunday morning and in his dressing gown, earning Jim his stage name “DJ PJ”.

Like all couples, we had arguments. One involved whether I could play my euphonium louder than Jim could play his trumpet. This was easily settled in the Lyon Court music practice room. Our ears and mouths bled, but I won.

I started playing a lot of sport second year, almost invariably at second-team level. I have no idea what Jim was doing whilst I was out but I don’t think it was studying engineering. There was, however, one game we were both quite good at – Table Football. We hustled our way to become the top Queens’ doubles pair.

In the third year we had single rooms in Erasmus but in the fourth year we shared again, this time an entire house in Portugal Place with six other Queens’ engineers and a biochemist from Newnham. Obviously, we made her transfer to Queens’. Like all engineers, we lost friends from other subjects who foolishly left after three years. But those of us who remained had a lot of fun in that last year. The Maypole was only a few feet away, however, it often seemed easier at closing time to phone Dave, the barman at Queens’, to get him to rack up nine pints waiting for us by the time we made it across town.

Jim went through a remarkable metamorphosis in the fourth year. Going on “outings” at strange times and wearing Lycra. Not content with us getting Spoons in Lent Bumps (1996), he finally became a boatie. No one was more than surprised than me to discover that he was quite good and went on to row in the First Mays. A few years later, I went to watch Jim row with the Boar’s Head Boat Club in Boston, Massachusetts. I don’t remember seeing much rowing that week, but we did end up performing live on piano at a Harvard frat party. Jim was still living in Cambridge then whilst I had moved to London to play my part in the IT crash of the early 2000s.

Jim was my Best Man when I got married in 2007. A few years later Jim announced he’d met a girl in the Fort St George. It was only a matter of time before I got to return the honour, sharing it with another graduate of Portugal Place, Mehul Patel (1994).

Jim moved to London to get involved in the 2008 banking crisis just as I moved (thoughtlessly) back to Cambridge. We still see each other regularly, sometimes on skiing holidays – another sport we are both rather mediocre at. If I mention Jim now at home, my children say, “Is that the man who used to pour beer in his pockets?”

I smile and say, “Yes, that’s him.”

Thank you, Jim, for making my life much more interesting.

Adam and Jim have stayed well connected with Queens’ since they graduated and both are a part of The 1448 Society. Jim has attended several of the Boar’s Head feasts as an alum. More recently he had lunch and a catch up with Emma Charlesworth (Senior Development Officer).
College Highlights

Distinguished Academic Visitor

Professor Cass Sunstein has been announced as the new Distinguished Academic Visitor at Queens’. Prof. Sunstein previously served in senior advisory positions under Presidents Obama and Biden and is one of the most cited legal scholars worldwide.

University Sports Awards

Elliott Stockdale (Rugby League) and Tabbie Brough (Netball & Rugby Union) received Outstanding Contribution at the Cambridge University Sport Awards. Elliott was President of the Rugby League 2020-21 and graduated in the summer. He is now an investment banking analyst in London. Tabbie is going on to practise clinical medicine in Edinburgh.

Postgraduate Prizes

PhD student and Gates Scholar Reetika Revathy Subramanian was one of three who won the Bill Gates Sr. Prize for outstanding research and leadership. Her comic book, Raindrop in the Drought, based on a farmer/feminist leader in the drought-affected Marathwada region, has been featured across different national media, global exhibitions and distributed in 5,000 schools.

Student Honours

Olympic Champion Grace Prendergast MNZM was recognised in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list and made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to rowing. Grace is one of the first current students since World War II to be recognised. Her latest victory was becoming World Champion once again, in Lucerne, Switzerland.

Environmental impact

PhD student Olivia Hogg has featured on the front cover of Geoscientist for her article 'Mining the Brine’, featured here: https://bit.ly/3TAyuZi, Olivia is also a member of the University Powerlifting Club (CUPLC).

“The transition to a green economy comes with an unprecedented demand for metals, however, conventional mines are becoming poorer in metals and even harder to find. In the article, I discuss the potential that metal rich brines under dormant volcanoes may provide a novel and carbon neutral solution to the global shortage of key metals.”
College Summer Prizes

Congratulations to students recognised this summer for exceptional academic distinction in examinations.

The Venn Prize for first year undergraduates:

Faizan Ali Nawaz
Theology, Religion & Philosophy of Religion
"No wealth like knowledge; no poverty like ignorance." – Ali ibn Abi Talib

Andy Zhou
Computer Science
"I am extremely honoured to receive the Venn Prize... I look forward to the academic life here in Queens' College in the future."

The Hughes Prize for second year undergraduates:

Charlotte Rye
Top of the Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos.
"I am absolutely delighted to have received these awards and eternally grateful to my DoS, Dr Jane Garrison for her unwavering support and faith in me."

Charlotte was also awarded the President’s Prize and Cambridge University Press – Academic Prize for receiving first-class marks in her examinations. She has been awarded a Scholarship for her third year at Queens'.

The Joshua King Prize for third or final year undergraduates:

Ed McCarthy
Top of the Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Tripos.
"I'm very, very grateful to receive the Joshua King Prize, and would like to thank all the staff at Queens' for their support throughout the last three years."

Alistair O'Brien
Third in the Computer Sciences Tripos.
"I'm eternally grateful to friends and family for their moral support and motivation throughout my time at Cambridge. I would be remiss in not mentioning my DoS, Prof. Neil Lawrence, and dissertation supervisor, Mistral Contrastin, for their generously provided knowledge, expertise, and guidance during my final year."

The Ruth Hendry Prize for fourth year undergraduates:

Varun Babbar
Engineering
"Studying at Queens' has been an enriching, inspiring, and life-changing experience. I’m truly grateful for the support of my DoS, Dr Andrew Gee, for his academic mentorship and my friends at Queens' for all our moments of fun, laughter and learning."

Jack Peacock
Top of the History Tripos.
"I'm very grateful to receive these awards, and would like to thank my DoS, Dr Gareth Atkins, and my supervisors at Queens'; Dr Ruth Lawlor and Dr Andrew Thompson, for all their teaching, advice and encouragement throughout the last two years."

The Venn Prize for first year undergraduates:

Faizan Ali Nawaz
Theology, Religion & Philosophy of Religion
"No wealth like knowledge; no poverty like ignorance." – Ali ibn Abi Talib

Andy Zhou
Computer Science
"I am extremely honoured to receive the Venn Prize... I look forward to the academic life here in Queens' College in the future."

The Hughes Prize for second year undergraduates:

Charlotte Rye
Top of the Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos.
"I am absolutely delighted to have received these awards and eternally grateful to my DoS, Dr Jane Garrison for her unwavering support and faith in me."

Charlotte was also awarded the President’s Prize and Cambridge University Press – Academic Prize for receiving first-class marks in her examinations. She has been awarded a Scholarship for her third year at Queens'.

The Joshua King Prize for third or final year undergraduates:

Ed McCarthy
Top of the Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Tripos.
"I'm very, very grateful to receive the Joshua King Prize, and would like to thank all the staff at Queens' for their support throughout the last three years."

Alistair O'Brien
Third in the Computer Sciences Tripos.
"I'm eternally grateful to friends and family for their moral support and motivation throughout my time at Cambridge. I would be remiss in not mentioning my DoS, Prof. Neil Lawrence, and dissertation supervisor, Mistral Contrastin, for their generously provided knowledge, expertise, and guidance during my final year."

The Ruth Hendry Prize for fourth year undergraduates:

Varun Babbar
Engineering
"Studying at Queens' has been an enriching, inspiring, and life-changing experience. I’m truly grateful for the support of my DoS, Dr Andrew Gee, for his academic mentorship and my friends at Queens' for all our moments of fun, laughter and learning."

Jack Peacock
Top of the History Tripos.
"I'm very grateful to receive these awards, and would like to thank my DoS, Dr Gareth Atkins, and my supervisors at Queens'; Dr Ruth Lawlor and Dr Andrew Thompson, for all their teaching, advice and encouragement throughout the last two years."
Visitors to Queens’

It has been a pleasure to host some very important guests this year.

Robert Cripps

Robert Cripps (Fellow Benefactor) and entourage travelled all the way from Australia. Thanks to the transformative benefaction of the Cripps Foundation, led by the late Sir Humphrey Cripps (Honorary Fellow), Cripps Court continually evolves, with recent developments to the Armitage Room and the Lantern in Cripps Hall. Future projects include refurbishment of the kitchens and perhaps the enclosure of Lyon Court.

Professor Henry ‘Skip’ Gates

Skip Gates (Director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard) received his Honorary Degree from the University and visited Queens’ to learn about Cambridge’s first African-American student, Alexander Crummell. Skip and the President of the Black Cantabs, Rumbidzai Dube, were given a historic tour with a viewing of Crummell’s portrait in the Lodge. They were introduced to the inaugural Alexander Crummell PhD Scholar, Tomi Akingbade (2021).

The tour was featured in the Financial Times in ‘A hero to me’: Henry Louis Gates and Cambridge’s first African-American student’ by Gillian Tett.

Oksana Lemishka (2016)

It has been nine months since Oksana escaped from her home in Ukraine. To welcome her back to Queens’, The MCR and Professor Lisa Hall hosted a celebration on the Fellows’ balcony. Oksana was originally based in Kyiv until the city was bombarded. Fellow Queens’ alum, Martin Valdés-Stauber (2016), was the first to offer help. Oksana eventually escaped to Munich and was introduced to other alumni through the A&D office, including Sara Schoeller (1988). Keeping in touch with friends and the College has proven invaluable during this time, offering not only a network but also lifelong friendships and support.

Sir Ian McKellen

Sir Ian McKellen (St. Catharine’s) visited Cambridge in the spring, and asked to see the gardens at Queens’. The Development Director showed his group around the College and then King’s Chapel, ending with a punting expedition.

Jennifer Cato

Jennifer (& family) were given a tour of Queens’ by The Revd Dr Jonathan Holmes. Jennifer is the granddaughter of Dr John Venn (President 1932-58). Her mother Betty was the adopted daughter of Venn’s. Betty would often take Jennifer to Queens’ where the staff and Fellows would welcome them in like family. Jennifer recalls Archibald Brown (Fellow 1921-77). DoS in Engineering, and the generous plate of chocolate eclairs he gave to them.

Ellen van Leusden (1995, Law)

Ellen visited the College with her family in May. She is pictured with Professor Richard Fentiman (Arthur Armitage Fellow), whom she remembered from her time here. Ellen won a Blue for Tennis and is now a successful notary in the Netherlands.
Prestigious Awards

Many congratulations to...

**James Maynard (2005)** was awarded the Fields Medal 2022, the most prestigious award for mathematicians under 40. James was recognised for his ‘contributions to analytic number theory, which have led to major advances in the understanding of the structure of prime numbers and in Diophantine approximation.’... To be featured in the next edition of The Bridge.

**Kevin Brown (1975)** has been awarded an MBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List for his services to Radiotherapy. Kevin is a Scientist and Research lead for Elekta Ltd. His research looks to accelerate the introduction and adoption of three major technologies to improve cancer outcomes and reduce side effects.

Appointments and Promotions

**Laura Clarke, OBE (1997)** was appointed as the new CEO of ClientEarth, an environmental organisation that tackles ecological disputes in a court of law.

**Philip Mulligan (1987)** was elected as CEO of the Peak District National Park and took over this role in September. Phil read Social & Political Sciences at Queens’.

**Matt Cain (1994)** received the Tupilak Elli’s Rainbow award for LGBTQI+ culture focussing a valuable spotlight on the elderly in his latest novel, *The Secret Life of Albert Entwistle*. Matt’s writing features LGBT+ issues, on which he is a leading commentator. His next novel, *Becoming Ted*, will be published in February 2023.

The First 40 Presidents of Queens’

In his new book, *Jonathan Dowson (1960, Fellow Commoner) illustrates the interactions between the academic community at Queens’ and the social, scientific and political life in Britain over the last five and a half centuries. He traces the history of the College through the lives and times of the first 40 Presidents, from Andrew Docket to Dr Mohamed El-Erian.*

Available to buy in Queens’ shop. Email visitors@queens.cam.ac.uk for information on purchasing.

Trailblazers at work

**Kelly Chibale (1989)** was named as one of the standout voices in African Public Health by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. His drug discovery centre in Africa, H3D at the University of Cape Town, develops antimalarial drugs in early-phase human clinical trials. Kelly and his wife, Bertha visited Queens’ earlier this year for lunch. Their son, Suwi, was a postgraduate student in 2021.

**Cristina Burelli (1981)** was invited to speak at the House of Commons on the environmental devastation and human rights violations in Venezuela. As founder of SOSOrinoco, she shed light on the humanitarian crisis and environmental devastation caused by uncontrolled illegal mining in the Amazonas and Orinoco regions.

Sarah Temple, David Parsons & Cristina Burelli at the May Bumps Garden Party
MAY BUMPS

Bumps & Blades

This year was a success for the Boat Club in the May Bumps with two crews earning their blades – M1 and W3. This is likely only one of the few times that two crews have earned their blades in one campaign.

After two years of cancellations, the competition started on 15th June with all crews ultimately aiming to be Head of the River. After bumping on each of the preceding days, M1 began at Station 11 on the Saturday. They were chasing Jesus, who they bumped triumphantly in front of the QCBC Garden Party. This is the first time in 25 years that M1 have earned their blades. On their final day of racing, W3 started at Station 15 in Division Three (also chasing Jesus) and bumped just two minutes into the race. These girls continued the blading success of the W3 crew that also won blades in 2019.

The other crews did exceptionally well with most teams qualifying to compete in the races.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crew</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M2 (RedeM2)</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W2</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W1</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M3 (MRugby)</td>
<td>-4 (spooned)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Images by current students Varun Randery & Lucy Kirkwood

Celebrating reunions

Alumni were invited to join the May Bumps Garden Party and watch from our riverside location on First Post Corner. The 1972 crew attended to celebrate their 50th anniversary of winning blades in their Bumps.

A reunion was hosted at the Leander Club for QCBC members from the early 1960s in celebration of finishing Head of the Mays in 1962 and 1963. There were also winners of the Ladies Plate Henley Royal Regatta (1962), Marlow Grand Eights (1963) and Thames Cup Henley Royal Regatta (1963) present.
Music & the Arts

The Bats are back!

The greatly missed Shakespeare in Cloister Court returned in May week with an imaginative rendition of The Tempest.

The show was a huge success. Despite performances scheduled while students were undertaking their exams, therefore limiting rehearsal time, the shows were a big hit and sold out entirely. Audiences were invited into Queens’—families, alumni and members of the general public gathered to watch. A total of £2,036 was raised from tickets and will be invested into future shows.

President: Jessica Udeh

Queens’ Arts Festival

Earlier in March, a spectacle of art filled the Fitzpatrick Hall for the Queens’ Art Festival. This year’s theme was ‘Lost but not at Sea’ where artwork explored the nuances of disorientation, alienation and disillusionment. The exhibition showcased experimental student art in a variety of media (painting, photography, montage, written word, textiles, sculpture, installation, video, sound, performance) and from a variety of perspectives. Also offered was a panel discussion on ‘Strategies of Content Creation’, live performances and a collaboration with CU Blackbirds Poetry Society.

Co-President: Ben Zombory-Moldovan

Alumni Carol Service

The Chapel Choir performed at the inaugural Alumni Carol Service in London in December, conducted by Ralph Allwood (Fellow Commoner). The carols opened with an introduction from the former Chaplain, The Revd Max Bayliss.

The Choir sang beautifully, featuring traditional carols: A Hymn To The Virgin (Britten), Angels’ Carol (Rutter), There is no Rose (Walker) and O König aller Völker (Pärt). Accompanied by Senior Organ Scholar, Ben Markovic and Junior Organ Scholar, Jack McCabe this was the perfect event to put everyone in the festive spirit.

The next Alumni Carol Service will be held at Chelsea Old Church, London on Thursday 15th December 2022. More information will be released closer to the date.
To celebrate the College’s 575th anniversary next Spring, we have enclosed a commemorative bookmark.