

# The Bridge

Spring 2023



*The President with Honorary Fellow  
Dr Amma Kyei-Mensah (1980) - p. 7*

**1448-2023**



# From the Lodge

**Hello and welcome to the new edition of *The Bridge*, your one stop for the latest news from Queens’.**

It has been a fulfilling academic year so far for our community with progress on existing initiatives, as well as new ones. We are particularly excited about improvements in our infrastructure – not just upgrades to existing facilities, but also an expansion with new accommodation, study and teaching spaces, a further enlargement in the number and scope of scholarships for postgraduates, more health and welfare resources, an enhancement of research support for Fellows and students, and more bursaries for sports and societies.



*The President behind the scenes filming for our next Giving Day in May*

There are also the little things that have made a big difference. They include the imaginative initiative by our Domestic Bursar to deliver three hot meals to our students every day at the low price of £3 each – an initiative that has involved no additional burden on our finances despite higher food costs.

Yes, there is magic in the air at Queens’. Well, not quite magic as, in this case of the £3 meals for example, it has come down to our superb Catering Department seizing the opportunities offered by a higher and more reliable meal throughput. What we definitely have is a sense of progress and aspiration, all consistent with our overriding objective of providing the most enabling environment for members of our community to excel in a friendly, diverse and supportive environment.

This would not be possible without the significant support we receive from you, our alums, donors and friends. Your feedback, guidance and donations remain an essential part of our success. Indeed, what made the last few months even more special is the increased interactions with you, from more reunions at Queens’ to the growing number of meetings held around the world.

Thank you for your interest in, and support of Queens’. We are deeply grateful for the big difference you are making every day for current and for future generations of students, staff and Fellows.

With all our best regards,

**Mohamed A. El-Erian**

Please send your news & photos to  
[thebridge@queens.cam.ac.uk](mailto:thebridge@queens.cam.ac.uk)

# From our Alumni

To keep up to date with alumni news and events, and what the Alumni & Development office is currently up to, follow our Twitter account @QueensAlumni

## Celebrating alumni in the New Year's Honours List

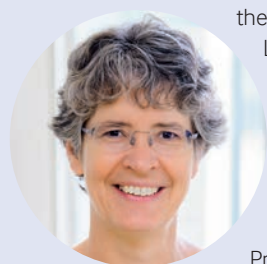
**Dan Abramson (2000)** has been awarded an OBE for services to education. Dan studied Mathematics at Queens' and also attained a Certificate of Advanced Study in Mathematics. He is the inaugural Head Teacher at King's Maths School in London, a groundbreaking initiative to provide access to STEM subjects in the state sector for all talented students, irrespective of background.



**Elinor Wakefield (1996)** has been awarded an OBE for public service. Elinor has extensive experience in the climate and sustainable development sector as Deputy Director of the International Net Zero Directorate and Deputy COP26 envoy, where she led the international engagement team in the Cabinet Office. She graduated with a degree in Classics from Queens' followed by an MSc in Development Studies from the LSE.

## Awards & Grants

**Leah Holroyd (2005)** was selected as one of the Top 10 Highly Commended women in the '100 Female Entrepreneurs to Watch' list by The Telegraph and NatWest to highlight young businesses which could demonstrate resilience, purpose, innovation and potential. Leah and her brother founded their online learning company in 2019 and create courses for organisations like the United Nations World Food Programme, Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Trust and the British Ecological Society. They share a genetic visual impairment which drives their passion for making learning accessible.



**Professor Lucy Vickers (1985)** was elected President of the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) in October 2022. Lucy is the head of the School of Law at Oxford Brookes and is the fifth President of the society with links to Queens'. Others were **Professor Sir Arthur Armitage (1933)**, **Professor Peter Stein, QC, FBA (Fellow)**, **Professor John Tiley CBE, QC, FBA (Fellow)**, and most recently **Professor Stephen Bailey (1968)**, currently Professor of Law at Nottingham University.



L-R: **Vanessa Marcie (2016)**, **Luya Duan (2018)**, **Rowan Kitt, Xuyang Song (2020)**, **Lenore Gerschwitz (2012)** and **David Semmens (2012)**

## EMBA Alumni

We met with some of our EMBA alumni at High Table in February for their Electives week at Cambridge Judge Business School. **Vanessa Marcie (2016)** also gave a talk to the MCR during her visit on how to use humour to be a better leader, looking at how humour can transform organisational culture and help employees to work more effectively together.

## Dr Jenna Foale (2015)

Congratulations to **Dr Jenna Foale (2015)**, who married her fiancé Kai Zhang (Wolfson, 2015) in September 2022. Jenna studied for an MPhil in Energy Technologies and a PhD in Engineering. The couple met in Old Hall at an MCR wine & cheese night in 2015. Jenna's father is Honorary Fellow **Dr Mike Foale CBE (1975)**, a former NASA astronaut and astrophysicist.



L-R: **Rhonda Foale, Kai Zhang, Jenna Foale** and **Dr Mike Foale in the President's Garden.**





SIR ROBIN MILLAR

# Four Questions with Sir Robin Millar CBE

**Sir Robin Millar CBE (1970)** is the internationally renowned music producer behind 44 no. 1 hits and 160 Gold and Platinum discs. He has worked with artists including *Sade*, *Everything But The Girl*, *Sting* and *Fine Young Cannibals*, and has sold more records than Jay-Z and Johnny Cash. Since studying Law at Queens', he has been a successful businessman, philanthropist and campaigner for vulnerable people, most recently in his role as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the disability charity Scope. He has supported Queens' as a donor and benefactor for many years, which he says is part of acknowledging the pivotal role that the College played in his future success. Robin has had no sight since 1985 as a result of the condition retinitis pigmentosa.

In addition to his highly successful producing career, Robin has also released three albums as a solo artist. Music was a big part of his childhood and formative years – his father played the piano and his mother sang all the time at home. He is the Chair of the Board of Trustees at the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education, with first-hand experience of apprenticeships from starting out in the music business as a technology apprentice.

Robin is a tireless campaigner for equity for all – in addition to his current work with Scope, he organised fundraising concerts for Artists Against Apartheid, collaborated on UNICEF fundraisers, and worked in Africa and Asia with disabled children. He emphasises the important difference between equality and equity when considering inclusion for all minority groups, including disabled people, in society. While equality means everyone is treated the same way, regardless of differences, equity ensures that everybody is equipped with what they need to succeed, taking into account other factors to determine what is fair.

In an open letter to *Music Week* in 2022, Robin said, "All of us who represent minorities know how much work there is still to do but the response to our pleas need to be noticed for that progress to be meaningful." He notes that he often sees people with disabilities or people from different ethnic backgrounds with 'Founder' in their email footer, and that this shows that they may not have succeeded in getting in the door with other employers, and/or that their resilience, determination and focus told them that they needed to forge their own path.

## What was your experience of Queens'?

I often wonder what my life would have been like if I hadn't gone from Enfield Grammar to Cambridge. It wasn't the Law studies or the sheer history of the institution that I carried forward. It was the friends I met and most of all the feeling that I could accomplish what I wanted to accomplish, despite a shaky start with disability.

The fearlessness to relocate to France when opportunities did not come around in the UK, the confidence to start an innovative business at age 30, the loyalty of Queens' friends when that business turned upside down... all these important life events would not have happened like they did. The need to give back came from Mum and Dad who worked for the NHS all their lives and the desire to give opportunities to young people with not enough support comes from the faith Queens' showed in me.

## How does it feel to have been awarded a knighthood?

It will take some getting used to. I'm pleased that someone in music with a disability, not a performer, has been recognised. I realise the stated reason was for music plus other work with young people and apprentices and for the vulnerable, but to me that's just what I do and what I am, and I don't think recognition for looking out for others is really merited. Inside though, I am genuinely pleased. The letters I get every single week from young people and their families who tell me they feel 'if Robin can do it, I / we can do it' makes the recognition mean something.

## What are some of your most prominent memories of Queens'?

Some sad memories, like the sudden passing of John Tiley (**Professor John Tiley CBE, Fellow**) and the sad death of a contemporary a few days before we were hosting a joint end of year party. On the positive side it's not about memories. It's about the enduring, loyal friendships which started at Queens'. A lifetime of clever, successful friends to lean on. Another memory: I lived in Q1 above the boiler in the second year, right opposite the payphone. Anxious parents were ringing at all hours of the day and night and I was the unpaid receptionist!

## What's next for you?

I've stepped down from my business role at the music company [Blue Raincoat Chrysalis Group]. This was a coincidence, but it has left me space to see what is out there. The trick is probably not to rush into anything. One thing I am ambitious for is a small, irreversible improvement in how people with disabilities are viewed. We are resilient, focused, determined and, in my view, an asset to any organisation. Yet we trail behind every other minority on the employment ladder. Maybe I can push a bit harder at a half-open door without it getting slammed shut in my face?

# Queens' College Chaplain

## The Revd Anna Jones



Background in Historical Musicology and academic librarianship before ordination

Degrees from Oxford, London and Cambridge, and trained for ordination at Westcott House, Cambridge

Previously Lee Librarian at Wolfson College, and Whipple Librarian (Department of History and Philosophy of Science), University of Cambridge

Formerly Assistant Curate in the Three Rivers Group (Diocese of Ely)

Official Fellow and Queens' College Chaplain since September 2022

### Starting at Queens'

The post of Chaplain was advertised as I was coming to the end of my curacy and thinking about what to do next, and it seemed to offer a good opportunity to combine my previous experience working for the University with the privilege of ordained ministry. I actually sang with Queens' Chapel Choir as a volunteer for a year after I first graduated and came to Cambridge, as I was keen to keep up some music while I settled into life in the real world and didn't have a car to transport my cello around! **The Revd Dr Jonathan Holmes** was Dean in those days. It meant that the Chapel was already a familiar and special place when I arrived in September. What really struck me right from the beginning was how friendly Queens' is, and we're very fortunate to have the old and the new mixing together in such beautiful grounds.

### The role of Chaplain

Chaplaincy is seldom dull – no two days are ever the same. I arrive in College just before 8am to spend time quietly in Chapel before the **Revd Tim Harling** and I say Morning Prayer together at 8:15. That time really anchors the day, and it's particularly good when others join us, as all are welcome to do. Then from 8:30, anything might happen! I usually spend time in the SCR meeting people and catching up with College news, and I enjoy chatting with people as I walk around College. Then it's a combination of meetings with students, activities (including a termly book group) and worship planning. In addition to the daily office and weekly said eucharist we have three choral services a week in Chapel. I liaise regularly with Nick Morris, the Director of Music, and the Organ Scholars over those, and make contact with visiting preachers for our Sunday Evensong sermon series.

### Recent initiatives

We run weekly 'Cobweb Walks' at lunchtime on Thursdays – a 40-minute circular walk from the Porter's Lodge to encourage people to take a break in the fresh air. Woolcraft (soon abbreviated to 'Woolly') Wednesday was

new in the Lent Term and is a drop-in session for people to bring a craft project or start to learn a new skill. The idea is to provide spaces and opportunities for people to take a break from work and do something mindful or creative, which can be important for our wellbeing. We are very fortunate at Queens' to have such well-resourced professional welfare and tutorial teams. My job as Chaplain is to sit alongside that and to offer people time and space to explore the things that help us to flourish and enjoy 'life in all its fullness'.

### The Faith Centre

The Faith Centre moved this year to FF8 (Cripps Court), where Nick Morris and I both have our offices. The main room is available to Queens' members for private prayer and small group events throughout the week, and we're trying to maintain it as a flexible and hospitable space for a wide range of faith-based activities. Formerly a residential flat, it's well equipped with a kitchen for making refreshments (including a Kosher oven) and a bathroom providing washing facilities.

My hope is that the Faith Centre will continue to develop as a focal point for personal prayer and development, for shared hospitality, and for dialogue, and thus provide us with opportunities to share openly, learn from and better understand each other.



*The Faith Centre in FF8 (Cripps Court)*



# Queens' Sporting Success

Queens' is fortunate to be represented on many of the University sports teams, and has strong collegiate teams for a range of sports. Here we highlight just a few of their recent impressive achievements.

## Ellie White & Ella Jennings: Squash

Squash at Cambridge is going from strength to strength, topped off by CUSRC's Varsity victory in February. The women's team won with a clean sweep of 5-0, and the Cambridge men won 4-1. Queens' is fortunate to have not one but two talented squash players in



**Ellie White (2020) and Ella Jennings (2022)** at the Squash Blues Dinner

**Ellie White (2020)** and **Ella Jennings (2022)**. Ellie proceeded to play in the Real Tennis Varsity match at Lord's and won a Half Blue.

Ellie said, "It was an honour to lead my team to a convincing 5-0 win over the Oxford women as string 1, and the first student President of CUSRC. The day was everything I had hoped for, with victories for the Cambridge men and women, plenty of friends, family and alumni watching, and most importantly some great squash. I'm looking forward to doing it all over again next year!"



**The winning Varsity men's and women's Squash teams, 2023**

## Anna Clay & Zara Guppy: Powerlifting

**Anna Clay (2020)** won Best Female Lifter at Varsity this year for achieving the highest International Powerlifting Federation GL score, which determines the best overall lifter. She competed in the 125 FR-O category. Anna is a PhD student in Biological Sciences whose work focuses on the use of optogenetic tools in order to explore the effects of KRAS mutations in the tumour microenvironment. **Zara Guppy (2019)** is a Natural Sciences postgraduate student and is also on the University powerlifting team, coming fifth in the 152 FR-O category.



**Anna Clay (standing) and Zara Guppy (seated to the left)**



**Brett Taylor (right)** at the Boat Race

## Brett Taylor: Rowing

Third-year medic **Brett Taylor (2020)** helped the Cambridge crew to victory in the Men's Boat Race, our first undergraduate oarsman in the blue boat since the mid-1990s. Brett rowed for QCBC during the first two years of his degree and, last Mays, was part of the blade-winning M1 crew. He is currently on his intercalated year, and is one of two Welfare Officers on the QCBC Committee.

## Toby Flood: Rugby

Former World Cup fly half, **Toby Flood (2021)**, led the University Men's Rugby team to victory in the Varsity Match at Twickenham in March, ably supported by fellow Queens' member **Matt Symons (2022)** at lock. The College was represented in the women's match by **Polly Hipkiss (2020)** at inside centre, but the team succumbed to a strong Oxford side.



**Toby Flood (centre) and Matt Symons (right)** in Twickenham

# Alumni & Friends Visits

We are always delighted to see our alumni and friends & we are pleased to welcome them back to Queens'.



Thomas Cripps, Robert Cripps and Amy Tennent (née Cripps)

## The Cripps Family

Queens' hosted **Robert Cripps (Fellow Benefactor)** and his family for a tour of the Cripps Building followed by lunch in the Old SCR. Thanks to the benefaction of the Cripps Foundation, led by **Sir Humphrey Cripps** and former President **Sir Arthur Armitage**, Cripps Court was constructed as the largest building project at Queens'. The initial stages were finished between 1974 and 1983 and originally housed 171 student bedrooms. It not only provides onsite accommodation for undergraduate students, but also Fellows' Flats, the Dining Hall, and Health & Wellbeing Centre. The Foundation gave further support in 2007 when disabled access and the fourth floor were added.



Catherine and James Thomas

**Catherine Thomas (Fellow Benefactor)** and her son James also attended the lunch – their benefaction in memory of her husband **Stephen Thomas (1971)** contributed towards *The Stephen G Thomas Memorial Bursary* and the teaching and research centre on the fourth floor of the Cripps Building, where there is a commemorative plaque.



L-R: Alanna Odagbu (2022) with Dr Amma Kyei-Mensah (1980)

## Dr Amma Kyei-Mensah (1980, Honorary Fellow)

Amma Kyei-Mensah came to Queens' in February to meet the President and look back at some photographs from her time studying Medicine at Queens'. Amma was part of the first cohort of women to study at the College, and captained the Athletics Team (CUAC) from 1982-3, earning a University Blue. She is now an Honorary Fellow. On this visit she also met with **Alanna Odagbu (2022)**, a first year on the 100m/200m team, and **Yvonne Lardner (2019)**, who was awarded *The Chris Rokos Graduate Scholarship* in 2022. Amma also recorded a message for Giving Day to share her memories of Queens' and to encourage participation in the event.

## Chris Dalley (1967)

Chris kindly donated a wooden stool with the Queens' coat of arms to the College. His father, **Mervyn Dalley (1932)**, had given it to Chris and he could no longer keep it. Chris was heavily involved with the Queens' College Boat Club during his time in Cambridge and rowed in the victorious Blue Boat in 1970. The stool now resides in the President's Lodge where there is another similarly decorated stool.







# The College's first Fields Medal winner

**Professor James Maynard (2005)**

**In July last year, James won the Fields Medal, one of the most prestigious prizes in Mathematics, akin to a Nobel Prize. Awarded every four years since 1936, it recognises 'outstanding mathematical achievement for existing work and for the promise of future achievement.'**

James travelled to Helsinki to attend the ceremony, which is part of the International Congress of Mathematicians run by the International Mathematical Union (IMU). Only four mathematicians under the age of 40 are awarded a Medal each time. James's work is described in his citation for the Medal as 'highly ingenious, often leading to surprising breakthroughs on important problems that seemed to be inaccessible by current techniques.'

**The Bridge caught up with James in his office at the Mathematical Institute in Oxford, where he is now Professor of Number Theory.**

"It was an interesting week: I was awarded the Medal and my son was born! Life hasn't changed too much except that my inbox is exploding", he says. His passion is Mathematical research so he is keen to preserve the ability to work and 90% of his time is spent on this. "The Medal buys a safety net and reassurance... as a junior academic, one is always trying to impress seniors and move on up". Now, though, he is able to attract new people to the Institute and to nurture students and postdocs. "I do get asked for the occasional photo by undergraduates in lectures."

His current college, St John's, has also commissioned a portrait of him.

## Back to the start – why Queens'?

"Perhaps I had some experience of Queens' through my father (**Chris, 1970**) and this made Cambridge less intimidating. I knew Queens' had a lively social reputation and it was welcoming and friendly."

James was interviewed by **Professor Andrew Glass** on Number Theory – something James had put down on his UCAS form as an interest of his – "quite a brave thing to do, as I hadn't been taught it." **Professor Stuart Sage (1981)** also interviewed him.

James remembers fondly that the Mathematics Fellows consciously pushed this license to explore and be a free thinker. "I was less good, therefore, at getting my homework problems in on time." There were separate supervisions organised for him which proved to be a double-edged sword as "I was doubling my workload but also wanted to have fun."

He describes himself at the time as being naïve without "vision of self" – he knew he was very passionate about Mathematics – it just wasn't clear how successful he could or would be. James suspects he was in the top ten in the Tripos Finals but was not fixated on being Senior Wrangler.

"The career stages appeared naturally rather than as some grand, strategic plan." Part III Mathematics was followed by a DPhil in Prime Numbers at Balliol; at the end of this, he knew he wanted to be an academic and do research on Prime Numbers.

## Work-life balance

"I can switch off, particularly when I'm attending to my baby son." But often, at the back of his mind, a solution to another problem is germinating and he knows he must get back to work. In the next few years, he most looks forward to continuing his research and bringing new faces to the table.





“Sometimes the ideas come subconsciously leading to moments of great frustration; but then on a walk home or in the shower, the solution comes. It’s mysterious and remarkable to me.”

## The Mathematics

as told to Professor Claude Warnick (Fellow of Queens’ & Director of Studies)

**When did you find your particular area of interest, the distribution of prime numbers and the gap between them?**

I always had an interest in Mathematics and a clear passion for Number Theory; my career just developed rather than following some pre-destined path. I knew that being a Mathematician was the job I wanted, even though one doesn’t know the reality of the life and career [that goes with it].

The interest comes from the fact that there are lots of things with prime numbers that you can explain to a school-age child but there are also problems that have not been solved for hundreds of years. And, there are lots of bits of theories drawn into the subject of prime numbers.

**Your work is a significant step towards the Twin Prime Conjecture, which asserts that there are infinitely many twin primes, i.e. pairs of primes that differ by two. How far away are we from a proof of this? Is there one fundamental obstacle or are there many?**

It needs some big breakthroughs and will not be solved any time soon – but perhaps one more big idea will create the momentum required.

**The Fields Medal citation mentioned your creativity and ingenuity; so what does it mean to you to be creative as a mathematician?**

Sometimes the ideas come subconsciously leading to moments of great frustration; but then on a walk home or in the shower, the solution comes. It’s mysterious and remarkable to me. But, one needs to be in the right frame of mind and have the space to come up with the ideas.

The way of thinking is this: 1) distil the ideas into simpler ‘model’ problems and 2) then build up an intuition about it. Finding the right thing in the first place is the problem.

**How motivated are you by the usefulness of the mathematical research you are doing i.e. its real-world application?**

I have to do research that I think is worthwhile. I view the research as fundamental to the universe and the natural world we live in – I wouldn’t enjoy it otherwise. But this is not the motivation. I must feel that what I’m doing is important.

Prof Claude Warnick



**What is the connection between the mathematics you were doing at Queens’ and what you are doing now?**

I was what you might call an independently-minded student and was not always the most dutiful! But that essential freedom at Queens’ set me up really well for my later career. That’s the main thing I took away.

**What advice would you have for current undergraduate mathematicians at Queens’?**

They need to follow their interest and work on what they find fun. Much of being a mathematical researcher is making zero progress, so it could be very depressing! But if you can enjoy it, then it is perfect.

To watch James’s award video from the IMU ceremony, scan the QR code or visit <http://bit.ly/3KowRfW>



# My room (mate)

By David Candlin for Chris Alty (both 1956)

Chris and I first met in Malta during National Service in 1955. At one of the many social occasions in the squadron we discovered that we were both due to go up to Queens' in October 1956 and read Mechanical Sciences.

On arrival at the College we agreed to share joint supervision with the Director of Engineering Studies, one Archie Brown. We soon found this was an almost impossible situation as Archie had taken Tripos as long ago as 1912 and had ceased to have any position in the Engineering School. He seemed unable to throw any light on the subjects dealt with by our lectures and we were left alone much to our own devices. Eventually over our three years we received somewhat piecemeal supervision from various research students, which was far from satisfactory. However, Chris in his own determined effort wrote up notes each day for the lectures and was kind enough to let other engineering members consult them.



Chris and David in 1956

During our first year we were out of college in 'digs', but for the second we could share rooms in college. Chris and I agreed to do that together and both were allocated rooms in the **Fisher Building**. These were originally intended as single rooms and the bedroom was very cramped for two. At the start of this term one of the gentlemen sharing the old and spacious Tower rooms in the Gatehouse passed away and the rooms were then left empty. Chris and I went to see them and decided

to volunteer to move into them next term. We both became so taken with living in our historic **Old Court** that we chose single rooms there in our final undergraduate year.

Chris and I did not share many sports in common and his eyesight probably ruled him out of most ball games. We did both belong to Henry Hart's 'D' Society and also took part in our College Chapel. Chris was a very keen rock climber and mountaineer and became a friend of the famous Chris Bonington.

Chris obtained a First in the 1959 Tripos and stayed on at Cambridge to take a PhD and became a Research Fellow at Queens'. In 1965 he moved to become a founder member of the Department of Engineering at Warwick University. He had a considerable influence on the way the Department developed, serving on committees and being a valued member of the Senate. He and I kept in touch over the years to his death and attended each other's weddings. We met each other's children and we stayed with them in Leamington and they came to us in Kent. We last saw them in the summer of 1977 and Chris died in February 1979.



The Tower Room in 1958, taken from Silver Street, with Chris just visible at the window



With Chris and friends in Saltburn, 1957





Honor (L) and Joy (R)



The JCR committee with Joy as Welfare Officer and Honor as QEnts President

## By Joy Hunter for Honor Clapp (both 2016)

I knew no one at Cambridge before I arrived and my first attempts to speak to people did not go well. I was studying Education with English, but everyone on my staircase was either an Engineer or a Compsci. When I told one of them which subject I was doing they just looked confused and asked, "Are you sure?"

By the time we all piled into Old Hall for some Freshers event a few days later, I was getting desperate. In the end, I just shouted, "Does anyone here do an arts subject?" I'm sure I put off anyone sane from going anywhere near me. Much to my relief, a couple of brave souls slowly approached, many of whom would become my closest friends at university. Honor was among them. We soon discovered that I was the only Education student at Queens' in my year, and she was the only Philosopher. The rest is history, as they say – History being a far more popular subject.

While rarely shying away from a night out, I quickly discovered Honor's soft side – how well she listened to all her friends and never forgot a single detail of anyone's life. Between lectures and supervisions, JCR meetings and hungover brunches, we would sit in each other's rooms doing BuzzFeed quizzes and pondering the strange magic of Cambridge.

I don't remember any definitive moment of deciding to share a set with Honor for second year, it was just obvious we would. We got our hands on **V10** in Fisher and promptly agreed on Louis Theroux fan art for the décor theme.

Friends Dionne, Jacob and Leo took the rooms above. To live with your best friends in such close quarters felt like a never-ending party. The

only problem was the thin walls and ceilings. Traumatising thin at times.

In second year I started doing stand-up comedy, attempting to infiltrate the illustrious Footlights clique. I loved performing, but always felt I wasn't quite cool enough, funny enough, posh enough, or whatever enough to properly be *in* with the comedy crowd. I was always quietly relieved to come home to Honor, who had no idea what the difference was between a get-in and a get-out, a main-show or a smoker, and who didn't care to know. Not to say she wasn't supportive, she was, but her barely concealed disinterest in Footlights drama was a useful reminder of the frivolity of it all. To this day, she is one of my favourite people to make laugh (although cackle is perhaps the more accurate word).

In third year we won the accommodation lottery by managing to secure **B4** in Old Court, complete with a massive sitting room, chandelier, drinks cabinet, a bust-up old sofa, two tiny but perfectly cosy wood-panelled bedrooms and a small cupboard for a kitchen. It quickly became the presumed pre-drinking and post-night-out debriefing destination for all our friends, with people constantly dropping by our forever unlocked door.

After the haze of May Week and graduation, I promptly crashed down from the chandelied splendour of **B4** back to my childhood bedroom to wait around for my new job in Shanghai to start, only it kept getting delayed because of this weird virus thing. Then the whole world stopped.

Honor wasted no time in lockdown and got herself on to a top Psychology Master's. With Shanghai out the window, I took a different

approach: sitting at home getting continually rejected by jobs of ever-lessening interest to me as all the confidence that I had built up over three years of glamorous dinner parties and conversations with genius academics slowly crumbled away.

Eventually I got onto an editorial grad scheme and moved to London. Honor was already there, so I was excited to see her all the time again. Turns out London is a bit bigger than college, so it's not as easy as all that. I'm now doing a Master's in Film, and still performing and writing. Honor is training to be a therapist, where after lots of practice listening to me, she will soon be able to use her listening skills to help people with real problems.

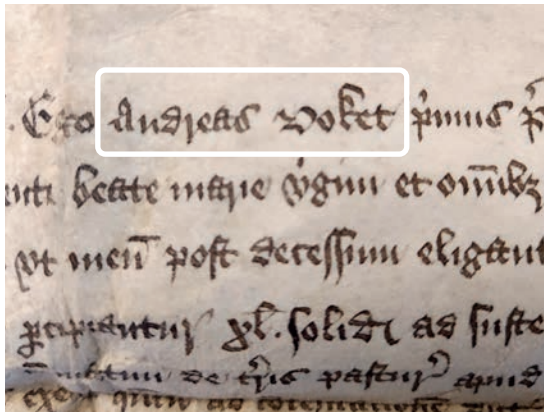


Honor (L) and Joy (R) at the window of their room



# 575 years of Queens'

In 2023, we celebrate the 575th anniversary of Queens' College's foundation in 1448. Queens' is the earliest example of a complete purpose-designed college in Cambridge, incorporating all of the necessary components of a college into one single building, which is now known as Old Court. The key individual responsible for the early development of the College was Andrew Dokett, a churchman and academic who later became the first President of Queens'. In this special issue of *The Bridge*, we will be sharing historic images of Queens' along with facts from the College's history.



Andrew Dokett's name in his last will and testament, spelt 'Andreas Domet'. His surname is alternately rendered Domet, Domett, Domett, Domet or Domett elsewhere

## Who was Andrew Dokett?

Many alumni and students will know the Dokett Building and its corresponding gate that provides a convenient shortcut to Queens' Lane and the town. However, fewer people know that Andrew Dokett was the founder of Queens' College in all but name.

Dokett enters the historical record in the late 1430s as the vicar of St Botolph's parish, the church of which lay on the eastern side of Trumpington Street, and he later became rector. He owned St Bernard's Hostel, which was similar to a hall of residence with its own hall, gallery and chapel. Dokett developed the hostel into St Bernard's College in 1446 with a charter from King Henry VI using donations from his parishioners and wealthy benefactors. This new college acquired a larger site, on which the current Old Court and Cloister Court are built.



A sketch of the monumental brass of Andrew Dokett in the Chapel, now no longer in existence

A new charter of foundation was issued by the King in August 1447, after which preparations for the building of the present Old Court were made. Following a petition by Queen Margaret of Anjou to the King, who noted that there was no college in Cambridge founded by 'any quene of Englonde hidertoward', the lands of St Bernard's College were granted to her. On the 15th April 1448, the Queen's College of St Margaret and St Bernard was founded, and the foundation stone laid at the south-east corner of the Chapel.

## Timeline of Foundation

### BEFORE 1446

Andrew Dokett was Principal of St Bernard's Hostel on a site now occupied by the New Court of Corpus Christi College. He was also Rector of St Botolph's, the church of the parish within which Queens' College lies.

### DECEMBER 3RD 1446

Andrew Dokett obtained a Charter from King Henry VI to found St Bernard's College on a site now part of St Catherine's College.

### AUGUST 21ST 1447

First Charter revoked. Andrew Dokett obtained a new Charter from King Henry VI to found St Bernard's College on the present site of Old Court and Cloister Court.

### 1447-8

Petition of Margaret of Anjou to her husband the King to have the foundation and naming of the new college. Second Charter returned to the King and the lands of St Bernard's College surrendered to him.

### MARCH 30TH 1448

Letters Patent from King Henry VI to Queen Margaret granting her the lands of St Bernard's College and licence to found a college.

### APRIL 15TH 1448

Charter of Queen Margaret to found the Queens' College of St Margaret and St Bernard. Foundation stone laid by Sir John Wenlock. First part of Old Court completed, including the Library, Chapel and Gatehouse.





# College

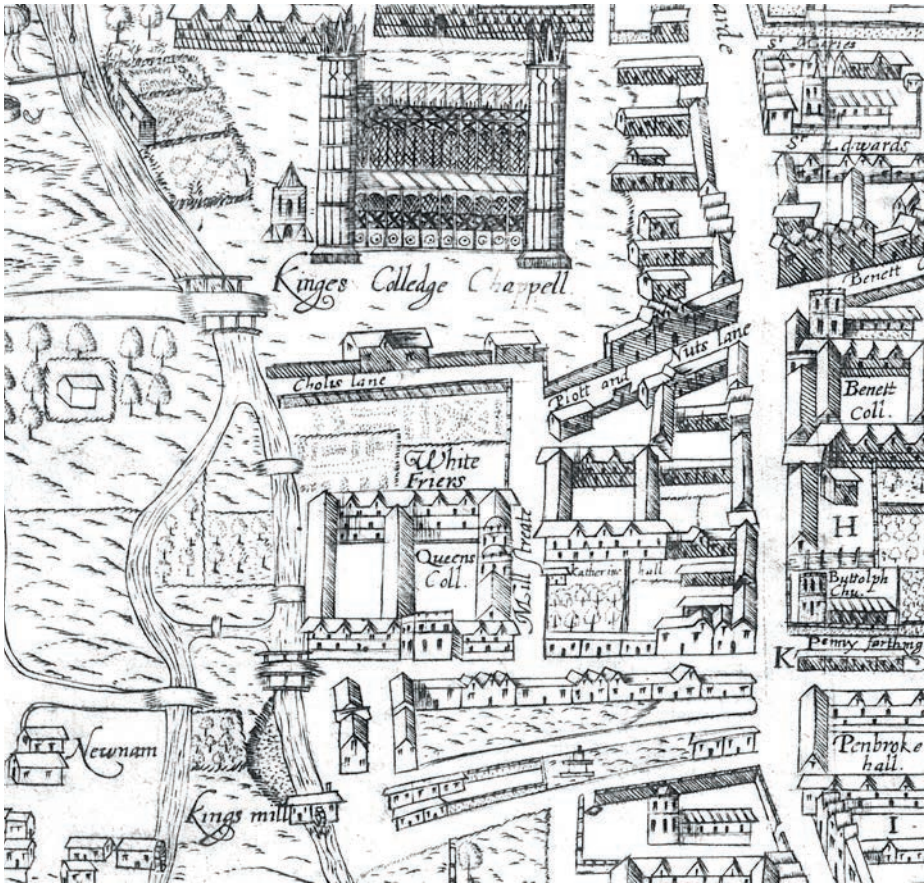
*L-R: Development Officers Rebecca, Eleanor and Emma in the Munby Rare Books Reading Room*



## A Visit to the Archives

In February, members of the Alumni & Development Team visited the Munby Rare Books Reading Room at the University Library to look at artefacts from the earliest days of the College's foundation. These included the Founding Charter of Queens' with Queen Margaret's Seal from 1448, the College Arms from 1575, and lecture lists and library borrowing books from throughout Queens' history. This visit was in order to share these treasures with our alumni during our Giving Day and 575th anniversary celebrations, which centre around memories from alumni throughout the years, along with photographs and artefacts from Queens' history.

Following the success of our last Giving Day in 2022, we are delighted to be holding a Giving Day once again on the **3rd and 4th May**. This is the opportunity for current and former students, staff and Fellows to come together and celebrate the best of Queens' with this year's theme, 'Imagine what's next'.



*This engraving by Richard Lyne, a bird's eye view from the south, is the earliest known plan of Cambridge, dating from 1574*

**1449-50**  
Old Court completed, including the Kitchens and Hall.

**1454**  
Chapel licensed for services.

**1460**  
Riverside buildings erected, now part of the President's Lodge.

**1465**  
Queen Elizabeth Woodville becomes patroness.

**1475**  
First Statutes given by Elizabeth Woodville. Land west of the river purchased from the Town and a new ditch built, creating a causeway that is now known as Silver Street.

**1477**  
First endowment from Richard Duke of Gloucester, the future Richard III

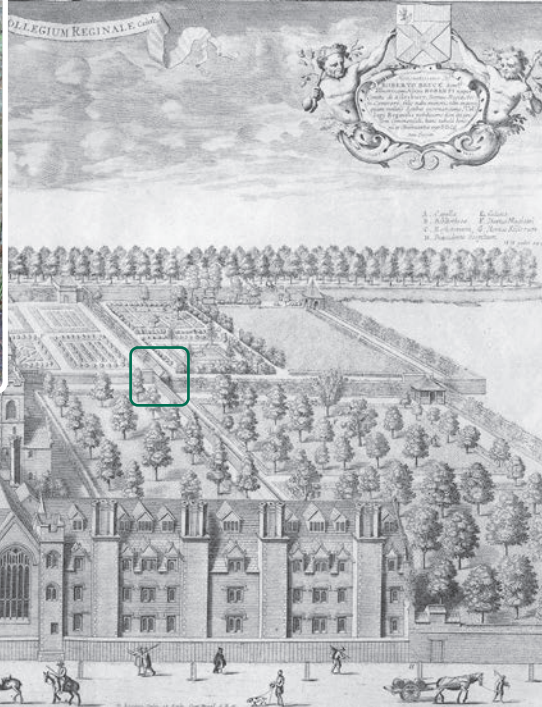
**1484**  
Death of Andrew Dockett. He bequeaths to the College his garden, later known as the Tennis Court Garden.





# Queens' Curiosities

In its 575 year history, although many aspects of this historic college have remained the same, there have been many changes. There are also quirks that are unknown to many. Here are just a few.



Eagle-eyed readers can spot the many developments since David Loggan's view was produced circa 1685-7, as well as familiar features such as the sundial in Old Court. One interesting aspect that remains to this day is the gateway between the President's Garden and the Fellows' Garden. This access point was originally a four-door hut, which came about in order to resolve a logistical challenge. The President's Garden originally extended diagonally into the present Friars' Court, and Fellows were not permitted to enter, whilst the President, not being a Fellow, could not enter the Fellows' Garden. A diagonal interchange system offered a compromise, allowing the President to travel through his garden unimpeded, and vice versa. This structure is frequently passed through to this day, but is rarely recognised for its original function.



This strong chest that now resides in the Old Library used to contain some of the most important charters and documents from the College, along with money and valuables. It dates from the late 15th century and required three senior members of the College to open each of its three locks. The chest was formerly located in the Muniments Room, also known as the Treasury, a 'lost' room at Queens' that is now a Fellow's study following a short stint as an undergraduate room in the 1960s. The Muniments Room used to occupy the entire first floor of the gate-tower in Old Court. This was a secure location with a stone floor, walls and roof, ensuring that in the event of a fire, the chest and its contents would survive. It also sits above flood level, making it the safest room in College from natural hazards. The chest was moved to the ante-chapel of the Old Chapel in around 1898, and then to the Library where it remains.



The strong chest in the Old Library

The Muniments Room in 1948, looking east





# Then and Now



John Fielding



*L: Aerial view of the 'light side' from 1947, before the construction of Cripps Court*

*R: Aerial view of the College from 2013*



*L: Old Court with bell tower in 1891*

*R: Old Court in the 21st century*



*L: Fisher Building when new (1935-6)*

*R: Fisher Building in 2018*



*L: Essex Building in 1799 in an engraving by Thomas Malton*

*R: Essex Building and Silver Street in 2015*

Did you know that there is a comprehensive history section on the Queens' website? To find out more about Queens' College, its buildings and people, as well as eminent alumni and interesting facts, visit [queens.cam.ac.uk/visiting-the-college/history](https://queens.cam.ac.uk/visiting-the-college/history)



# College News



## The new Foundation Year course

In October, the College will be admitting its first cohort of Foundation Year students in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Queens' is one of twelve colleges participating in the Cambridge Foundation Year, a unique pre-degree initiative intended to provide a stepping stone for students who have been prevented from realising their potential due to educational disadvantage or disruption. The course is a free and fully-funded programme available as a full-time, one-year residential programme, and it is only open to those ordinarily resident in the UK.


## Queens' Entrepreneurship Society Launch

Queens' Entrepreneurship Society (QES) celebrated their official launch on the evening of Monday 23rd January. The Society was founded by a group of Queens' Fellows to nurture budding entrepreneurial talent within the College and help students to commercialise their research.

Speakers at the event included **Qun Yang (2019)**, founder of Biorbyt and Chairwoman and Trustee of the charity UK Chinese Women Connect (UKCWC), **Sir John Chisholm (1965)**, Co-Founder of the Melete Foundation, and **Dr Richard Hargreaves (1964)**, angel investor. **Isabelle Hupez (2021)** was also awarded a certificate for 'Best Judge Business School Project, 2021-2022'. The event was followed by networking, drinks, and a dinner at High Table in Cripps Hall.

The evening also marked the launch of two new entrepreneurship competitions: the QES Prize Competition and the Melete Scholarships for Social Entrepreneurship. Successful entrants will be awarded prizes of £5,000 to develop their business idea, for which they submitted a proposal in February.

The video of the QES launch event can be found by scanning the QR code or by visiting <http://bit.ly/3lg5hP7>



L-R: *Professor Clare Bryant, Sir John Chisholm (1965), Qun Yang (2019), Dr Richard Hargreaves (1964) and Dr Mohamed El-Erian*







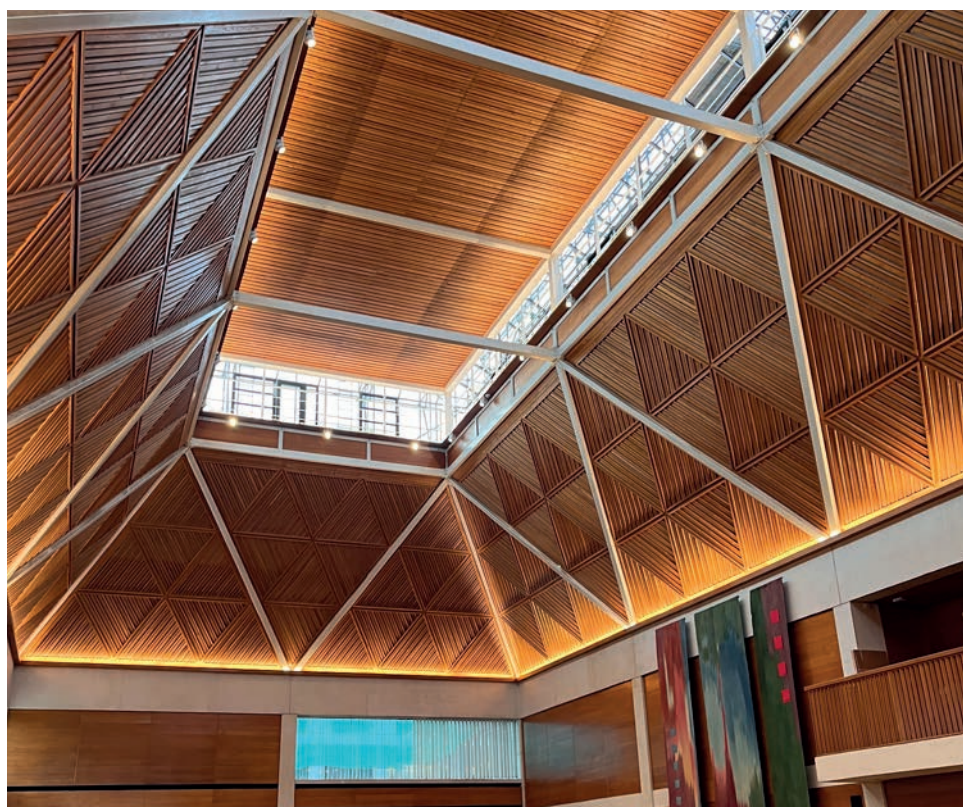
L-R: **Alice Drury** (MagSoc President), **Alex Jones** (2022, Tyro Prize winner), **Professor Julia Gog** (MagSoc Treasurer) and **Dr Hamish Symington** (Junior Research Fellow)

## Tyro Prize Winner

Congratulations to **Alex Jones** (2022), winner of the Tyro Music Prize for 2023. The Tyro Prize was established to promote music-making at Queens' in the hope of encouraging students who play an instrument purely as a hobby to continue their music making. The recital took place on the 12th February in Old Hall, and was judged by a panel including **Alice Drury** (2021), MagSoc President, **Professor Julia Gog**, MagSoc Senior Treasurer and **Dr Hamish Symington**, Junior Research Fellow. Alex's winning performance was the track *Sinister Minister* by Bela Fleck and the Fleckstones on the electric bass guitar.

## Music practice rooms refurbished

The much-needed refurbishment of the Queens' music practice rooms is currently underway, made possible by the donation of **Stephen Farrant** (Fellow Benefactor). The two practice rooms, each with an upright piano, are located under the Fitzpatrick Hall in Lyon Court. They can be booked by anybody in College through the Porters, and are now equipped with ambient lighting and soundproofing panels. The walls feature an accent panel in "Queens' green" colours, as chosen by students of MagSoc (the Queens' music society).



## Cripps Hall Lantern Renovation

As part of the College's continued efforts to reduce its overall carbon footprint by 50% by from its 2020 level by 2030 and our pledge to reach Net Zero Carbon by 2045, an extensive project to re-roof the Cripps Building finished in early 2023. A robust assessment of our energy usage showed that better insulation for walls, floors and roofs and improved glazing in windows would mitigate thermal losses. By improving the fabric of individual buildings one by one, we will achieve a cumulative reduction in carbon emissions. The scaffolding came down in February, flooding the Buttery with light and making it a more pleasant space to eat for students, staff, Fellows and their guests.



# Spreading his wings: an interview with Dara McAnulty

**First year Natural Sciences student Dara McAnulty (2022) broke records this year by becoming the youngest recipient on King Charles III's New Year Honours list when he was awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to nature and the autistic community. Dara is a multi-award-winning author, naturalist and conservationist from Northern Ireland. He is a campaigner for the natural world, and a dedicated fundraiser, philanthropist, volunteer and wildlife recorder.**



**Firstly, congratulations on your BEM – how does it feel to be recognised for your work at such a high level?**

It felt incredible, obviously, and also really, really strange. I always believe that I'm doing this on behalf of loads of different people and that this award isn't just for me, but for all of those people who are striving to make a difference in the world, and maybe they're not saying it. Maybe people are just going through their lives, living them as best as they can to help protect the planet. This award is for them, and for me to be a mouthpiece. So it's a collective award in that sense. It represents that it all matters, and that people higher up in the Government structures may actually also care. I think that means quite a bit.

**How are you finding Queens'?**

Currently, I'm doing pretty well. Coming into Lent felt a lot calmer. I also know the city as well now, which surprised me. It means you get to your lectures on time and it makes life just so much easier, you actually know where you are.

**Do you have a favourite place for nature or being outdoors in Cambridge?**

At the moment I like walking to Grantchester. If I need a nice long walk, I go to Bait's Bite Lock, all the way up and beyond the Reaches, into the Fens in that direction. Also the Botanical Gardens – I saw a kingfisher on my way there, that was very cool. Those are my three places when I just need a walk to escape the study for a little bit and refresh my head.

**You've also really got into rowing [as a cox] since being at Cambridge, including the Fairbairn Cup. How was that experience?**

There is something really, really cool about going really, really fast! I've always lived near water and just being around water is usually where I'm the calmest. Whenever you're out on the Reach and you're off, the city just disappears, it's beautiful. You can get lost in the nature around you.



Dara with the Queens' NW1 rowers after the Fairbairn Cup



### How would you define your approach to activism?

So I think my approach to activism has changed over the years. It used to be always "protest, protest, protest", trying to really force these issues in front of the media. But then I realised that you're not going to reach everybody, and some people, no matter how much you protest, are just going to get annoyed. So I decided that there are other ways of changing how people think and that's through a cultural change.

And so I wanted to write. I wanted to create art. I wanted to fill people's minds with the beauty of the natural world which I know, and you see it every day when you walk out into the wild. Sometimes it's very easy to forget it. That's what I wanted to instil into people's minds, and hopefully people will read it, and then through that decide to make actions of their own. They don't need to say them. They don't need to go out onto the streets. They can just try to live their lives a little bit more carefully, a bit more warily, a bit more conscious of what they're doing with their life. And that all together makes change.

### You're very candid about how autism is integral to the way that you see the world and the way that you interact with nature as well. Could you talk a little bit about that?

I'm fairly sure I see the world slightly differently. I am autistic and sometimes things come in a little bit more intensely for me, and sometimes it can get overwhelming, but it also means I can pay attention to more details more often. Anybody can see all the things that I see if they pay attention. It's just that I'm more predisposed to seeing those details, not exactly

by my own choice. So in that way, I am forced into this beautiful world. I'm forced to pay attention to it, and by my brain forcing me into it, I grew to love it.

Autism obviously affects everybody in different ways. It's a really complex thing and we don't really understand much about it. There are a lot of taboos around how autism affects us, and mostly they're wrong because we don't know for sure, but we do know that it affects everybody differently. I know people who take in stimuli in a completely different way than I do, or all of their different senses interact in ways that they just don't for me. And I know that autism has irreversibly changed my life

from the experience that I probably would have had if I didn't have it.

### Has your department and Queens' been accommodating in allowing you to choose what support to access?

I'm trying to be independent and I'm trying to do basically everything myself. But Queens' has been amazing. I know that not all the colleges are as good. Some people do really, really struggle with getting the help that they need. Queens' gave me my student support document, I've got my extra time, I've got all the things that I need to be able to function in an exam setting. Outside of academia, I want to live my life and try to make it on my own because I'd rather it was that way. I'd like to thank the entire Welfare Team at Queens' because they're doing amazing work.

### What kind of books did you read about wildlife when you were younger? Were there any books like the ones that you've written for children out there at the time?

When it comes to children's books, I wrote *Wild Child* because when I was a child, I liked fact books and I didn't really get into fiction until a bit later on. I put fiction in the first section of the book, then I love fact books, so I put a fact section in, and I loved activity books, so I put an activity book section in. I hadn't found a book that put all three together. Then with the *Birds (The Wild Child's Guide to Birds)* I did basically the same thing, but with more birds! We did go by seasons for the *Book of Birds*, and there may be another... I can write rather quickly so there will be more books, 100%.



Dara at the 2022 matriculation (second from right)

# Intellectual Society

## Fellows retiring

### Professor Richard Fentiman

Professor Richard Fentiman KC is retiring in September 2023 after over forty years as a Fellow of Queens'. Between 2015 and 2018, Professor Fentiman was Chair of the Faculty of Law and Professor of Private International Law, and he held *The Arthur Armitage Fellowship*. He has a global reputation for excellence in the fields of private international law and international commercial litigation, where he has been extensively involved in law reform both in the UK and abroad. In 2014 he was awarded the University's Pilkington Prize for Excellence in Teaching. He gave the Seventh Distinguished Lecture in Law in 2022, titled 'Citadels of the Law: Law schools and the Defence of Doctrine'. A fully endowed Fellowship in Professor Fentiman's name has already reached over half of its total endowment thanks to the generosity of students, alumni, friends and Fellows, cementing Queens' proud reputation as a centre for legal studies.

Professor Fentiman said, "I have always considered myself fortunate to have spent my working life at Queens' College. In 1981, when I arrived, we already had an unrivalled reputation for Law, and it is a reputation that continues still. Our students are still the bright, enquiring, well-rounded young people they always were, and they continue to excel in their academic work and their future careers."

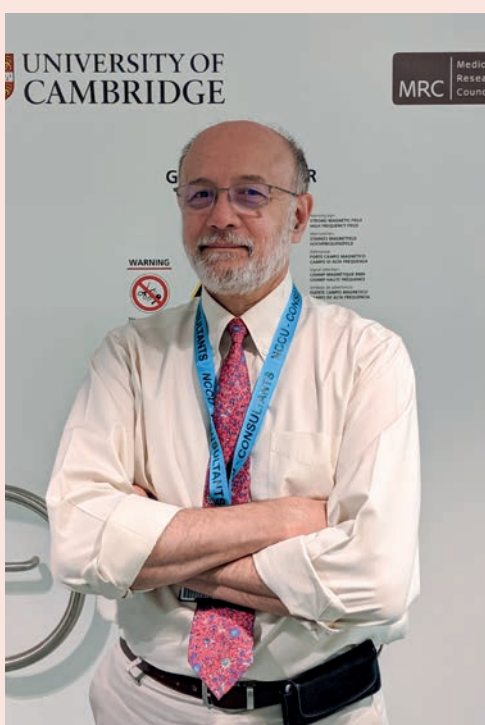
He will be fondly remembered by the many students he has taught over the years, and will be staying on at Queens', not least as the Fellow Emeritus of the Queens' Distinguished Lecture in Law.



Outside C1, Old Court, the room in which Professor Fentiman has taught for the best part of 40 years as a Fellow



Professor Fentiman speaking at the Distinguished Lecture in Law in 2022



### Professor David Menon

Professor David Menon, Fellow and Head of the Division of Anaesthesia in the Department of Medicine, is retiring at the end of 2023. Throughout his career, Professor Menon has substantially and continuously contributed to specialty development, training, research, public and policy engagement, and leadership in neurocritical care, acute brain injury, and neuroanaesthesia. He was the first Director of the Neurosciences Critical Care Unit (NCCU) at Addenbrooke's Hospital, where he established the first recognised training programme for specialist neurocritical care in the UK. He also set up the Cambridge Acute Brain Injury (ABI) Group, which has published over 500 indexed publications and supported over 25 PhD studentships since 2000, and he was integral to establishing the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (WBIC), developing procedures for early imaging of patients with acute brain injury. In 2011, Professor Menon appeared in the BBC documentary *Between Life and Death*, which won a BAFTA for its respectful coverage of three patients' journeys in the NCCU. In an interview with *The Lancet* in 2017, Professor Menon said, "In intensive care, there are many examples where we've improved the numbers but made the patients worse. I believe that we have to make what's important measurable rather than make what's measurable important." Professor Menon is succeeded as Professorial Fellow in Clinical Medicine at Queens' by **Professor James Brenton**, whose area of specialism is developing tailored methods of combatting drug resistance in ovarian cancers in order to improve treatment and survival.

Watch Professor Menon in the award-winning BBC documentary *Between Life and Death*:







## Millennium Medal

Professor Lisa Hall, Fellow and Head of Cambridge Analytical Biotechnology, has been awarded the Medical Research Council (MRC) Millennium Medal for her pioneering multidisciplinary work and key translational impacts in biotechnology and biosensor design. Lisa holds the medal jointly with Professor Sarah Tabrizi, Professor of Clinical Neurology at the UCL Institute of Neurology. Their contribution to medical research and furthering the MRC's mission of improving human health is recognised by this prestigious prize, awarded annually and created by The Royal Mint.

Lisa said, "It's a great honour and an enormous privilege to have been awarded the MRC Millennium Medal. MRC and UKRI's investment in our research has catalysed innovation and entrepreneurship from an incredible group of students and early career researchers in Cambridge and my collaborators in low and middle income countries. The medal acknowledges that advancing in vitro diagnostics requires education and creativity, a global challenge to inspire us all."

When Lisa retired last year, the college established a fully endowed postgraduate scholarship in her honour to help students from less privileged backgrounds to get into STEM subjects.

## Academic achievements

### Professor Richard Prager

Professor Richard Prager has been appointed Chief Scientific Advisor for The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). Professor Prager is a Fellow at Queens' as well as Head of the Department of Engineering. His work at Cambridge focuses on the development of better non-invasive diagnostic medical imaging systems based on ultrasound.



"I am delighted to be joining the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and to have a chance to build on the strong scientific and engineering foundations that Professor Alan Penn has created. I will be particularly interested to contribute to the department's work in sustainable housing, building safety and the integration of evidence across different aspects of society. I am also looking forward to collaborating with CSAs from other departments on broader strategic projects."

### Professor Clare Bryant

Professor Clare Bryant has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. ASM Fellows are elected "through a highly selective, peer-review process, based on their records of scientific achievement and original contributions that have advanced microbiology." Clare is one of few veterinarians who have a thriving research career whilst also working as a consultant in clinical pharmacology, as well as holding a significant teaching position.



### Kristina Buch

Kristina Buch is a German Academic Scholarship Foundation PhD Fellow in Plant Sciences. She is currently completing her PhD at Queens' and has been appointed the first female Professor of Sculpture at the State Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe, succeeding Professor Harald Klingelhöller. Kristina is a conceptual artist whose contemporary works include sculpture, video, performance and graphic works inspired by diverse points of reference taken from her multidisciplinary academic background.



## Rokos PDRAs

Five of the current Rokos PDRAs met with Chris Rokos in London on 31st January for lunch. They discussed their latest research, ranging from Supramolecular Chemistry to Social Anthropology. Paul, Lorena, Vihanga, Peter and Joana were able to thank Chris in person for his generosity in supporting the Rokos PDRAs programme. You can find out more about their work and areas of specialism on our website.

*L-R: Dr Paul Lohmann, Rowan Kitt, Dr Lorena Escudero Sánchez, Dr Vihanga Munasinghe, Dr Peter Ochieng and Dr Joana Nascimento*

# MCR-SCR talks

Since the start of the academic year, our MCR-SCR talks have been showcasing the latest research and thinking at Queens' on an eclectic range of topics.

<p>Molly Rottman <b>The Writing in the Wallpaper: Developing Queer Design in Plain Sight</b></p> 	<p>Maheera Ghani <b>Rising demand of data storage and quest for future technology</b></p>  	<p>Dr Challenger Mishra <b>String Theory and Artificial Intelligence</b></p> 
<p>Ava Zhai <b>Gamification of Archaeological Heritage</b></p> 	<p>Tristan Trebaol <b>Applying computational healthcare to Cystic Fibrosis management in hospitals</b></p> 	<p>Dr Atiyeh Yeganloo <b>Probability Biases in Repeated Prisoner's Dilemma Game</b></p> 
<p>Rosie Mellor <b>The Design of Novel Metallic Materials for Structural and Aerospace Applications</b></p>  	<p>Moritz Przybilla <b>Understanding the role of DNA damage for an individual's risk to develop cancer</b></p> 	<p>Dr Anastasia Gusach <b>Human receptors in motion: the smallest actors of molecular movies</b></p>  
<p>Ruby Woodward <b>Can holographic humans transform medical training?</b></p> 	<p>Anne-Pia Marty <b>Physics of life in the cold</b></p>  	<p>Dr Michal Eisenberg-Bord <b>It's always better when we're together...? Intra-cellular contact-sites in health and disease</b></p> 
<p>Charlie Wedd <b>Overworked: The trade-off between fitness and function in bacterial synthetic biology</b></p>  	<p>Di Zhao <b>"The fairy-like appearance of the triumphal arch": archiving photography and photographic archives</b></p> 	<p>Dr Malte Dewies <b>It's a Match! Behavioural Science and Public Policy</b></p> 
<p>Bright Simons <b>Redeeming Wicked Problems through the Promise of "Transmediation"</b></p> 	<p>Markus Pleijzier <b>Innate Constraints of a Mnemonic Circuit</b></p> 	<p>Dr Jennifer Cobbe <b>Law, Technology, and Regulating Interdependence</b></p>  
<p>Nick Popiel <b>Scratching the Surface – A Study of Strongly-Correlated Insulators</b></p> 	<p>Wei-Ning Deng <b>Mystery of the Universe</b></p>  	<p>Dr Natalia Barbosa <b>BK polyomavirus remodels cellular organelles during virus egress</b></p> 



# Queens' Connects

Our Development Director has several exciting trips planned in 2023 as we seek to continue our successful Queens' Global series of events. In addition to a trip to the UAE in December 2022, we have also held events in Amsterdam, Brussels and Paris, with further trips planned to Canada and the West Coast of the USA later in the year. If you are interested in becoming an ambassador for Queens' in your area, please contact [alumni@queens.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@queens.cam.ac.uk).

Join our global network and see our latest events in your area by scanning the QR code:



*L-R: Jae Chung (2009), Rowan Kitt, Jessica Teng (2019), Saira Nishtar (1998), James Clifford (2002), Sara Boomsma (2007), Digant Kapoor (2012), Mohamed El-Erian, Can Türkseven (2011), Samiah Ahsanuddin Hamdani (1998), Mick Harrison (1986) and Anja Harrison (1986)*

For Queens' first event in the UAE, we visited Dubai with the President and were kindly hosted by **Zaki Nusseibeh (1964)**, Cultural Advisor to the President of the UAE. The lunch event was a great success, generously organised by **Sara Boomsma (2007)**, and a WhatsApp group was formed so that alumni in Dubai could keep in touch with each other.



*L-R: Chenpan Qi (2015), Marc van Weede (1984), Sifra van Ansenwoude (2014), Edwin Messchendorp (2015), Julian Lewis (1974), Tyler Hammond (2017), Ian Galloway (1991), Mike Phillips (1962), Jaques Venter (2008), Khairil Abdullah (1991), Matthias Havenaar (2008) and Rowan Kitt*

On the 27th February, we visited Amsterdam, where a drinks reception was held for alumni at the Dean bar in the College Hotel. Matriculation years from 1962 to 2017 were represented. It was a dual celebration for **Jaques Venter (2008)**, who attended the event on his birthday.



*L-R: Annika Schlemm (2019) and Sophie Deschuyter (2018)*

Queens' alumni met on the 28th February at Le Grand Central restaurant in Brussels for the College's inaugural event in Belgium, attended by fifteen alumni from around the country. The event continued late into the evening, with attendees continuing to socialise and connect beyond the set hours of the meet-up.



*L-R: Victoire de Ménonville (2013), Louis Poinsignon (2021), Nancy Yuk (2021), Tristan Gautié (2017), Eliza Morris (2021), Paul Saugier (2016), Hippolyte Verdier (2018), Matthieu Bussiere (1996), Katherine Dixon (1997), Jon Church (2004), Etienne Page (2017), Stephen Potter (1960), Louise Rogers Lalaurie (1982), Elliott Donvez (2016), Charles Dennery (2011), Bruno Reynard (2007), Annabelle Buckland (2018), Sihame Kairouani (1993), Antoine Kauffer (2013), Max Richly (2007), Alodie Boissonnet (2020), Christopher Donaghey (2019), Julien Le Romancer (2014) and Angélique Peigné (2012)*

**Katherine Dixon (1997)** hosted an alumni event at her apartment in central Paris on March 1st, including possibly the youngest attendee at a Queens' Global event at six weeks old! The event also provided the opportunity for several Paris alumni in similar industries to meet their business contacts in person for the first time.





*L-R: Chopper Gall (1989), Gareth Patterson KC (1988), Dr Sisira de Silva (1988) and Max Duthie (1989) at the inaugural alumni Spring Drinks event at the Oxford and Cambridge Club*

Read about the inaugural Spring Drinks event at the Oxford and Cambridge Club here:



Find out more about the latest alumni events at Queens' being held throughout the year:



The Bridge: produced by Eleanor Joyce (Development Associate, Communications)  
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**1448-2023**