

Selwyn

The magazine
for alumni and friends
of Selwyn College,
Cambridge



2017

Issue 24 Autumn 2017



Dirt, Diet and Dung

Dr Jennifer Bates digs a little deeper
into the ancient Indus civilisation



Editorial
Roger Mosey, *Master*



Selwyn is open for everyone with the right talent – there are no barriers for the best

The strength of the college system is that it offers higher education on the right scale: institutions that are big enough to help form one of the world's great universities, and yet small enough to be a place in which we know each other and there's a human touch. Selwyn has been conspicuously successful in recent years in combining academic excellence with a strong community. Our current students and staff really feel at home here, and they know they will share the lifetime sense of belonging that they see in our alumni.

What's remarkable, of course, is that a place the size of Selwyn has such an impact on the wider world. This magazine shows that on every page. Our Fellows push the boundaries of knowledge with their research, and they sometimes make astonishing discoveries. You can read about Professor Nick Butterfield's creatures from half-a-billion years ago on page 19; and it's wonderful that he's collaborating with a Selwyn alumnus Tom Harvey, now at the University of Leicester. Nick has the knowledge and skills to be able to run through hundreds of millions of years of earth's history in about 20 minutes flat, and in a way that is utterly enthralling.

By comparison, the interests of Dr Jennifer Bates in the Indus civilisation of 4,000 years ago seem like only yesterday. She made headlines in today's media – from the Daily Mirror to the Calcutta Telegraph – with her research into when rice arrived in the Indian sub-continent. And we can be confident that the astrophysics of Dr Rosie Bolton will be creating the news of tomorrow as she and her colleagues discover more about the origins of the universe, thanks to the Square Kilometre Array telescope. People who haven't heard Rosie speak about her work will have a treat if they go along to her talk in London in November.

The stories in this publication show that our alumni are achieving amazing things too. I'm particularly pleased by the international focus shown in Mark Caine's article about the African Union on page 8 and Jimi Oluwole's

contribution from India on page 15. Whatever our times throws at us, and however much our domestic politics change, the mission of Cambridge and of Selwyn remains a global one: we welcome people from across the world, and we're delighted when our alumni spread out across the continents to share their learning.

But we do, of course, want to do our best for the brightest potential undergraduates in the UK. There are still too many school students who think Cambridge isn't for them, and we need to keep sending out the message that Selwyn is open for everyone with the right talent – irrespective of financial means, social background, ethnicity and the rest. Michelle Tang is right to say on page 18 that our outreach is about making a real difference to the lives of young people, and it's terrific to see so many prospective students of all ages coming to the college and seeing what we do here. There should be no barriers for the best.

So you will deduce, I hope, that we're not sitting here in an Ivory Tower and disdaining the challenges of the 21st century. Instead, we're open to the changes we need to make; and we're grateful for the support we receive from alumni and friends to shape the future of the college. That can be in the form of the new buildings outlined on page 20 – but it is also in every line that you read here. The people of Selwyn have achieved extraordinary things in the 135 years of the college's existence; they're doing the same today; and with our collective help they will reach even greater heights in the future. I hope that, like me, you're inspired by them – and excited by what we can do next.

Roger Mosey

News

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Omaha

Volunteers of the Historical Society of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, in Omaha, Nebraska, have been researching **Bishop George Augustus Selwyn**. He went to Nebraska on his 1874 American visit, when he met with The Right Reverend Robert Harper Clarkson, who had himself been a missionary bishop. Bishop Clarkson was in the planning stage of building the new Trinity Episcopal Cathedral which was completed in 1883. The cathedral has a large stained glass window dedicated to Bishop Selwyn. There is also a Minton tile in his honour. The tile shows the Selwyn College shield with the addition of the bishop's mitre and a medal.

You will see that there is a crescent moon on the right side of the shield. This is a cadency mark allocated to Bishop Selwyn's Arms to show that he was a second son. Over the main entrance to the college we also have the Selwyn College shield, surrounded by two angels, which does have the crescent moon. Our Selwyn College shield is usually depicted without it.

Right: Minton tile, in Bishop Selwyn's honour, presented to the cathedral.

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Cover photograph:
Marcus Gims

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Above: Large stained glass window dedicated to Bishop George Augustus Selwyn.



Below: Bishop Selwyn's Arms over the main entrance to Selwyn College.



Honorary Doctorate for Sophie Wilson

A Selwyn alumna has become the first member of the college this decade to receive an honorary doctorate from the University of Cambridge. **Sophie Wilson** is seen as one of the foremost computer scientists of her generation.

Sophie, who is already an honorary fellow of Selwyn, was recognised at a ceremony in the Senate House on 21 June this year. The previous evening, the college gave a dinner to celebrate the occasion.

Sophie is now Senior Technical Director and Fellow at Broadcom. As an undergraduate, she developed

what would form Acorn System 1, a microcomputer which was Acorn's first product. In 1981, the BBC commissioned her to design a more advanced microcomputer, the BBC Micro, which allowed schools across the UK to introduce children to writing their own software and for which she designed and wrote BBC BASIC. In 1985 she co-designed the Acorn RISC Machine (ARM) processor, now an integral part of items such as smartphones, tablets and broadband routers.

Below: Sophie Wilson, front left, with the Master and Fellows.



Above: Bill Simmonett (left) and Bursar Nick Downer (right).

Conference & Catering Manager retires

Bill Simmonett retired at the end of August, after serving 26 years as our Conference & Catering Manager. In that time he served four Masters of the college. However, his lasting legacy would be his ability to recognise aptitude and talent in members of his team, give them opportunities to train and improve their knowledge and professional skills.

Staff and Fellows celebrated Bill's retirement with a buffet lunch in the New SCR, where he was presented with a John Lewis gift voucher and two very special bottles of wine from the Fellows' Cellar.

Chishty Mujahid (SE 1964)



completed 50 years as cricket commentator on 19 January 2017. He began his career, at the age of 23 in 1967, for Radio Pakistan when the England under-25 team visited Pakistan and played a three-day match against South Zone at Niaz Stadium, Hyderabad. During these 50 years, Chishty has visited all Test-playing countries. Chishty and Iftikhar Ahmed were, for a long time, among the most famous pairs of cricket commentators in Pakistan and across the world.

Fellows' news

An active fellowship

Each year we like to draw attention to the diversity and accomplishments of the Fellows of Selwyn College. It's useful to remind ourselves that not only does Selwyn attract some of the very best students in Cambridge – but some of the very best academic staff as well. Aside from their commitments of teaching, marking and departmental duties, our Fellows are astonishingly productive: publishing, lecturing and travelling worldwide to share the fruits of their researches and knowledge. Here you can read about what some of our Fellows have recently been up to – and what lies ahead.

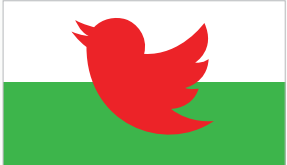
Dr Amer (Moo) Rana will be talking to alumni about his research in using stem cells to repair heart disease. His talk on Alumni Day (23 September) is entitled: *How can a scientist mend a broken heart?* Recent advances in stem cells are opening up the possibility of personalised medicine. We are now able to generate stem cells from almost anyone and we are using these to grow blood vessels and heart tissue in the laboratory. In this talk he will explore how we do this and how we might use stem cell-derived tissues to develop medical therapies to mend a broken heart – or indeed almost any part of you that is broken!

Dr Amer Rana



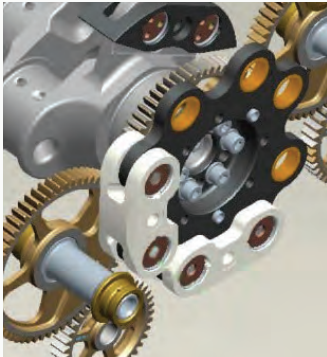
Professor Ian McFarland, Regius Professor of Divinity, has been invited to deliver the Croall Lectures at the University of Edinburgh in May 2018. The series is tentatively titled *Made Flesh: Interpreting the Incarnation*.

Dr David Willis, Director of Studies in Linguistics, has recently been awarded an Economics & Social Research Council (ESRC) grant for a three-year project to map dialect variation and change in British English, Norwegian and Welsh using data gathered from social media such as Twitter.



A Welsh Tweet: "Ioaaaads o gwaith i neud a di'r laptop 'cau gwithiol!"

Dr Marta Halina, Director of Studies in Natural Sciences, and Director of Studies in PBS, is currently leading the project 'Kinds of Intelligence' at the new Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence. Her 2017 publications include contributions to the *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Animal Minds*, the *Routledge Handbook of Mechanisms and Mechanical Philosophy*, and the *Journal of Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.



Centrifugal pendulum vibration absorbers

In July, **Professor David Newland** presented a paper on the same topic that he published his first ever paper on in 1963. The subject: centrifugal pendulum vibration absorbers for car engines. These devices, first developed for aircraft, have taken 60 years to find their way into modern cars. At the same London conference, he also led a visit to the Millennium Footbridge, which he worked to de-wobble 17 years ago.



Above: Dr Antler analysing marine sediment on board the R/V Aurora.

This summer, **Dr Gilad Antler** joined a research cruise from Hawaii to Alaska. In collaboration with researchers from Caltech and the University of Southern California, the team worked to pinpoint the effect of carbonate mineral dissolution in the North Pacific water column on the global carbon dioxide cycle.

Dr James Keeler, Walters Fellow in Chemistry, has been working hard on producing the 11th Edition of Atkins' *Physical Chemistry*. Just about anyone who has studied physical chemistry at degree level will be aware of this undergraduate text which is widely used around the world, and especially in the USA. The first edition came out

in 1977 when James was a first-year undergraduate, and so he is especially honoured to be invited to join the three-strong author team (which still includes Peter Atkins, the eponymous author of the first edition) to work on the latest text.

Dr Fabian Grabenhorst has been awarded a Sir Henry Dale Fellowship by the Wellcome Trust and Royal Society. From October, he will start up a laboratory in the Physiology Department in Cambridge to work on the neurophysiology of nutrient rewards. His research will explore how nerve cells in our brain's reward system process different aspects of food rewards, such as sugar and fat, and guide our food choices and eating behaviour.

University Lecturer **Dr Dacia Viejó Rose** is collaborating on an Arts and Humanities Research Council funded project with colleagues from Queen's University, Belfast: 'Restoring cultural property and communities after conflict'. The project explores the impact of the destruction of cultural property on communities, which represents an attack on a community's history, identity, cultural and religious activities. By applying an interdisciplinary perspective, Dacia and her colleagues hope to develop multi-actor policy responses and create reparations frameworks that reflect the nature of the harm done. She also led a successful bid to create a

Heritage Research Centre which will be launched this year.

Dr Dacia Viejó Rose

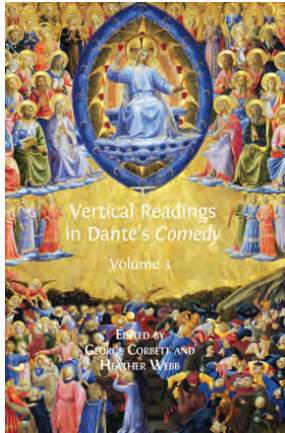


Marcus Gims

In 2018, **Professor John Morrill** Professor of British and Irish History, and Michael Graves Fellow in History, hope to see the long-running project to publish all the recorded words of Oliver Cromwell published in five volumes. He will also be in Japan at conferences in Nagasaki and Tokyo talking about his recent co-authored book *Princes and their elites in early modern Europe*.

Dr Heather Webb, Reader in Medieval Italian Literature and Culture, will be presenting new work on Sandro Botticelli's illustrations of Dante's *Paradiso* at UCLA and Stanford University in October 2017. The third volume of *Vertical Readings in Dante's 'Comedy'*, co-edited by Heather and collaborator Dr George Corbett, is due to come out with Open Book Publishers by the end of 2017.

Dr Heather Webb's forthcoming book.



Dr Chris Briggs, Director of Studies in History, is co-organiser of the XVII edition of the Thirteenth Century England conference, which brings medieval historians to Selwyn on 4-6 September 2017. The highly topical theme for this year's conference is 'England in Europe'.

Below: Detail from a thirteenth century illustration, Life of St Edward the Confessor.



© Cambridge University Library

Professor Nick Butterfield, Director of Studies in Natural Sciences, together with post-doc **Dr Emily Mitchell** (SE 2008), Department of Earth Sciences, has returned to south-east Newfoundland (see image right) for further laser-scanning of some 560 million-year-old fossils. In March 2018 Nick will be providing a deep-time perspective to a meeting on animal symbiosis in Queensland. Read more about Nick's work and the discovery of a new fossil species in the feature on page 19.

Right: Dr Emily Mitchell



Director of Studies in English, **Dr Phil Connell's** last book took him back as far as the English Commonwealth and Restoration. He has returned now to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, in order to explore how that earlier revolutionary era was figured in the literary and political culture of Romantic Britain. Some of this work will be published in *English Literary History* and he looks forward to extending his research during a forthcoming sabbatical term.

Following election to the Executive Board of the Association of Breast Surgery, **Professor John Benson**, Director of Studies in Medicine, is now co-convenor of the Advanced

Skills in Breast Disease Management at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. John plans to hold this highly successful and prestigious course at Selwyn College in April 2018. He continues to publish in high profile journals and has an upcoming Leader Article in the *British Journal of Surgery*.



Dr Emily Charnock

been keeping track of the Trump presidency, and giving some public talks on his election campaign and administration thus far. Beyond this, she has an article and chapter forthcoming on American party polarisation and presidential travel, respectively.

Professor David Holton, Emeritus Professor of Modern Greek, looks forward to the publication in 2018 of *The Cambridge Grammar of Medieval and Early Modern Greek* (CUP), the fruits of a large-scale research project which he directed. Its four volumes will provide a detailed analysis of the development of the Greek language between the eleventh century and ca. 1700.



Professor Sir Colin Humphreys, Professor of Materials Science and Director of Research, is forming a new University spin-out company with two of his post-docs called 'Paragraf'. The aim of the company is to provide good-quality large-area graphene and graphene electronic devices. Graphene has been called the 'wonder material' and it has been hugely hyped. But so far it has not proved especially useful. Paragraf has found a new way of growing graphene which they hope will make it more usable.



Dr Gavin Jarvis

Selwyn alumni may remember the article in the 2015 Calendar on *Natural Human Embryo Mortality* by **Dr Gavin Jarvis**, College Lecturer in Pharmacology. Gavin has recently published a fuller version in *F1000Research* an Open Research publishing platform. *F1000Research* also offers an insight into the peer review process since all reviews and responses are published alongside the article.



Photos Simon May



**Q&A: We ask Simon Haines (SE 2008)
– currently performing in Agatha Christie’s
The Mousetrap in London’s West End, about
acting and his acting career.**

Top and opposite page: Simon Haines in rehearsal with fellow cast members. The longest running show, of any kind, in the world, *The Mousetrap* is at the St Martin’s Theatre in the West End.

Left: Simon Haines plays Christopher Wren in the *The Mousetrap*.

Acting is a notoriously precarious profession. Many Cambridge graduates opt for better paid, more secure career paths – what makes you different?
Acting can be irregular work, like any freelancing, but I’ve been lucky so far. Like any investment, there’s an element of risk but – as we keep seeing in world events – certainty and security are an illusion. Oddly enough, aged 21, acting felt like the sensible choice. I was better at acting than I was at essays, lots of my peers were applying to drama schools – it was the career path of least resistance. Frankly, I was competitive and insecure too: chasing prestige putting my worth in my work. My values have shifted over the last few years, thankfully, and my relationship to my work is much healthier now.

Were your peers supportive of your ambitions?
I have a group of friends who were very enthusiastic about my acting/writing. Some Fellows were too. I played Cassius in *Julius Caesar* in the Selwyn Fellows’ Garden in May Week; Dr Chothia saw it and said I had a good voice for it. She also came to a play I’d written, *Struts and Frets*. I remember she sent me a short email saying it was “very funny and very vulgar”. I used that on the poster. Above all though, Professor Spencer. John was my tutor. I’d been struggling to balance academia, acting and life. John had seen *Julius Caesar* too. He encouraged me to pursue acting and go to my GP for support for stress. I’m so grateful to him. In that moment, he paid equal attention to my vocation and my wellbeing. That was a turning point for me.

Did you have doubts yourself?
Yes. I used to suppress them, push through them, but I embrace them more now. I’m open-minded about what happens next.

What was it like going to drama school after Cambridge?
Intense. At Selwyn, I spent a few hours a week in supervisions; at Guildhall, it was more like 40 hours a week in classes or rehearsals, and then endless hours in evenings and at weekends practising, researching, preparing.

How difficult was it to land a first job and make the transition from student to professional actor?
I was lucky to leave drama school with an amazingly hard-working agent who loved my work and fought to get me seen. My first job was fantastic fun: *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, touring schools for the Orange Tree Theatre. Apprenticeships used to last seven years; for acting I’m told, it’s more like ten. So I’m still in my apprenticeship. Being in a long contract like *The Mousetrap* is brilliant: I get to practise my craft onstage each night – I experiment, make mistakes, make discoveries.

On reflection, although Cambridge is primarily known as a place of academic excellence, it does produce outstanding performers. Why?
That extraordinary heritage gave me a sense of what was possible. I did a May Week Shakespeare in Queens’ and a friend showed me a photo of Stephen Fry on that same bit of grass, doing Shakespeare too. But the biggest factor is that Cambridge attracts people who are driven to work and then gives them access to opportunities to practise. There were about 65 different shows – going on each term. I did something like 30 shows in 3 years.

You are following in the footsteps of Selwyn alumni Hugh Laurie and Tom Hollander – what advice do you have for others following in your footsteps?
First and foremost be well. Self-care. Use the university’s fantastic Counselling Service. A career can only be part of a life. Then, practically: practise your craft for many thousands of hours. It’s just like any other job or skill.



“That extraordinary heritage gave me a sense of what was possible”

What do you think of the idea of Selwyn having its own performing space in the new auditorium in Ann’s Court?
Great! It will be a fantastic venue for students to put on performances. And much more comfortable for the audiences too. In my first term, I did the Selwyn Freshers’ play in the Chadwick Room. As an 18-year-old with very little skill or experience in acting, that was the first of many opportunities for me to practise right from the ground up. I couldn’t have performed in the West End without the ADC or the Marlowe Society or Selwyn’s Mighty Players.

Simon Haines is playing in *The Mousetrap* at the St Martin’s Theatre, in London’s West End, until 7 October 2017.

NEW FUNDS FOR STUDENT WELL-BEING

The Dawson Fund

Many Cambridge students lead full and fulfilling lives and have to cope with what can be a stressful situation as they strive for the highest levels of achievement. Simon Haines draws attention to the need for students to be healthy and to take good care of their physical and mental well-being, but sometimes, extra help is also needed. In addition to the university’s counselling service, or the various types of support available in college, Selwyn now has at its disposal the **Dawson Fund**, endowed through a gift from Selwyn friends – Peter and Christina Dawson. This generous funding allows the college to provide both individual and collective support through specialist expert professional help. These funds have greatly enhanced our provision for student well-being.



Mark Caine (SE 2010) talks about his new post at the African Union Commission where he is helping tackle some of the energy and pollution challenges facing much of the continent of Africa.

Under African Skies

Peter Gurney/Dabur Art



In November 2016, Mark Caine took up a year-long post at the African Union Commission based in Addis Ababa to help tackle some of the energy and pollution challenges facing much of the continent. The Commission is the Secretariat and Headquarters of the African Union. The AU is the African equivalent of the EU, only with double the member-states (55 vs. 28), triple the land area, a larger and faster growing population, and a small fraction of the infrastructure and industrial output. Mark reflects on the challenges and joys of his role, working amongst a diversity of geographies, cultures, languages, and levels of human and economic development.

When the sun sets over the Entoto mountains each evening, the air above Addis Ababa grows thick with grey smoke. Columns of it float up from wood fires, from charcoal stoves, from burning piles of garden trimmings. Dense clouds of it sputter out of thousands of ‘Blue Donkeys’, the ubiquitous blue and white minibuses that prowl the city hawking improbably cheap rides to impossible numbers of cramped, overheated commuters.

When the thickening haze refracts the setting sunlight just right, it bathes the sky in an orange phosphorescence – an eerily beautiful reminder of the often severe air pollution facing the five or so million people moving about the city below. Lights flicker on where the power is reliable and people can afford it, mainly in the centre and in pockets of middle class housing. Across most of the city’s sprawling expanse, the darkness deepens – another uncomfortable reminder, this time of the lack of reliable, affordable energy that is the daily reality for most of Ethiopia’s 100 million citizens.

Unfortunately, this picture is far from unique: across Sub-Saharan Africa an estimated 630 million people lack access to electricity, and almost 800 million rely on biomass for heat or cooking. In urban and peri-urban areas, the same people lacking modern energy services usually suffer the most from urban air pollution.

And the picture is only getting more complicated. With climate change projected to inflict more severe impacts on Africa than on any other continent, Sub-Saharan Africa may face the cruel irony of being the region that loses the most, and gains the least, from humanity’s centuries-long, civilisation-shaping use of fossil fuels to power – unevenly – industrialisation and economic development.

Coming from San Francisco, and London before that, I knew life would be different in Ethiopia. But little could have prepared me for the day-to-day: the delightfully chaotic (and occasionally

terrifying) traffic patterns, the pavements pulsing with people and movement and sound, the buzz of a capital city transforming at rates unseen in centuries across most of the West.

As one of just two American citizens selected by the Commission and US State Department for a year-long Fulbright–Clinton Public Policy Fellowship, my brief was to apply my academic training and professional experience towards furthering the Union’s vision: ‘An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena’. In my case I was to use my background in energy policy and markets to support the design, implementation and evaluation of efforts to accelerate the continent’s transition towards a clean, productive and inclusive energy future.

Since November 2016 I’ve been doing this full time out of the Commission’s spaceship-like compound in Addis Ababa – a recent gift from the Chinese government, valued at \$300 million – alongside over 1,500 career staff representing all of the Union’s 55 member-states. It’s a uniquely, delightfully pan-African environment: I work in French with my Senegalese supervisor, who reports in English to his Nigerian Director, whose Commissioner is an Arabic-speaking Sudanese national. Lunch at the Congo Hall, the Commission’s canteen, is like attending a pan-African convention of clever and ambitious policy professionals – a great joy for this unapologetic political and policy junkie.

My workdays are split between advising on policy, market and technology issues, developing a continental programme to grow employment in the green economy, building internal capacity and conducting independent research on relevant topics. To do this I leverage a set of skills and knowledge I’ve been fortunate to build up since I first left the USA in 2010, when I matriculated as an MPhil candidate at Selwyn for an intensive year studying environment and development in the Geography department. Six subsequent years at the LSE, the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Foreign Office immersed me deeply in global energy and climate issues, exposing me to key actors and decision processes and offering welcome opportunities to work on far-reaching policy and market initiatives across the UK, the EU, the USA, and Africa.

Africa may be the most interesting brief thus far. The challenges facing the continent’s energy future are significant: resource endowments vary widely across countries, skill and supply chain constraints are widespread, significant capital investment is required, and business environments can frustrate even the most determined would-be market participants. But the opportunities are significant, too: the IMF projects that African countries will comprise six of the ten fastest growing economies in 2017, with rates like 8% in Cote d’Ivoire, 7.5% in Ethiopia, and 7% in Tanzania. These levels of growth are driving a significant expansion of energy demand across Sub-Saharan Africa, an expansion that’s likely to continue and perhaps accelerate as industrial production



Left: Dense clouds of smoke fill the streets and air of the city.
Above: Smog above Addis Ababa.

“...little could have prepared me for the day-to-day: the delightfully chaotic... the buzz of a capital city transforming at rates unseen across most of the West”

grows and Africa’s fast growing cities play host to growing numbers of increasingly prosperous middle class citizens.

Meeting this growing demand with a clean, affordable and reliable supply, is both a fascinating technical and economic challenge and a unique opportunity to transform African economies. Beyond delivering immediate human benefit to those currently lacking modern energy services, growing the supply of advanced energy will stimulate industrial growth, expand markets for clean energy technologies, mitigate carbon emissions and create new jobs and businesses.

The latter point is especially critical: currently Africa’s working age population is growing at an estimated ten million people per year, far outpacing the creation of decent jobs across the continent. A growing African clean energy industry can contribute substantially to the urgent challenge of accelerating job creation, with additional co-benefits for human health, economies and the environment. That’s why at the African Union Commission we are working with African governments and a broad range of continental and international partners to unlock the opportunity it presents to address simultaneously the challenges of unemployment, energy poverty, air pollution and climate change.

How successful will these efforts be? Will African countries move decisively to seize the opportunities presented by a clean energy future? In ten years’ time, will the hundreds of high-rises going up in Addis Ababa be cloaked every evening in the same haze that settles over their concrete and rebar skeletons today?

Predictions are a tricky business, especially for a continent as diverse as Africa and a global energy industry undergoing rapid, profound transformations. Much will depend on forces beyond the control of African governments, from the vagaries of geopolitics to global trade policies and technology cost curves. Investors and technologists will have leading roles to play, ideally in partnership with governments under shared commitments to create long-term value for citizens, investors, developers and the environment.

Whatever the coming years hold, I’ll be doing what I can to help realise the African energy opportunity, learning and sharing as I go and, with luck, exploring yet more of this rich, vibrant continent along the way. Hopefully with each passing year the evening sky above Addis Ababa will grow slightly less phosphorescent, and the factories and households below will hum with ever more of the clean, affordable energy they need.



Hutton & Crow

The Eden Project connects us with each other and the living world – this is the sign that greets visitors to what has been called the eighth wonder of the world.

I’m lucky enough to be Managing Director of the Eden Project, having been appointed in 2014 following stints running the national cycling charity and the Royal Horticultural Society, and a few years as commercial director of English Heritage. The latter is probably the only one directly linked to my time at Selwyn – I studied History in the mid-1980s, with the wonderful John Morrill as my tutor. But there’s a theme of guardianista good causes on my CV that wouldn’t surprise any of the supervisors who endured my essays inspired by an extremely liberal interpretation of history.

Eden opened in 2001, a Millennium project inspired by the vision of Sir Tim Smit, turning a wasteland, left by the retreat of Cornwall’s china clay mining industry, into a celebration of our relationship with the plant kingdom. A barren pit was transformed, with the creation of 85,000 tons of artificial soil and the construction of the world’s largest greenhouse: elements of an experiment to show how we can redeem the most ruined environments by working in harmony with nature and as a community.

Eden Goes Global

Below:
The annual Big Lunch is a simple idea from The Eden Project.



Cornwall’s world-renowned Eden Project is a dramatic global garden, housed in tropical biomes that nestle in a crater the size of 30 football pitches. Now 16 years old, its current Managing Director Gordon Seabright (SE 1984)

argues that its education role has never been more important.



The Eden Project in figures

19m	2,500	£2bn	50,000
people have visited	jobs created	injected into the local economy	schoolchildren visit each year

In the 16 years since Eden opened, over 19 million people have visited the largest rainforest in captivity, bringing 2,500 jobs and injecting £2bn into the economy of one of the UK’s poorest regions.

At Eden though, we have bigger ambitions. Our aim is to share our message about our reliance on the natural world and on each other with the largest audience possible, not just those who are wise enough to live in or visit Cornwall. We’re working with partners to build a number of Eden Projects around the world, starting in China. In Qingdao we’ve found a site that, just like our home in Cornwall, has been wrecked by human interventions, with poisoned water and contaminated land. Our aim is to inspire a story of environmental redemption through the creation of a new Eden; whereas in Cornwall we focus on our connections with plants, in China the theme will be water. Other Eden Projects are planned for Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the USA.

Our educational programme has, until recently, been centred on schools. Fifty thousand schoolchildren visit Eden on organised trips each year, and every Cornish child will come to Eden at least twice during their school years. In the past year, however, we have started Little Eden,

a nursery where younger children learn through nature and play in our outdoor ‘classroom’ – almost all sessions are outdoors in Eden’s outer estate. The success of this initiative has encouraged us to work with local partners to plan our first primary school, to be constructed close to Eden, again emphasising outdoor learning. Meanwhile we have begun turning Eden into a campus, with the launch of degrees in horticulture and other subjects in partnership with Plymouth University and Cornwall College.

Eden already has a programme of postgraduate research in partnership with a number of universities, but this year we have extended this to include use of our rainforest as the UK element of research projects in Borneo and Cameroon, notably our exploration (with UWE) of ways to regenerate biodiversity in oil palm plantations. Restoration ecology and pre-school learning are among research topics undertaken at Eden.

Our other major transformational programme is Eden Project Communities, a family of initiatives to build connections within and between neighbourhoods. The work has never seemed so important. The centrepiece is the annual Big Lunch, a Sunday in June when Eden facilitates over 90,000 community lunches. Last year 7.3 million

Britons broke bread together on Big Lunch day, an invaluable contribution to social cohesion (and a terrific antidote to today’s epidemic of loneliness).

The Eden Project is an extraordinary place. We make it snow in the rainforest, host enormous art and theatre events, and are currently developing Invisible Worlds, an exhibition of the crucial aspects of our living environment that are too small (such as microbes) or too big to have their stories told through traditional displays. Having loved my time at Selwyn, I’d be delighted to welcome alumni and students to create some new connections here in Cornwall.

Below:
The Mediterranean Biome has a new area devoted to some of Western Australia’s extraordinary plants.

Emily Whitefield-Wicks



SKA: The world's largest radio telescope

Delving deep into the early history of the universe



Dr Rosie Bolton has been involved in the SKA radio observatory project for more than ten years. When finished, it will be the largest telescope in the world and allow scientists to explore space and to literally look back in time to the dawn of the first stars.

The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project is a major multi-national project to build the world's largest radio observatory, delivering transformational astronomy science for 50 years from 2025. Dr Rosie Bolton, until very recently Fellow and Director of Studies in Physics at Selwyn, has worked on this project for over a decade, focusing on the computing needs and design, and also on understanding the requirements of the astronomy community. SKA will consist of two large arrays of antennas: one in South Africa and one in Australia, both located in pristine, radio quiet desert locations. In its first phase, the South African array will comprise about 200 parabolic dishes, each 15m across, spread out over a region approximately 150km in diameter, whilst the Australian array will be made up of over one hundred thousand individual antennas, each

about the size of a person. These will be grouped into around 500 clusters (or 'stations'), 40m in diameter. Within each station, antenna signals are combined coherently so the whole station behaves like a single antenna surface. In Australia, these stations are distributed over a large area of desert, with separations between stations of up to 65km or so. SKA will collect unprecedented quantities of data, and will require enormous amounts of processing to combine these signals correctly and interpret them to produce images of the radio sky. Each of the two SKA instruments will have a large specialised computer on site to perform correlation of signals and enable some data averaging to reduce the data rate. The combined signals will then be sent over a dedicated optical fibre network several hundreds of kilometres long to a supercomputer located in either Perth (Australia) or Cape Town (South Africa). The total computing power in the two supercomputers will be more than the world's largest supercomputer, at the time of writing (May 2017) this article. In these supercomputers (dubbed 'Science Data Processors') we will determine calibration parameters for the instruments and, by applying these to the signals, develop the scientific outputs of the instruments. There is a wide range of different experiments that the SKA equipment can do, and the output products range from time-variable signals from transient or rotating objects (e.g. pulsars) to images of the sky which are so large

that it would require a high-resolution computer screen the size of a house to look at each image. Additionally, the SKA instruments will be capable of simultaneously imaging tens of thousands of adjacent radio frequencies, so objects within the images have frequency spectra too (i.e. we can see the radio 'colours' they emit). The SKA is a huge technological and signal processing challenge, and comes with an initial price tag of over £500m, so it is worth asking why scientists are so keen to have this observatory built. There are many answers to this question – perhaps the simplest way to explain it is by considering the SKA instruments as software telescopes. This is a simplification of course, but we can apply the term to SKA because the fidelity of the signal processing at the antenna level (where analogue voltages from receivers are turned into digital signals), coupled with the latest advances in data transport techniques, means that we can get signals into the final Science Data Processor at vast rates (we will ingest one terabit, or around 120 gigabytes every second into the supercomputer). Because SKA computers ingest at such high rates, we will retain the ability to define multiple simultaneous processing routes for the data, and can therefore answer multiple science cases with the same incoming photons. For example, we can search multiple frequencies but also go even deeper by combining lots of radio frequencies together. Astronomers hope that SKA will enable them to look back to the dawn of the first stars (when

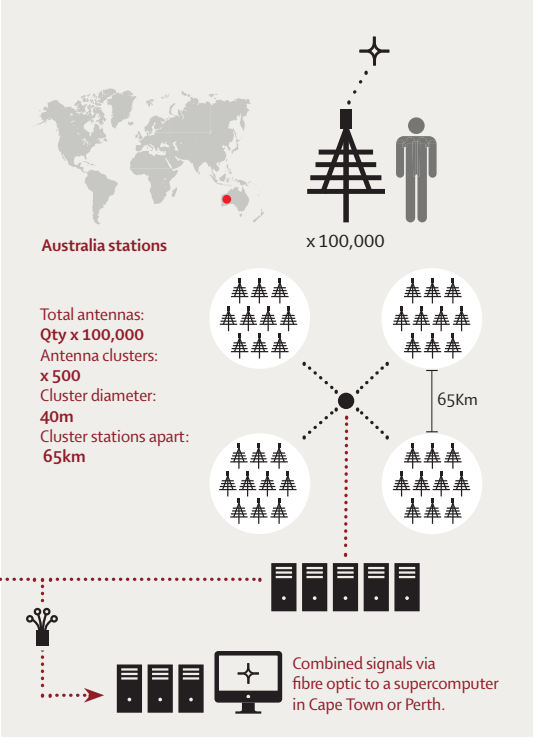
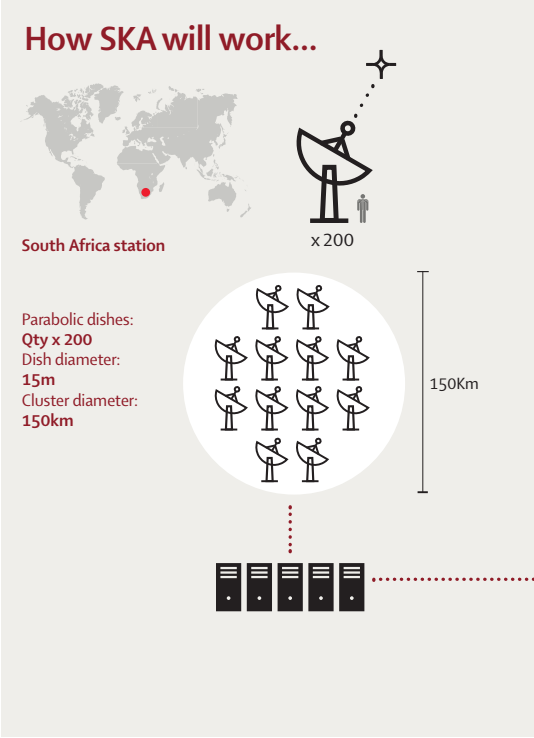
the universe was around 400 million years old) for time-variable objects, whilst simultaneously building up deep (long exposure) images and studying the evolution of galaxies all the way from this time to the present day. The high time fidelity will open up complementary science to this, for example, monitoring a vast net of pulsars to see time shifts caused by space-time ripples that come as gravitational waves pass across the galaxy. SKA is not yet built - hundreds of enthusiastic scientists and engineers will be finessing the design in the next two years - but we are now close to realising this enormously ambitious project and transforming the way astronomers can do radio experiments – and, through that, transforming humanity's overall understanding of the evolution of our universe and our small place in it.

If you would like to learn more about this project, please join us at the Oxford & Cambridge Club, London on Wednesday 29 November. Dr Bolton will be delivering an illustrated lecture, followed by dinner. Full details in the alumni and friends events brochure or via our alumni website: www.selwynalumni.com/eventscalendar

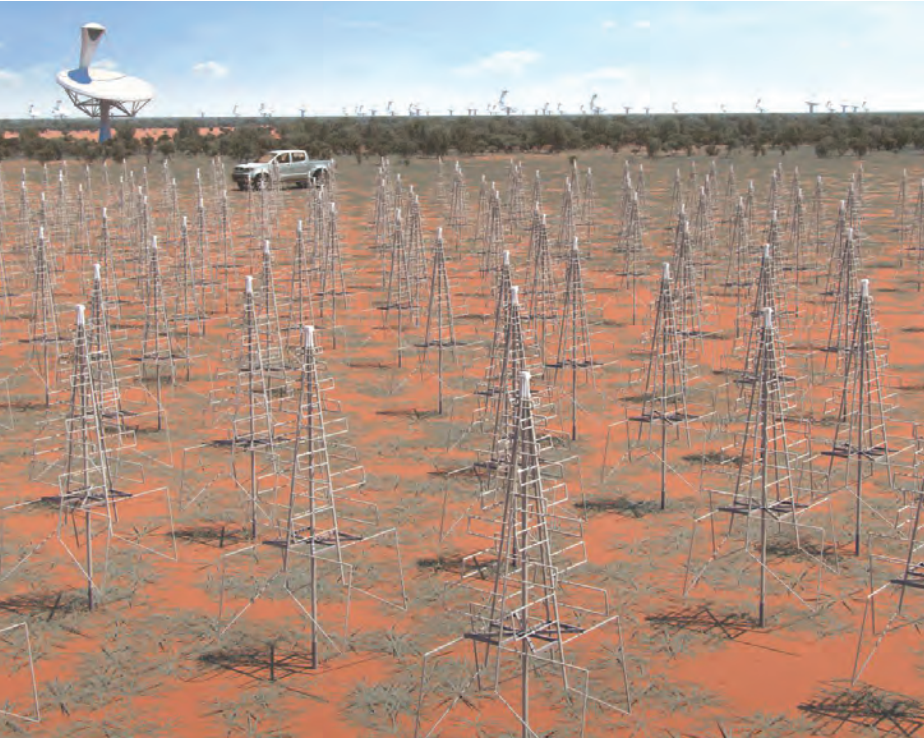


“The SKA is a huge technological and signal processing challenge, and comes with an initial price tag of over £500 million”

Left: Artist's renditions of the South African station. The inset shows an 'oasis' of solar panels which supplies the energy for the parabolic dishes.



Below: Artist's rendition of an Australian station.



Focus on India

India is the fastest growing major economy in the world and could become the world's largest economy later this century. One in six people on the planet live in India, which is also the largest democracy in the world. It is a country experiencing rapid and profound change and its relationship with Cambridge University has never been more important. We look at how Selwyn students, Fellows and alumni are embracing some of the exciting opportunities offered through closer contact with India.



FOCUS ON...INDIA

Attracting India's Brightest

Jon Beard
Bye-Fellow of Selwyn and
Director of Undergraduate Recruitment



Cambridge has a long shared history with India; we have educated many of its leading figures – three prime ministers, industrialists, academics, economists, scientists and entrepreneurs (and a world-class cricketer). So it is perhaps remarkable that, relatively speaking, the University admits so few students from a country with a population of over one billion. In 2016 just 1.4% of non-UK students admitted to the University were from India, compared with 12% from China.

In 2015 the Selwyn Development and Alumni Office reconnected with alumnus and businessman **Anish Chandaria** (SE 1985), who described a vision for a future in which the best and brightest students from India began their careers with an undergraduate education at Cambridge. This chimed with recent thinking by the University about international strategy, and an exploratory trip to Mumbai by myself, Senior Tutor Mike Sewell and Development Director Mike Nicholson followed, during which we met over a hundred talented students and their counsellors from some of the city's best schools.

With Anish's continuing support, this vision is now becoming reality: this autumn the University will be sending an interview team to India for the first time in three years, and will be engaging in a coordinated programme of promotional outreach in Indian schools for the first time ever. Interviews will take place in Mumbai; school visits will begin in Mumbai, Delhi and Bangalore and if successful will expand into Kolkata and Chennai in coming years. Plans are also underway to fundraise for scholarships for Indian students to support them whilst in the UK, including one each funded by Anish Chandaria and Selwyn alumna and distinguished lawyer, **Zia Mody** (SE 1976). The endeavour has been a striking example of what partnership between the University, the College and our alumni can achieve. We look forward to admitting the first of the new wave of Indian applicants soon.



Far left: The success of technology firms in Bangalore has led to the growth of information technology in India.

Left: Supporting new Cambridge scholarships for Indian students, Selwyn alumni **Anish Chandaria** (top) and **Zia Mody** (below).



FOCUS ON...INDIA

Raspberry Pi and Curry

Engineering Graduate
Jimi Oluwole (SE 2012)

Just 60 miles from the high-tech, booming city of Bangalore, is **Kuppam, Andra Pradesh, where during September and October 2016, Jimi Oluwole, worked on a computer education project for local schools. This was organised in partnership by the UK Madanyu organisation and the Indian Agastya Foundation. Jimi's project was partly supported by the '1987 Fund' set up by David and Annabelle Ball who matriculated in 1987. Jimi's grant was one of several awarded each year to engineering and geography students for innovative vacation projects. This article is an edited version of the report he wrote on completion of the project.**

Madanyu is a social enterprise set up to address the challenge of providing computer education to children in the developing world. It was set up by two Cambridge Engineering Department post-doctoral research associates, and since its launch in 2014, it has helped hundreds of children across the developing world understand more about technology, engineering and other life skills.



Above: Jimi Oluwole at graduation in 2016.

Left: Jimi Oluwole leading a training session on Raspberry Pi computers for local school children in Kuppam, near Bangalore.

For my work at the Agastya Campus, I designed and delivered a computing course to local children between the ages of eight and fourteen using Raspberry Pi computers. Part of this work involved introducing the students to basic computer components such as mice and keyboards that most had never used before. I delivered training to the local teachers so that they would be able to deliver the lesson programmes after I had left, and assisted them in furthering their understanding of the Raspberry Pi hardware and software.

A new set of students were taught each day. In the morning, the children were given an overview of the Raspberry Pi and the other relevant hardware. In the afternoon, the children were introduced to the concept of a spreadsheet and were tasked with creating a spreadsheet themselves using LibreOffice Calc (a program similar to Microsoft Excel). The plan was to ask students to calculate prices for their own sandwich business and present various data using pie and bar charts. These tasks would introduce basic formulae to the students and demonstrate the power of computers to perform complex calculations quickly. Over the course of the teaching program, the subject matter was better contextualised (by changing from a sandwich business to a curry business) and the lesson plans I created for the Indian teachers were refined and extended so that they would be able to refer to them easily in future years. I also produced several written guides for the local staff to use in case of further issues after I left.

One of my aims with this project was to inspire boys and girls to learn about engineering who

would otherwise not have had the chance. I feel that I have not only accomplished this aim but have also achieved several notable outcomes for both the charities and myself.

During the project I was able to teach 132 students, of whom two thirds were girls. Although in some classes students had to share the Raspberry Pis (the average number of students per device was 1.6), every student benefitted hugely from this first experience

interacting with computers.

I was especially happy that I could reach so many female students as they are under-represented in STEM subjects in the UK, and often miss out on a complete education in the developing world.

By the end of the course, the local teachers were happy to deliver the lessons without input from me. In fact, the teachers were adapting the lessons to suit themselves and the students better.

At the end of the project I established a communication channel between the Madanyu staff in Cambridge and the teachers in India. Moreover, I conducted meetings with the Madanyu staff in Cambridge to suggest appropriate changes to the Raspberry Pi software and improvements to the programme for future volunteers.

Personally, I developed not only technical skills but also useful teaching skills. Planning and delivering lessons to the children was challenging and frustrating at times; however, it was ultimately a rewarding experience as it opened my eyes to the potential to better the lives of children in the developing world by teaching them basic computing skills. Also, the experience has inspired me to partake in further work to improve the access to technology for children in developing countries. This project has been an incredible experience for me and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to David and Annabelle Ball, Selwyn College and the Engineering Fellows for enabling me to complete this exciting, enlightening and immensely rewarding project.

We currently have more student applicants for innovative vacation projects across various subjects than we have available funding. If you would like to learn more about how you might help other students undertake long-vacation projects, please contact Mike Nicholson development-director@sel.cam.ac.uk



FOCUS ON...INDIA

Dirt, Diet and Dung

Selwyn Fellow Dr Jennifer Bates

How the study of rubbish and ruins is helping archaeologists to learn more about one of the world’s great ancient civilisations.



Outline of Indus Civilisation at its peak c.2600-1900BC.

© C.A. Petrie

The Indus Civilisation is one of the great mysteries of the ancient world. An urban society, it was made up of hundreds of cities and towns stretching across what is now northern India and Pakistan. Though its inhabitants left behind great art and elaborate water infrastructures, we know little about the Indus people who lived between 3200 and 1500 BCE.

But now, the results of a new long-term study of the north western Indus region have given us a better understanding of how this civilisation functioned. We’ve also caught glimpses of how the civilisation coped with dramatic climate shifts from ever-changing weather patterns.

Archaeologist and Selwyn Fellow, Dr Jennifer Bates, has been closely involved with this project, most recently researching how Indus populations were the earliest people to use complex multi-cropping strategies across both seasons, growing foods during summer (rice, millets and beans) and winter (wheat, barley and pulses), which required different watering regimes. The findings suggest a complex network of regional farmers supplied assorted produce to the civilisation’s ancient cities. Jennifer reflects on the role of archaeology and how the rubbish that an ancient society throws away helps us to understand daily life 4,000 years ago.

Archaeology is one of those subjects that fires the imagination. Whenever I mention that I’m an archaeologist, invariably people tell me that they have always wanted to go on a dig, to study the past (usually the Romans), or talk to me about the latest archaeology programme they have seen.

For myself, the attraction has never been with the trappings of the elites, the gold and monumental architecture that often springs to mind when people think of archaeology. Rather, I’m fascinated by the mundane. I want to know how the average person would have lived in the past, what they would have been doing day-to-day five hundred, five thousand, even five hundred thousand years ago. What were their daily tasks and worries? What would they be wearing? Even more basic – where did they go to the toilet (before modern plumbing)? But this leaves me with a quandary. Archaeology is essentially the study of people’s rubbish and ruins, the things they left behind that have survived by a fluke of accident or preservation. Gold and monuments tend to survive either because they were precious and protected or because they were made of strong impervious materials, but daily life is more fleeting, full of little acts that leave smaller and often less tangible marks behind.

There is, however, something that all people have to do, every day. An act that is universal in its function and necessity, but that by very dint of its component parts can vary, be used for self-expression, indeed manipulated, and that is eating. Food is something so basic to our very being, without it we die, and yet it differs so much depending on a wide range of factors, from cultural group (think about the labels we give food: English roast, Chinese takeaway), religion (the role of food in feasts and festivals as well as daily in food taboos like Halal), to wealth (the perceptions surrounding fast food versus caviar for example), or age (such as baby food or children’s portions). Other factors intersect it too, like trade and place of origin of food items, value systems, ideas of presentation, aesthetics and taste, concepts of ethics, fusion and appropriation, and interactions with the environment. Food today is an incredibly evocative concept for self-expression and identity, and as such, we can suggest that it would also have been important in the past.

My own research is using this idea to explore how people used plants and food in the Indus Civilisation of South Asia c.3200-1500BC. I’m relying on bad cooks existing in the past, much as they do today, to have burnt plant-based food, as burning replaces the organic content with carbon, which does not decay. This preservation type, carbonisation, is the most common state in which we find ancient plant remains from archaeological



“Our past is ever present, it is not dead and gone...it forms and shapes us”

Right: Dr Bates in her Cambridge laboratory.

Below: Charred barley grains from the site of Sarai Khola.



Maciej Górn



Maciej Górn



C.A. Petrie



C.A. Petrie

sites. The extraction technique (flotation) for removing charred plant macrofossils from soil involves adding a known quantity of soil to water. The soil, being heavier, sinks, while the charred seeds float, and can be skimmed off. The water is then recycled for use in the system again, and the soil checked for other artefacts before being used elsewhere (such as on local vegetable plots).

Currently I am preparing for a field season in India with the European Research Council-funded TwoRains project. The project is exploring the role of climate change on the Indus Civilisation, looking at how people reacted to a period of sudden aridification. Understanding the complexity of the rainfall systems in this region is important not only for the archaeological story of this civilisation, but also for planning the future, as it has implications for food security and sustainability during our current period of climate change. Our past is ever present, it is not dead and gone. It forms and shapes us, guiding our actions and understanding of ourselves.

If you are interested in contributing towards scholarships for Indian students studying at Cambridge, please contact Mike Nicholson development-director@sel.cam.ac.uk

Top: Excavations at the Indus village site of Masupdur in Haryana, India.

Above: Modern cattle herding in Haryana.

Reaching Out

reach out to sb. — *phrasal verb, to try to communicate with a person or a group of people, usually in order to help or involve them.*

Cambridge University and its colleges are committed to widening participation in higher education. Hundreds of outreach initiatives and events are run each year in Cambridge and in schools and colleges across the UK. Last year Selwyn appointed its first



full-time Schools Liaison Officer – **Michelle Tang** (left) explains what her job involves and why it’s important.

I joined Selwyn College as the Schools Liaison Officer at the beginning of August 2016, having completed two years of teaching in a North London primary school. My first week, I was thrown in the deep end as I was tasked with planning a Summer School for Year 12 students who were due to arrive the very next week! With participants coming from as far as Aberdeenshire and Cornwall, 79 students arrived to experience a taste of university life through a packed programme of lectures and seminars, workshops, visits to museums and social activities. By the end of the week, participants left with a renewed sense of excitement and confidence about their future. One participant wrote: “I didn’t think I was capable of Cambridge before this experience”.

“I didn’t think I was capable of Cambridge before this experience”

Since then, it has been a whirlwind of activity both here in Selwyn and in our link areas of East Berkshire, West Yorkshire and Scotland (as well as a smattering of events in London, Manchester and Birmingham). But no matter where I work in the country, the same barriers crop up time and time again. This is important because research shows that the neighbourhood you grow up in and its level of deprivation is highly correlated to your likelihood of going to university. Data from HEFCE and the POLAR3 classifications show that young people living in the most advantaged 20 per cent of areas are five to six times more likely to enter higher education than those living in the least advantaged 20 per cent of areas. Closing this gap is vitally important to the future of universities but it is also vitally important to society at large.

For many, low confidence and low aspiration trump academic attainment and drive when it comes to future choices. This is the case for the girl in Leeds who didn’t want to come along to my presentation because she felt she was ‘too common’ for Cambridge. Or the boy in Brighouse who asked whether he should bother applying because he ‘only’ had 8 A*s at GCSE and he was the first in his family to even consider university, let alone go. These stories are pervasive and demonstrate the urgent need to do more work in dispelling myths and misconceptions.

Since September 2016, Selwyn has seen over 30 schools visit for a day, bringing over 800 students, the vast majority of whom have never visited Cambridge before. Partnerships with educational charities such as the Brilliant Club have brought a further 400 students to visit Selwyn. The visits to college are important; for many, this is the first time they can really visualise themselves coming to university, rather than seeing it as an abstract possibility or even not a possibility at all. Meeting our current undergraduates shows them that there are people just like them here at Cambridge. A Year 12 student from Horsforth School in Leeds said that the best part of her visit was meeting undergraduates because they are quote ‘normal’! Meeting our Fellows inspires them; meeting our friendly staff helps them to feel welcome; and moreover, the students leave with a sense that, with hard work and determination, they could aspire to a top university like Cambridge.

I first got into teaching because of my belief that the conditions surrounding one’s birth should not be the greatest factor in predicting future success. The outreach work we do at Selwyn doesn’t just benefit the college or even the university, but the education sector as a whole, in providing young people with the tools and information they need to make informed decisions about their future. I am glad to have the chance here at Selwyn, with everyone’s support, to make a difference to the lives of young people, and hope to continue making that difference over the coming years.

Left: Sixth form students from a wide range of backgrounds are made welcome and given a sense that they could aspire to Cambridge.



Image: Nick Bowker

Exceptionally Preserved Microfossils Seeing life 500,000,000 years ago

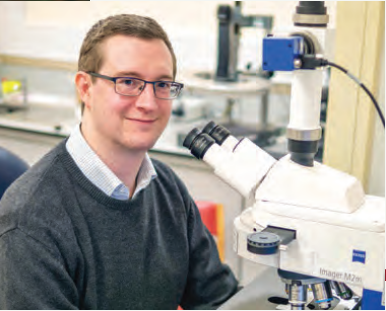
Scientists from the universities of Leicester and Cambridge have discovered a new species of fossil that will shed light on early animal ecosystems. **Dr Tom Harvey** (SE 2004) from the Department of Geology, Leicester, together with **Professor Nick Butterfield**, Selwyn Fellow and Director of Studies for Natural Sciences at Cambridge, discovered the new species while conducting a survey of microfossils in mudstones from western Canada.

To their surprise, the samples yielded minuscule loriciferans: a type of animal so small it has been considered ‘unfossilisable’. Moreover, the fossils date to the late Cambrian Period, meaning they lived around half a billion years ago. This suggests that soon after the origin of animals, some groups were adopting specialised ‘meiobenthic’ lifestyles, living between the grains of seabed sediments.

Funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), Dr Harvey said: “I discovered the fossil loriciferans by accident while surveying other types of microfossil: this



Professor Nick Butterfield

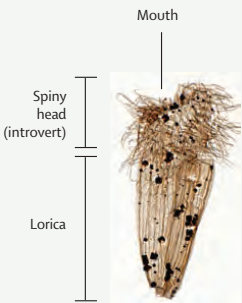


Dr Tom Harvey in his lab



Total length: 0.2mm

Above: Loriciferans: these are amongst the oldest microscopic animals known from the fossil record.



required many hours working at the microscope. I kept finding mysterious fragments which looked like the back ends of loriciferans, but I told myself it was impossible.

“Finally, however, I found an exceptionally well-preserved specimen with a fossilised head still in place, proving its identity as a loriciferan. Then began the delicate task of cleaning the fossil and securing it on a microscope slide. Luckily I did this without breaking the specimen, by holding my breath and trying to keep a steady hand...”

Loriciferans are a group of minuscule animals, always less than a millimetre long, which live among grains of sediment on the seabed. They are easy to overlook: the first examples were described from modern environments as recently as the 1980s. Dr Harvey added: “As well as being very small, loriciferans lack hard parts (they have no shell), so no one expected them ever to be found as fossils – but here they are! The fossils represent a new genus and species, which we name *Eolorica deadwoodensis*, loosely meaning the ‘ancient corset-animal from rocks of the Deadwood Formation’.

“It’s remarkable that so early in their evolution, animals were already exploiting such specialised meiobenthic ecologies: shrinking their bodies down to the size of single-celled organisms, and living among grains of sediment on the seabed.”

Dr Harvey’s area of research is the application of fossils to understand the origin and early evolution of animals. In particular, he looks at exceptionally well-preserved microscopic fossils to work out when the earliest animals lived, what they looked like, and how they fed, moved, and interacted with one another and their environment.

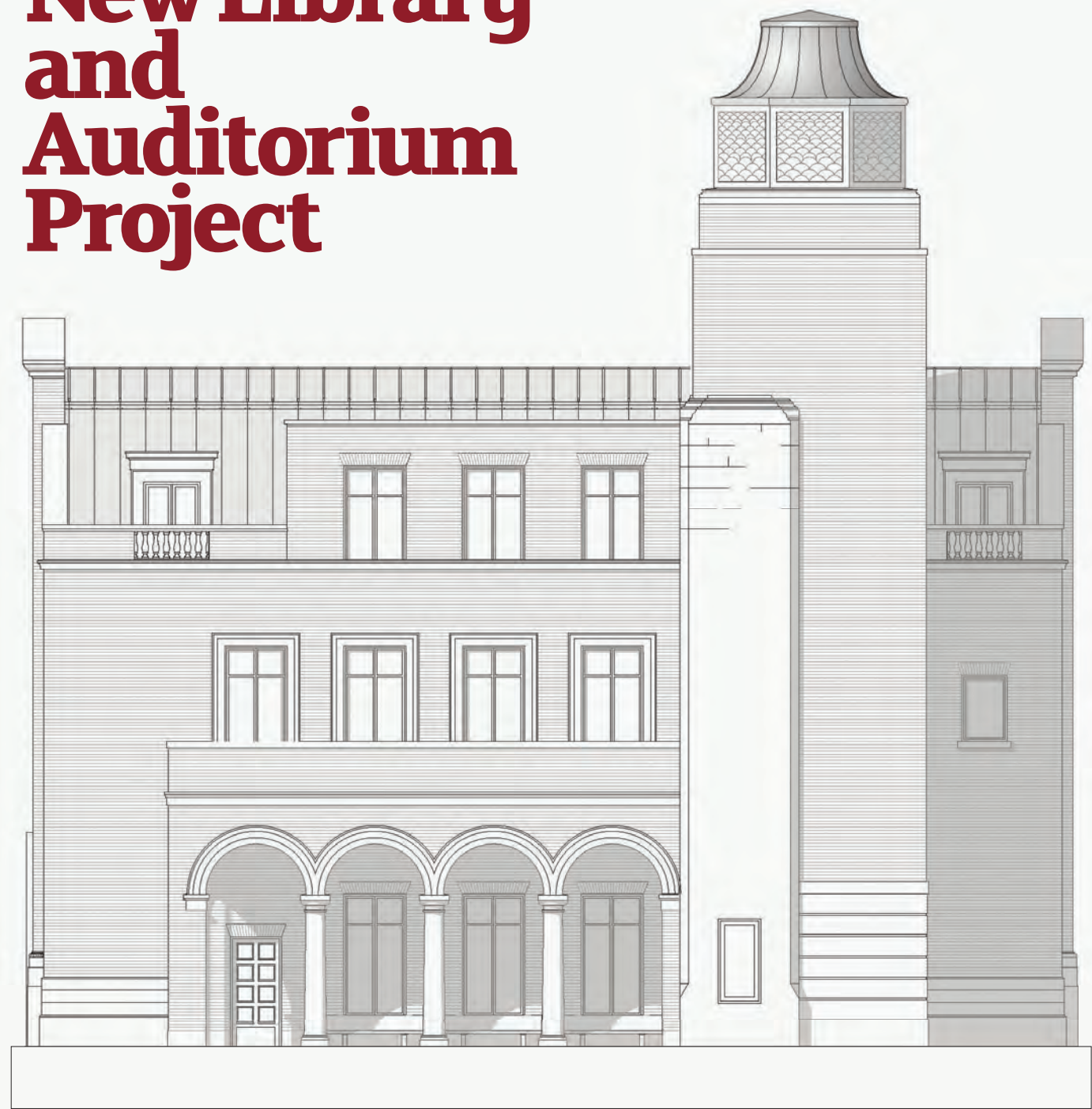
He said: “By studying the earliest fossil animals, we can trace the history of our own evolution and find out how life on Earth came to be so diverse. Unknown to many people, there is a hidden world of tiny animals inhabiting the spaces between sand grains on beaches and under the sea. Despite their small size, these animals are an important link in the food chain, and they help recycle nutrients in marine ecosystems. The discovery of specialised microscopic loriciferans shows that as long ago as the Cambrian Period, some animals had already adapted to this specialised, cryptic way of life. Therefore, the ecological range of early animals has been underestimated, and we will have to think again about how these early ecosystems worked.

“We now have a search-image for very small fossil animals. Perhaps they are extremely rare – or perhaps they are widespread, but have been overlooked. Hopefully more will now come to light, giving further insights into when tiny animals first evolved, and how they diversified to eventually become such an important component of modern ecosystems.”

Palaeontologists Tom Harvey, a Lecturer in Geoscience at the University of Leicester, and Nick Butterfield, Department of Earth Sciences at Cambridge, worked together on this project and co-authored a paper published in *Nature & Evolution*. More information can be found on the Nature website: www.nature.com

Dr Tom Harvey, University of Leicester

The New Library and Auditorium Project



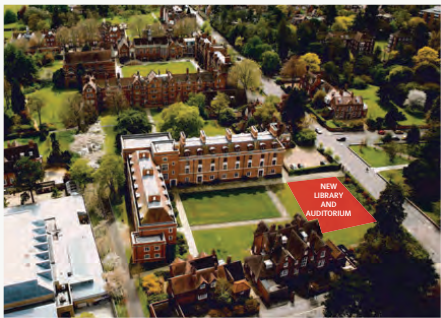
Left: Architect's drawings of the proposed new library and auditorium. Courtesy of Porphyrios Associates.

Right: Siteplan of Selwyn College highlighting the proposed position of the new library and auditorium opposite Ann's Court.



In November 2016, the Governing Body of the college approved plans to complete Ann's Court with a new building on Grange Road that will contain a fully flexible auditorium on the ground floor and two floors of library above. When this building is completed in early 2020, Selwyn will have some of the best education facilities in Cambridge. Development Director **Mike Nicholson**, discusses some of the ways in which the college intends to pay for the new building and the opportunities for alumni and friends to be involved.

Below: Aerial photograph showing the proposed site.



Selwyn has an impressive recent history of undertaking major capital projects that are delivered on time and on budget. The creation of two wings of Ann's Court in the early 2000s is widely regarded as a great success. These attractive buildings, designed by Porphyrios Associates, are contemporary yet sympathetic to the much-loved older architecture of the college. I'm pleased to say that Porphyrios have also been chosen to work on the library/auditorium thus ensuring an architectural and aesthetic integrity to the whole court. The second major project of recent years was the refurbishment and extension of Cripps Court. Built in the 1960s, many generations of Selwynites have retained vivid memories of its unique 'shower-buddy' system. To the regret of some, this was swept away in a £13m and highly successful renovation programme that saw over 200 rooms modernised and upgraded to en-suite. And in a stroke of architectural bravado, an entire new penthouse floor was created containing 54 new rooms. Both of these projects benefited from hugely generous donations from **Ann and Chris Dobson** (SE 1957) in the case of Ann's Court and by the **Cripps Family**. Both were managed under the steely eye of the Bursar, **Nick Downer**, who will also be overseeing every aspect of the new building programme. So it's with some confidence that I say that Selwyn has the team, the experience, and the drive to undertake this new project that will ensure its successful completion in 2020.

However, this still leaves the vexing question of how to pay for it? One thing the college does not want to do is to borrow money to pay for this. Although borrowing is relatively cheap at present, it simply transfers the responsibility for paying for the building to our successors – and who knows what other financial challenges they might be facing in the future? The total cost of

the building will be £12.2m – a considerable sum. But in return the college will receive a tremendous building that will benefit many future generations. Having now been in post for three years, I've met hundreds of alumni and other friends of the college, and I'm confident that many of our 8,000 alumni will recognise the importance of this project and the unique opportunities it offers for individuals to be involved.

We have already received significant and very generous donations from some individuals, so at the time of writing (July 2017) the college had received cash and firm pledges to the value of £9.6m – which is a great start. Quite simply, this means that we can proceed with the planning for the project in the knowledge that all expenditure over the next year or so can be comfortably met without making any call upon the college's own finances or reserves.

For me and my team in the Development & Alumni Office, the challenge is to raise the remaining £2.6m required. This is still a very large sum of money to find but I'm confident that as more alumni and friends learn about the project and its many benefits, then more supporters will emerge. Our job is to make sure that as many people as possible are aware of the project and the range of ways in which individuals can help. To this end, we will shortly begin distribution of an appeal brochure that will provide full details of the new library and auditorium and give people the information they need in order to help decide whether or not they are able to help.

For those who are able to help, the brochure will articulate how we intend to offer a number of discrete but imaginative ways of recording your name (or a name of your choosing) in the fabric of the new building. We've been looking

(continued from previous page)

at various examples of successful projects around Cambridge and, for example, we were particularly impressed by the ‘name on a brick’ initiative at the new Heong Gallery at Downing College. This initiative was not only very successful but has proved highly popular with their alumni. We’ll aim to replicate the best of such ideas and provide opportunities to have your name on a brick or a paving stone as part of Selwyn’s new building.

Internally, we will be offering naming opportunities on furniture, such as the auditorium and library seating, and other items. The new library will contain many smaller study rooms for group work, plus a number of individual working spaces for students who prefer seclusion. All these spaces offer opportunities to be ‘named’ and we hope that either individuals, or perhaps groups of alumni from specific year-groups or subjects, might wish to get together to pledge the larger sums required to name these spaces. We will be happy to discuss any sensible proposal that might help the college complete its goal.

We also want to create a special donor window in the auditorium. Based upon a very successful example at the McGrath Centre, St Catharine’s College, we will record the names of every person who contributes to the library and auditorium appeal. So, whether you are able to donate £50 or £5,000 – gifts of any size will be welcome and valued equally. The wishes of those who opt for anonymity will of course be respected.

Selwyn has a long tradition of looking to its alumni and others to help it grow and develop. Although it’s not always apparent, every single alumnus has benefited from the philanthropy of the generations that have gone before. Since the foundation of the college, every building – be it the Hall, the Chapel or the rooms you lived in, all were built as a result of philanthropy and the generosity of former alumni and friends. The library and auditorium will simply be the latest in this continuing process of one generation helping the next – a practice that I hope many of you will want to be a part of, and perhaps leave your name on a small part of Selwyn.

Further information will be sent to you directly in the coming months. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the project or the appeal before then, please do not hesitate to use my contact details, I would be very pleased to hear from you:

Mike Nicholson
E: development-director@sel.cam.ac.uk
T: 01223 330403

Fundraising figures

£12.2m

The total cost of the building

£9.6m

The amount college has received in cash and firm pledges

£2.6m

The remaining amount we still need to raise



Above: Naming opportunities will be available as part of Selwyn’s new library and auditorium appeal.

The importance of college libraries in Cambridge



Phil Wynne

In preparation for the new library, the college undertook extensive soundings from its peers and other professionals, as well as looking at many successful examples of new libraries elsewhere. We wanted to be sure that, despite the changes in information technology, a college library was still at the heart of a scholarly community. As part of this process we asked new Selwyn Fellow **Dr Jessica Gardner**, University Librarian and Director of Library Services, for her thoughts on the continuing importance of college libraries in Cambridge...

The college libraries have an abiding place in the life and learning of all students at Cambridge. The college library is a place of welcome, scholarship and friendship, built round a deep knowledge of educational needs of students. In the case of Selwyn, it is home to core reading materials for undergraduates and home to staff who know the students well, and provide tea and cake alongside training and information guidance. It is a place students rely on during the busy term when they are under pressure to complete essays and to revise. What is unique of course about the college library is that it is open, accessible to the college’s own students, at times other university libraries are closed. This makes it a place of first resort, of sanctuary and warmth when students need it most for intense study. Though much more material is now available digitally, visits to libraries have increased over the last ten years. A college library is not just about the books, though they still matter; it is a safe and relaxed place where study is supported by college staff focused on the needs of the college students. It is an intrinsic part of the college experience, part of the academic and pastoral life of the college. Such is the success of the college library at Selwyn that is has outgrown its current space. Students want more room to meet, to share their ideas, to collaborate, as well as more room to work intensely and quietly. Students and learning are at the centre of the plans for a new college library.

As University Librarian, I am privileged to work across the community of libraries in Cambridge. As students advance through their studies, they will begin to find and use the breadth of resources in the departmental and faculty libraries and the main University Library. These spaces, embedded in the academic home and life of the institution, are great spaces to work in and to learn alongside others on the course and to dig deep into research collections. The University Library is and will always be a world-leading research library and a cultural institution that is part of the Cambridge global brand. But the college library remains at the heart of everyday life in the college, supporting students as they make their first steps into university life and remaining present, right where they need it in their home, as the term and study intensifies. In their college library, they work amongst the friends they live with every day, and with the support of college library staff who know and understand their learning well.

From the Wood

Agnes Miller Parker

2016 marked the third annual competition for a Cambridge History of Art student to curate an exhibition at the University Library. **Anna McGee** (SE 2015) explains the inspiration behind her winning idea.

The University Library’s Historical Printing Room is an inky treasure trove. When exploring its collection of printing blocks, I came across wood engravings for Hardy’s *Far from the Madding Crowd*. The artist was Agnes Miller Parker (1895-1980). Intrigued by their bold yet delicate graphic style, I hastened to find the books in which they were printed. I then discovered that Parker had also made wood engravings for Aesop’s *Fables*, Thomas Gray’s *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, several of Thomas Hardy’s other novels, and more. I wanted to bring this little-known artist to light, to dust off the woodblocks and open the books. And so emerged the exhibition idea for “Agnes Miller Parker’s wood engravings: bringing the word to life”.

Parker is widely considered the finest wood engraver of the 20th century, despite having received no formal training in the craft. Instead, she had trained as a painter, which might explain why she conceived her engraving designs in

colour, and could thus bring a deep tonal richness to the final product. In the University Library exhibition, the rare chance to display the wood-blocks alongside the illustrations they produced, highlighted Parker’s technical skill.

Whilst curating the exhibition, with the tireless help of the library’s archivists and conservators, I began to consider the strange, liminal status of illustrations: they fall between art and book, and, although not autonomous works, must not be dismissed as mere decoration.

When illustrating Thomas Gray’s *Elegy* for a 1938 limited edition, Parker had to be interpretative rather than descriptive, imaginatively conjuring visual equivalents to the poet’s ambiguous, abstract musings. This wonderfully unearthly image of a small figure nestling in the reassuring arms of a massive bearded man – ‘the bosom of his Father and his God’ – transmits the peace and blamelessness of death suggested by Gray in the final stanza of the poem.



Left: Woodblock for Thomas Hardy’s *Far From the Madding Crowd* depicting a night-time confrontation between Bathsheba and Mr Boldwood



Agnes Miller Parker / Cambridge University Library Digital Content Unit.

Above: Illustration from Gray’s *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*

Below: Wood engraved illustrations used in Aesop’s *Fables*



MEDICS & VETS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Medics and Vets Society Jubilee Celebration

On Saturday 3 February 2018 the college will be hosting a celebratory lunch to mark 60 years of the Medics and Vets Society. We hope that many alumni, from across the generations, will join us for a special day of events and to get together with old friends, teachers and students. But what were the origins of the Medics and Vets Society – and what does it do today? We asked founding member, **Dr Robert Whitaker**, to tell us more...



Dr Robert Whitaker (SE 1957)
Selwyn Class-E Fellow
and Supervisor in Anatomy.

In 1958, Larry Baker and I decided that Selwyn needed a society for us medical students. An inaugural meeting was arranged and regular meetings followed in the next two years. We even devised a society tie – Selwyn colours with an embossed homunculus. I have long since lost mine but there may be one or two still lurking out there. In those days we all transferred to London medical schools for our

clinical years and it was many years later, 1973 to be precise, when I returned to Cambridge as a consultant surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

In 1976 a clinical medical school was established in Cambridge, based at Addenbrooke's Hospital and many of us clinicians were elected as associate lecturers within the university. We were a rich source of supervisors in physiology and anatomy and most of us were rewarded with a Fellowship at various colleges.

I was installed as a Fellow at Selwyn in 1986, just four years before Edward Ford retired in 1990. Fortuitously, this coincided with my own retirement from Addenbrooke's and I replaced Edward as an anatomy supervisor and remain as such 27 years later. On returning to Selwyn in 1986, I was delighted to see that the 'Med Soc' was not just surviving but flourishing having been joined by the vets in the intervening years.

Cambridge Veterinary School was founded in 1949 with eight undergraduate students. The first veterinary student at Selwyn was Richard Medd in 1954, followed by Bernard Morton in 1957.

Below: Shalin Abraham (SE 2012)
treating a patient in a leprosy clinic.



Students of Cambridge Veterinary School

It was only some years later that the numbers of vets increased to today's levels. Encouraged by Dr David Chivers, Director of Studies from 1981, and more recently by Dr Stuart Eves, Director of Studies since 2012, vet students now take a very active part in the society which has a vet co-president. This is particularly important as in recent years, several colleges have reduced, or ceased to take vet students, but Selwyn is one of a core that has increased their intake steadily to maintain the numbers in clinical years.

As senior treasurer, I have watched a series of student committees expertly run the society over the years. Aside from social events, we now hold at least one meeting per term and often more with invited speakers who have ranged from both medical and veterinary clinicians, researchers, administrators and senior students who have so skilfully provided their junior colleagues with clinical scenarios for diagnosis and discussion. As often as not, the speakers have been taken to dine that evening at High Table.

SUPPORT THE SOCIETY

If you would like to contribute to either of the funds that support today's medic and vet students please contact Danielle Bradshaw in the Development & Alumni Office.
E: deb40@cam.ac.uk
T: 01223 767846

To set up a regular Direct Debit – please visit the Selwyn alumni website: www.selwynalumni.com/makeagift and follow the instructions. US donors can make 501(c)(3) donations via Cambridge in America: cantabry2.secure.nonprofitsoapbox.com/giveonline

1958
2018

FUNDS FOR MEDICS

An Elective Fund for Medics

In 2006, it was noted that several colleges had specific funds available to support clinical students during their elective periods and we felt that Selwyn medical students were missing out. The **Selwyn College Medical Elective Fund** was begun and after an initial appeal, a generous alumnus donated a sum of £10,000 to set us on our way. Since then we have raised nearly £50,000, which is invested as part of the college endowment. The interest from this fund allows us to award six students with £250 annually to ease the financial burden of travel and subsistence – often to far-flung places.

FUNDS FOR VETS

The Jamie Netschert Fund: an Elective Fund for Vets

The vets now also have a fund to help support undergraduates undertaking their electives and work experience. **Jamie Netschert**, a US student, studied veterinary science at Selwyn between 1974 and 1980. Following his premature death in late 2016, his family generously offered to create a permanent fund that would provide support for vet students at Selwyn. The family's donations have been augmented by others who knew Jamie and in total the fund has £15,000 invested. This is a tremendous start but given the many challenges facing today's vets – who can leave with debts approaching £100,000 – we hope that alumni vets and other friends might be able to contribute to this fund in the future.

Jamie and Donna Netschert, 1975.



Hugh Cott Archives

Selwyn College Fellow
from 1945–1967

Distinguished former Selwyn student and Fellow **Hugh Bamford Cott** (SE 1922) was an eminent British zoologist, a skilled scientific photographer and a gifted artist. He is famous for his ground-breaking research on military camouflage in WW2. He produced an extraordinary and extensive portfolio of work which has been donated to Cambridge University's Museum of Zoology, from the Cott family in New Zealand. They have also given the Museum copyright to most of Cott's work. The Museum is currently being redeveloped, so access does need to be arranged prior to visiting if you wish to view the collection.

Call 01223 336650 or visit www.museum.zoo.cam.ac.uk to find out when you can view the collection.

Below:
Cott's line drawing from his book *Adaptive Coloration in Animals*, illustrating the disruptively patterned potoo.



Top right:
One of the few colour illustrations that appear in his books; illustrated almost entirely by his own pen and ink drawings.

Above:
Cott was the Army's chief military camouflage instructor during World War Two.

The Gloucester-based museum and art gallery, Nature in Art will host an exhibition of Cott's work in the autumn of 2018. For more details go to: www.natureinart.org.uk

Images courtesy Selwyn College/IC Museum of Zoology/University of Cambridge

Leaving a legacy to Selwyn is a powerful way of investing and being a partner in the future of the college. But why do people do it?

I will...



Roger Clayton (SE 1967)

The English Student

Roger Clayton (SE 1967)

“1967. My first year at Selwyn. Peace and love, long hair, making love not war, and none of this playing well with my straitlaced RAF father who only saw one side of an argument and it wasn’t mine. Hence an ultimatum: cut my hair, dress properly, behave like an RAF officer, or never darken the parental door again. And no financial support.

My Tutor, Dr Ford, was horrified. What did I want to do he gently enquired. I hated the thought of becoming my father’s poodle but I had no choice because I couldn’t entirely support myself.

Two days later Dr Ford waved a magic wand. The college would lend me free accommodation out of term and make available sufficient funds for me to survive.

I have never forgotten that totally unexpected and life-changing kindness and I wanted to pass it on to another generation of Selwyn undergraduates and to ask them in turn to pass it on if their circumstances allow. If you too feel you owe Selwyn something, pass it on. Leave a tax-free legacy. Give some money to someone at Selwyn who really needs it and ask them to pass it on in their turn.”

The Law Student

Rhona O’Connell (SE 1977)

“Last year I left my estate to Selwyn. This is not to say that everyone needs to bequeath everything to the college – any proportion would, I know, be keenly appreciated! I went the whole hog as I have no dependants and frankly I can’t think of a better recipient.

The college is such a formative part of our lives. Even though my degree was not vocational (I read law but have been an analyst in the metals markets more or less ever since), the mental and intellectual training stood me in very good stead for the future. Further, I have always looked on Selwyn very fondly, both as an Alma Mater and as a centre of excellence, not to mention the firm friendships that were forged there. I owe the college a tremendous amount and this is the best way I can think of to repay that debt. I’ve not (yet?) specified how I would like the funds to be used, but the college is very flexible where that is concerned, and they make it very easy. One form to fill out and that’s it!”

Rhona O’Connell (SE 1977)



Engineering graduate, **Joanne Beale** (SE 2005) was able to visit Mozambique during her studies, supported by a Selwyn College bursary. She later returned to work on the project, managing a water, sanitation and hygiene programme.

The Engineering Student

“When reviewing my Will, that I had made some 15 years earlier, I knew I wanted to place greater emphasis on charitable legacies – but which charities? Deliberating on this over many months, I recognised a growing desire to support the institution that had historically supported me, Selwyn College, but leaving guidance on how I would wish a legacy to be used. As an engineer with a strong interest in the environment and the role of engineers in sustainability, I was keen to create a legacy that supports and encourages the engineers of the future in that direction. Discussions with the Selwyn development office gave me confidence that the college would be able to give effect to my wishes and helped frame an appropriate form of words for inclusion in the Will.

Now with my new Will in place it just feels right that one day, in some small way, resources I and my wife no longer need may benefit future generations of students at the college where I gained so much in the past, with the prospect that they in turn may benefit the wider world.”

The writer of this chose to remain anonymous.

“I don’t see a legacy as generous – just paying off a debt”

An Executor writes

“When **Colin Emmins** (SE 1956) died very suddenly in November 2016, I knew I was in for some hard work and decision-making, as he had asked me to be one of the executors of his Will. I had, however, little notion of what was in store: never having undertaken this role before and having no idea of how he had divided his estate.

His Will was complicated, covering his wide range of interests as well as family and friends. The two principal benefactors were his school and university – the latter, Selwyn College – to which he left both money and the librarian’s choice of his 2000+ books. Happily, he left a comprehensive catalogue of books. The list of desired books arrived almost by return of post: finding what was where, and despatching them to Cambridge, took rather more time!

After Probate was granted and Selwyn informed of the size of the bequest, things moved rapidly. Because Colin was a published author and a keen bibliophile, it was suggested that the money should go towards Selwyn’s new library – itself part of a new building that will also contain an auditorium. I cannot think of any other use to Colin’s bequest that would please him more. I was invited to visit Selwyn and see the plans and the plot of lawn which will soon disappear under the new building. I was both touched and pleased with the thoughtfulness of the staff and with the efficiency with which they realised Colin’s wishes.”

The writer of this chose to remain anonymous.

Colin Emmins’ legacy will help young people to study and share his love of books.



Support Selwyn Leave a gift to Selwyn College in your Will

Registered Charity No. 1137517

Making a Will is an important and personal task, which requires careful consideration. The Development & Alumni Office can offer some guidance, but in all cases we recommend that you seek professional legal advice.

Thinking about leaving a legacy to Selwyn?

At Selwyn, about 250 individuals have told us of their plans to leave a legacy to Selwyn. Each person is enrolled into the 1882 Society, which is simply the college’s way of recognising this choice.

By way of a small thank you, each year in March we invite members of the 1882 Society to an informal lunch at Selwyn and the opportunity to meet the Master, Fellows and students. It’s one of our most popular and enjoyable events. The next 1882 Lunch will take place on Saturday 3 March 2018.

There are various online guides that explain how to prepare a Will, and clearly explain the many tax advantages of leaving a legacy to a charity, but here are a few guidelines that you should consider before you consult your solicitor.

Value your estate

Write down your assets and liabilities.

Decide who is to benefit from your Will

Providing for your family and loved ones will of course be a priority. Leaving a legacy to Selwyn will make a lasting contribution that will influence the lives of future generations of students.

A residuary legacy

This is the best form of legacy to leave to Selwyn College. By indicating a percentage, it allows you to leave all or a percentage of the remainder of your estate, after all costs and other legacies have been met. This means that if your circumstances change you should not have to alter your Will.

Recommended Wording

A legacy gift can be written into a new Will, or added to an existing one. In all cases we advise that you use the following recommended wording:

I give to the Master and Fellows of Selwyn College in the University of Cambridge, registered charity (Inland Revenue number 1137517), the residue of/ [a proportion of] the residue of my estate/ the sum of £[amount] free of tax for the general purposes of the college, and I declare that the receipt of the Bursar or other authorised officer for the time being of the college shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my executors.

Tax efficient giving

As a registered charity, Selwyn pays no tax on gifts of money or property bequeathed in a Will. In addition, the bequest may have benefits for your estate by reducing the amount liable to Inheritance Tax. For more information go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax/overview

Identify your executors

It is recommended that you have more than one executor. You must ask them first if they are willing to do this and let them know where your Will is being stored.

Store your Will safely

Your solicitor may keep it for you or it may be held at your bank.

If you are thinking about leaving a legacy but are not quite ready to talk to a solicitor, feel free to talk to our Legacy Officer, Ann Farrell. Ann will be happy to talk to you in confidence on the phone – or arrange to visit you for a private meeting. She can bring you up-to-date with Selwyn’s plans and talk through the different ways a legacy might help students here in the future. Your conversation will remain entirely confidential until you have decided what to do.



Ann Farrell
Legacy Officer
E: amaf2@cam.ac.uk
T: 01223 767845

You've been Trumped!



Selwyn's Master has possibly the unique distinction of being the only Cambridge Head of House to attract the personal attention of the 45th President of the United States. And not in a good way. Roger Mosey reveals how he became an early target of Donald Trump's ire – expressed via Twitter of course...

The autumn of 2012 was a grisly time inside the BBC. I had become the acting director of television in August for what had been billed as a short transition period, but which turned out to be a rollercoaster ride through four directors-general in nine months. We had moved from the triumph of the London Olympics into the despair of the Savile crisis caused by the revelation of the evil of one of the corporation's best-known presenters. And it was in October, in the middle of the organisational meltdown, that the then-businessman Donald Trump entered my professional life.

BBC Two had scheduled Anthony Baxter's documentary film *You've Been Trumped*, which was an unflattering but funny account of the tycoon's creation of a golf resort in Scotland. This had gone through our compliance procedures in the usual way, but on the Friday afternoon ahead of transmission we received a humdinger of a letter from Trump's lawyers. If we went ahead with the broadcast, they said, they would complain to Ofcom and the BBC Trust, and they might also take legal action. A Trump spokesperson described the documentary as 'a piece of propaganda that is wildly inaccurate, defamatory and deliberately misleading.'

We felt we were in a nasty position. If we broadcast the programme and were then served with writs, we would be facing an opponent with massive resources; and a high-profile court case would reinforce the sense of the BBC in crisis. On the other hand, if we pulled the programme from its advertised slot we would also provoke headlines about the BBC in crisis – and it would look like our journalism was at the mercy of wealthy litigants. We therefore strongly wanted to go ahead with transmission, even though the pressure not to do so was intense. I got no sense

of equivocation from the Trump lawyers. They even called me on my mobile on Saturday morning when I was pushing a trolley around Waitrose. I was lectured severely by New York lawyers while standing next to the cheese cabinet.

Fortunately, they revealed a chink in their armour-plated attack on us. After threatening all sorts of bad things if the programme was broadcast, they shifted to demanding a right of reply if it went ahead. Their proposal was that the film would be followed by a Trump representative critiquing its content, and addressing the nation about all its faults. We would, of course, never contemplate that kind of thing because it was too great an abdication of our editorial role; but it allowed us to offer an alternative version of a right of reply instead. We invited Mr Trump himself to appear on Monday's edition of *Newsnight* to put his case; and we noted that the presenter that night would be our regular interrogator – Jeremy Paxman. This would, of course, be a marvellous case of having a cake and eating it: allowing a complainant some redress, but doing it in a forum where Paxman v Trump live would be a box-office event that you'd pay money for.

So I gave the go-ahead for the film to be transmitted – with our invitation to Donald Trump to pop into the BBC studio still open, though sadly it was never taken up. Instead, the Trump organisation ramped up their attack on the BBC and on me personally. George Sorial, Trump's chief counsel, told the *Guardian*: 'The BBC is now

an active participant in what many... know is a complete false telling of the story behind the construction of Trump

Golf Scotland. I would say Roger Mosey should certainly resign or the BBC should consider firing him. We're filing complaints with Ofcom and the BBC Trust and we are considering other available legal actions.'

The complaints were never filed. That may signal that Trump's bark is worse than his bite, but it was still a troubling episode in terms of his willingness to face criticism. It presaged the attacks on the so-called 'mainstream media' that were a characteristic of the Trump campaign and then his presidency. It's revealing too that a well-

"It turns out to be the only time, so far at least, that I have been attacked by a someone who ended up as President of the United States..."

founded documentary was described as a 'complete false telling' – which sounds akin to the more recent concept of Fake News. As confirmation that he himself had been fully behind the onslaught on the BBC, and knew everything that had been going on, the final assault on us came from Trump himself and via his favourite medium of Twitter. "The BBC is widely criticised for

a lack of professionalism," he tweeted. "We dealt with a Roger Mosey – a total lightweight who doesn't have a clue."

It turns out to be the only time, so far at least, that I have been attacked by a someone who ended up as President of the United States. I seem to be unique among Cambridge college heads in being singled out for some of his trademark insults; and the Tweet certainly makes a great banner on my social media accounts. There's still enough of the BBC journalist in me to try not to take sides on current controversies, and we can see the battalions who love Trump just as there are many who loathe him. But what this anecdote and countless others suggest is that nobody should have been surprised by Trump the politician and how he operates. The evidence is there throughout his career, and in this at least he has been absolutely consistent.



Above and right: *You've Been Trumped*: the documentary that caused the future President of the USA to take a swing at the future Master of Selwyn College.



Above: R. H. Malden

This autumn we are presenting an evening of ghostly tales, performed by Robert Lloyd Parry, a Cambridgeshire-based art historian and performance storyteller. There is a long tradition of ghost stories at Cambridge, where some of the best-known British writers have lived, studied and worked. Most famous is M. R. James (1862-1936), who inspired others to write and publish ghost stories of their own, including R. H. Malden a young lecturer at Selwyn College in the early 20th century.

Chillingly Atmospheric Tales

Sometime in 1909, probably towards the end of Michaelmas term, Richard Malden, a young theology lecturer at Selwyn, wrote a ghost story. He called it *A Reclusive Rector*, and it takes the form of a reminiscence, by one Arthur Harberton, of an unsettling visit to a remote Cambridgeshire parsonage, sometime in the 1870s. Malden wrote it to read aloud to his friends. It is likely, I think, that wine was drunk and tobacco smoked during the half hour or so it took him to do so.

In form, content and occasion Malden was following a celebrated Cambridge tradition, one that had taken root 16 years earlier, when the then Dean of King's, Montague Rhodes James, had read two supernatural tales to his fellow members of The Chitchat Society. Other members of the university tried their hands at penning similar stories: Arthur Benson, who would go on to become Master of Magdalene, and E. G. Swain the sometime chaplain of King's. But M. R. James was the undisputed master of the genre, and by the time Malden was at Selwyn, his *Ghost Stories of an Antiquary* [1904] had won him a literary celebrity beyond Cambridge.

Malden was 17 years James' junior but the two men shared similar interests (Classics, early Church history, medieval books) and both had a playful interest in literature. James wrote comic plays for performance at the ADC and whilst an undergraduate at King's, Malden had founded *Basileona*, a King's College magazine that devoted much space to light verse by his fellow undergraduates including the first published work of a young E. M. Forster. It was perhaps inevitable that James should have welcomed Malden into his circle, and that the younger man should have sought to follow his literary lead.

'Arthur Harberton,' the chief narrator of *A Reclusive Rector*, is a self-effacing cleric with antiquarian leanings and a detached interest in his fellow man. 'Three years after my ordination,' he explains at the beginning of the story, 'I was offered a post as a college lecturer at Cambridge.' This exactly matches Malden's own career path and it is clearly the author's own voice that we hear throughout. The relaxed tone, the frequent asides, the authenticity of the details, the assumed knowledge on the part of the reader: all conspire to give the impression, as James' work does, of a university man talking to his peers. There's scant trace of Malden in the Selwyn



Courtesy of Wells Cathedral Archive

archives today, and the incidental details of this early story offer perhaps the best picture we are likely to get of his time at the college.

'Harberton' explains that part of his duties as a college lecturer involved working as a locum preacher in the country parishes around Cambridge. Pleasant enough work, he reflects, and it suited him well. 'In fact,' he says, 'I only once got to a place which I should not care to visit again, and that is the one I am going to tell you about now...'

James was surely present when Malden performed *The Reclusive Rector*, and I can only imagine that he was beaming – delighted at the quality of the tale, and quietly flattered that his own techniques and style had been

Above: M. R. James

so cleverly assimilated. For there is in Malden's story everything that distinguishes James at his best – a vividness of description together with plenty of scholarly and antiquarian detail. Like James, he manages marvellous shifts in tone, from not-quite-light-heartedness to unmistakable menace: the descriptions of Harberton's waking in the night and what he sees out of his window are superbly creepy.

Malden clearly had literary talent, but like his mentor he also had a strong, Anglican sense of duty, which drove him to expend his energies elsewhere. He left Selwyn in 1910 and followed a distinguished career in the Church, before retiring from the Deanship of Wells Cathedral in 1948.

"The relaxed tone, the frequent asides, the authenticity of the details... all conspire to give the impression...of a university man talking to his peers"

His 1909 ghost story was not published until 1943. By then it had been retitled *A Collector's Company*, and it was included as the opening tale of *Nine Ghosts*, Malden's sole volume of fiction. James was seven years dead by then, but in the preface the author makes his debt clear: 'These stories,' he writes, 'are in some sort a tribute to his memory, if not comparable with his work.'

Wednesday
18
October



Stephen Mitchell

EVENT

So was Malden as good as James? Judge for yourself and join us at the public performance on Wednesday 18 October where Malden's *A Collector's Company* (aka the *Reclusive Rector*) will be performed alongside James' *The Stalls of Barchester Cathedral* in the atmospheric setting of a candlelit Selwyn College Chapel.

Booking: See details on page 30. Tickets: £10 adults, £5 concessions. For details of other performances by Robert Lloyd Parry visit www.nunkie.co.uk

Diary

1

Wednesday 27 September Land and nature of the National Trust

Talk by Peter Nixon
(SE 1974)

Peter Nixon is a director of the National Trust with an overview of all the Trust’s land, nature, landscape and related buildings throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. His talk will explain how the National Trust was founded to protect our natural heritage and how we should be playing an active role in reviving it. There is no charge for this event, but for catering purposes, please register your interest.
Lodge Park, Sherborne Estate, Cheltenham
Time: 2pm

1



Choir Events – all welcome 2017–18

Oct 27	Choral Evensong, Ely Cathedral (5.30pm)
Nov 4	Choral Evensong, Peterborough Cathedral (5.30pm)
Nov 12	Requiem Mass for Remembrance Sunday, Selwyn Chapel (6pm)
Dec 5	Lunchtime Christmas Concert in Bury St Edmunds (1.10pm)
Dec 5	Carol Service, St James’s Piccadilly, London (7pm)
Dec 9	Concert in St Botolph’s, Trunch, Norfolk (7.30pm)
Jan 27	CUMS Joint Choirs’ Concert in King’s Chapel, Cambridge (8pm) (with Caius & Jesus - Verdi Requiem, conductor Jac van Steen)
Mar 19	Choral Eucharist in St Paul’s Cathedral, London (5pm)
Mar 22	John Armitage Memorial Concert, St Bride’s, London (7.45pm)

2

Wednesday 18 October An evening of Fenland Ghost Stories

Robert Lloyd Parry delivers his unique rendition of a pair of tales by two of the best supernatural short storytellers to have passed through Cambridge. *The Stalls of Barchester Cathedral* is a classic by M R James. *A Collector’s Company* is a tale of Fenland horror by James’ friend, R H Malden, a lecturer at Selwyn College in the early 20th century. The cost includes an interval drink. Read more about these Fenland ghost writers on page 29.
Selwyn College Chapel
Time: 7.30pm
Cost: £10 adults, £5 concessions

Limited places



Saturday 28 October Dr Michael Tilby retirement lunch

An opportunity for all Michael’s former students and tutees to celebrate his many years at the college and wish him well in his retirement. Dr Tilby was formerly Vice-Master and Director of Studies in Modern Languages.

If you have not yet received your invitation and would like to attend the retirement lunch, please contact the Development & Alumni Office.

2



3

Wednesday 1 November Man of Iron: Thomas Telford and the building of Britain

In an age in which economics, engineering and national identity came together, Thomas Telford’s life was a model of what can be achieved by persistence, skill and ambition. Julian Glover – journalist, speechwriter and special adviser in the UK Department of Transport – shares what he learned about the man whilst researching his life, which soared to span almost eight decades of productive energy. Few people have done more to shape our nation.
Oxford & Cambridge Club, London
Time: Drinks from 6.15pm,
Talk at 7pm,
Optional dinner at 8.15pm
Cost: £10 for talk, including refreshments, £60 for dinner

Ben Gorge Museum



4

Tuesday 12 December Red Star over Russia exhibition guided tour

Exclusive private view of this major exhibition.

Discover how Russian and Soviet artists created their unique visual identity, on an exclusive private view and highlight tour of this new exhibition. 2017 marks the centenary of the October Revolution. *Red Star Over Russia* explores artworks made by Russian and Soviet artists from the first revolution of 1905 to the death of Stalin in 1953. Rarely seen posters, photographs, and other graphic works from the David King Collection – now part of Tate – are on display, including work by El Lissitzky, Gustav Klutis, Dmitri Moor, Alexander Deineka, Nina Vatolina and Yevgeny Khaldei.
Tate Modern, London
Time: meet from 8.45am
for refreshments, tour at 9am
Cost: £10

5



Ben Gorge Museum

5

Wednesday 10 January Curator’s Tour of Cézanne Portraits exhibition

Exclusive private view of this major exhibition.

We invite alumni and friends to join us for a tour with a curator of the National Portrait Gallery’s exhibition.
National Portrait Gallery,
St Martin’s Place, London
Time: meet 8.30am for 8.45am tour
Cost: £10



Nina Vatolina Exposed – The most evil enemy of women 1941. Tate/Courtesy David King Collection



6

Saturday 3 February Medics and Vets 60th Anniversary

The college will be hosting a celebratory lunch to mark 60 years of the Medics and Vets Society. We hope that many alumni, from across the generations, will join us for a special day of events and to get together with old friends, teachers and students. See the feature on pages 24–25.
Selwyn College
Time: 12 noon – 5pm
Invitations will be sent



1958
2018

Other forthcoming events

2017

Sep 9	1987 and 1997 Reunion, Selwyn
Sep 20	1957 Reunion Lunch, Selwyn
Sep 23	Alumni Day and 2007 Reunion, Selwyn
Sep 23	Tea for Parents (of returning second year students), Selwyn
Sep 27	Land and nature of the National Trust, talk by Peter Nixon, Lodge Park, Sherborne Estate, Cheltenham
Sep 30	Welcome Tea for Parents (of freshers), Master’s Lodge, Selwyn
Oct 7	Old Boys/Girls Sports Day, Selwyn, organised by the Hermes & Sirens Clubs
Oct 18	An evening of Fenland Ghost Stories, performed by Robert Lloyd Parry, Selwyn College Chapel
Oct 28	Retirement Lunch for Dr Michael Tilby, Selwyn
Nov 1	Man of Iron: Thomas Telford and the building of Britain, talk by Julian Glover, Oxford & Cambridge Club, London
Nov 9	MA Dining Evening, Selwyn
Nov 11	Dinner for Parents (of third and fourth year students), Selwyn
Nov 29	Building the largest telescope in the world, talk by Dr Rosie Bolton, Oxford & Cambridge Club, London
Dec 5	Carol Service, St James’s Piccadilly, London
Dec 7	Women’s and Men’s Varsity Rugby Matches, Twickenham
Dec 12	Guided tour of Red Star Over Russia Exhibition, Tate Modern, London

2018

Jan 10	Curator’s Tour of Cézanne Portraits Exhibition, National Portrait Gallery, London
Feb 3	Medics and Vets 60th Anniversary Celebration, Selwyn
Mar 1	MA Dining Evening, Selwyn
Mar 3	1882 Society Lunch, Selwyn
Mar 17	Parents’ Lunch (for first year undergraduate parents), Selwyn
Mar 24	1968 and 1978 Reunion, Selwyn
Apr 7	MA Congregation and Dinner, Selwyn (for those who matriculated in 2011)
May 11	Annual Ramsay Murray Lecture, Selwyn
May 12	Friends of the Choir, Selwyn
May 17	MA Dining Evening, Selwyn
Jun 9	The Lyttelton Dinner (for members of the Master’s Circle), Selwyn
Jun 21	May Week Concert and Patrons’ Dinner

Please note: all events are subject to change. Please check event details prior to booking to ensure that dates are correct.

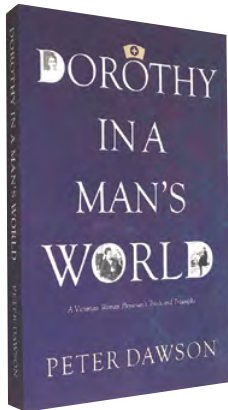
Booking

Full details in the Alumni and Friends events brochure or via the Selwyn Alumni website. To register for any of the events listed here you can book and pay online at: www.selwynalumni.com/eventscalendar or telephone the Development & Alumni Office on 01223 767844.



Selwyn in print

A selection of books published this year...



Peter Dawson
(SE 1946)

Dorothy in a Man's World:
A Victorian Woman Physician's Trials and Triumphs
CreateSpace
September 2016

The story of a young Victorian woman who grew from a spoilt brat into a young woman determined to escape her rich mother's frivolous lifestyle. Dorothy Reed entered college and Johns Hopkins medical school. The latter was made possible by a group of young feminists who in 1892 raised half a million dollars to open the school on condition women were admitted on equal terms with men. Dorothy entered pathology and wrote and illustrated the seminal paper on the pathology of Hodgkin's disease including the pathognomonic giant cell which still bears her name. A passionate affair with a young doctor at Hopkins dramatically changed her life. Trained in paediatrics, she pioneered modern maternal and infant care. A compelling story of feminist battles in medicine.

Brian Clegg
(SE 1973)

What Colour is the Sun?
Icon Books
November 2016

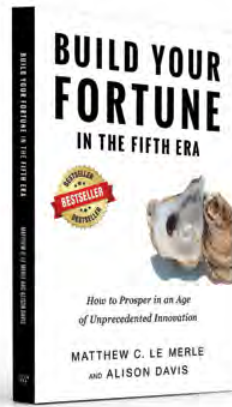


A collection of weird and wonderful science questions to intrigue and delight including: Why do hands and feet go wrinkly in the bath? Which scientific term is the most commonly used noun in written English? Who can breathe metals and still survive? ... and, yes, What colour is the Sun? (which QI gets wrong).

Robert Harris
(SE 1975)

Munich
Random House
September 2017

Robert Harris is the author of eleven bestselling novels: including the *Cicero* Trilogy and the award-winning *An Officer and a Spy*. His forthcoming book, *Munich*, is set over the four days of the Munich Conference, and is filled with the real-life characters and events of the time.



Alison Davis
(SE 1981)

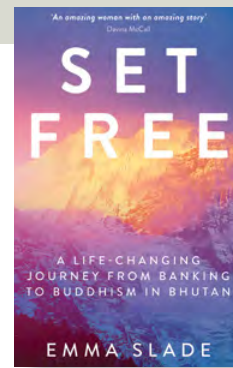
Build your fortune in the Fifth Era
Cartwright Publishing
April 2017

Silicon Valley insiders Matthew C. Le Merle and Alison Davis provide insights, based on 30 years of leading, investing in, and advising on new technology companies, on how readers can participate and prosper in an age of unprecedented innovation in the coming Fifth Era. "Investing in young companies is a hazardous undertaking where most participants lose. This book suggests ways to avoid that fate." Michael Moritz *Partner Sequoia Capital*.

Emma Slade
(SE 1985)

Set Free
Summersdale,
April 2017

The wonderful story of Emma Slade's transformation from City banker to Buddhist nun. This religious biography has fantastic reviews. All profits garnered from the sale of the book go directly to Opening Your Heart to Bhutan.



"It's an amazing story and what's most remarkable about it is the personality of Slade herself. She is an exceptional individual who never seems to think of herself as such." Suzi Feay
Former literary editor of the Independent on Sunday.

Kate Scholefield
(SE 1990)

The Magic of Ramblings
Accent Press
September 2016



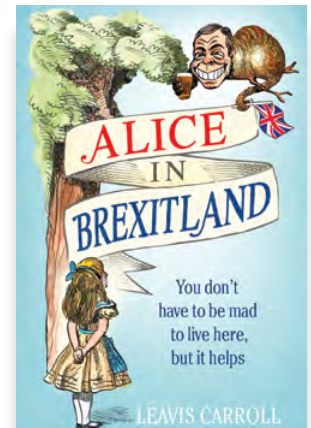
Lancashire-based Kate Scholefield, writing as Kate Field, has triumphed with her contemporary novel, for which she has been awarded The Romantic Novelists' Association's (RNA) prestigious Joan Hessayon Award for new writers. Running away can be the answer if you run to the right place... When Cassie accepts a job as companion to an old lady in a remote Lancashire village, she hopes for a quiet life where she can forget herself, her past and most especially men. The last thing she wants is to be drawn into saving a community that seems determined to take her to its heart and to resuscitate hers...



See more book reviews online

We have been impressed by the number of alumni who have published books this year. We've created an area on our website where you can read reviews of those not featured here.

www.selwynalumni.com/publications/alumni



Lucien Young
(SE 2007)

Alice in Brexitland
Ebury Press
June 2017

Lying on a riverbank on a lazy summer's afternoon – 23rd June 2016, to be precise – Alice spots a flustered-looking white rabbit called Dave calling for a referendum. Following him down a rabbit-hole, she emerges into a strange new land, where up is down, black is white, experts are fools and fools are experts... She meets such characters as the Corbynpillar, who sits on a toadstool smoking his hookah and being no help to anyone; Humpty Trumpty, perched on a wall he wants the Mexicans to pay for; the Cheshire 'pussy cat' who likes to disappear leaving only his grin, a pint, and the smell of scotch eggs remaining; and the terrifying Queen of Heartlessness, who'll take off your head if you dare question her plan for Brexit. Will Alice ever be able to find anyone who speaks sense? (Other views on the EU debate are available, of course).